California Polytechnic State University

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Cal Poly Students Graduate Under Sunny Skies June 12

seated grads

Cal Poly's Spring Commencement 2004 featured 3,450 degree candidates (3,196 bachelor's candidates and 254 master's candidates) who received their diplomas under blue skies at two ceremonies in Mustang Stadium June 12.

Candidates at the morning commencement ceremony were addressed by alumnus Alex Spanos, an entrepreneur and philanthropist who built a small business into a corporate giant comprising 10 companies. He received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the ceremony.

Candidates at the afternoon ceremony were addressed by alumnus Robert L. "Hoot" Gibson, a retired U.S. Navy captain and NASA astronaut. Gibson, a member of the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame. He received an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the ceremony.

Candidates at both ceremonies heard from President Warren J. Baker, and from Associated Students President Alison Anderson. Anderson reminded both crowds that their diplomas contained something extra this year: "A signature from the Terminator," California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Scroll down for more commencement photos.

Faculty lead the procession of graduates into Mustang Stadium at Cal Poly's morning commencement ceremony.

Below, three candidates just can't wait to share the news.

cell phone grad

Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker confers honorary degrees on Alex Spanos (left) and Hoot Gibson (right)

icee gradOne grad upholds the tradition of decorating the mortarboard (left) while others go for the undecorated look.

cla happy gradssunglass grad

beachball photoThe beachball tradition continues...

lei photo
One grad gets a floral lei as ceremonies start, (left), while another (right) opts for a feather boa.

boa photo

Shades (below) were the accessory of the day.

Photos by Leah Kolt