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Cal Poly Enjoys Successful Alumni Event During 2011 World Ag Expo

SAN LUIS OBISPO – In coordination with the 2011 World Ag Expo, more than 100 Cal Poly Dairy Science Department alumni and industry leaders assembled earlier this month at World Wide Sires in Visalia to celebrate Cal Poly's successful dairy science program, meet President Jeffrey D. Armstrong and sample Cal Poly dairy products.

"The dairy industry is the largest agricultural industry in California," Armstrong said. "The support of these industry leaders empowers our students to gain first-hand experience through the university's illustrious Learn by Doing educational model. The close industry ties we share enable Cal Poly to produce the next generation of leaders."

Bruce Golden, Cal Poly's Dairy Science department head, said that through the expertise of industry members and the connections strengthened by passionate alumni, Cal Poly will continue to lead the dairy industry into the future.

Golden took the opportunity to sample the latest products to come out of the Cal Poly Creamery: Cal Poly cheese, ice cream, butter and dark chocolate milk, all produced by the university's dairy science students.

"We are one of only two departments in the United States where students can learn and integrate the business of both dairy husbandry and dairy products. It's the perfect blend of both aspects of the industry of dairy science," Golden said.

Also on hand to accompany the cheese tasting were recently produced vintages of wine from Cal Poly's Wine and Viticulture Program. The award-winning chardonnay and pinot noir wines are products of Cal Poly's hands-on, student-operated program incorporating viticulture, enology and wine business.