



News

University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

Contact: Jason Mockford

Assistant Coordinator of Orientation Programs

805-756-2477; jmockfor@calpoly.edu

Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker to Serve as Poly Royal Parade Grand Marshal on April 17 at Open House

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker will serve as this year's Poly Royal Parade Grand Marshal. The parade will take place Saturday, April 17, as part of the university's 17th annual Open House.

Baker, who has led Cal Poly since 1979, has announced his plans to retire once a successor assumes office.

In his 31 years at the helm, Baker has focused on strengthening Cal Poly's renowned learn-by-doing educational model and expanding the campus' facilities to support students' success.

During Baker's tenure, Cal Poly has introduced 20 new undergraduate majors and 15 new master's degree programs; added nearly \$1 billion worth of new facilities; and significantly increased its focus on applied research. Meanwhile, the university's national reputation of excellence has grown steadily. U.S. News and World Report this year named Cal Poly the best public-master's university in the West, for the 17th straight year.

After his retirement, Baker intends to stay active in promoting improvements in teaching STEM-related subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) as well as spend more time with his family, who will ride with him during the parade.

Open House showcases Cal Poly's commitment to its learn-by-doing programs. Admitted and current students, their supporters, alumni and the San Luis Obispo community are invited to take part in the weekend, set for April 15-17.

The campus is open to public April 17 for the Poly Royal Parade, which will start at 9 a.m. at Grand Avenue and Perimeter Road. The parade will travel north toward Via Carta, ending at Dexter Lawn. Seating is available along the route. Activities following the parade will include a kids' zone, live music, the Cal Poly Tractor Pull, the Cal Poly Rodeo and other special events.

For more information about Cal Poly's Open House weekend, visit <http://orientation.calpoly.edu/openhouse> or contact Jason Mockford, assistant coordinator of Orientation Programs, at 805-756-2477 or jmockfor@calpoly.edu.