Foundation: Few cheers for new duties

By Lisa J. Hercsh
Daily Staff Writer

ASI might be disgruntled about having its accounting and financial responsibilities given to the Cal Poly Foundation, but some Foundation employees aren’t that thrilled about it either.

Don Shemenske, director of financial and administrative services for Foundation, said the corporation already has “a full plate and now it’s over-loaded.”

“Frankly, I’m not thrilled with the added workload, but I have a job to do and since I’d like to keep it, we’ll work things out,” he said.

Shemenske said this isn’t the first time Foundation has handled ASI accounts. From 1971 until 1989 — when Foundation moved to its new quarters next to Cal Poly’s fire department — it handled all of ASI’s accounting services.

Al Arazen, executive director of the Foundation, said the transfer of financial handling is a direct request of ASI Executive Director Polly Harrigan.

“We wouldn’t be doing anything if it wasn’t at her direction,” he said.

He also said students need to recognize that these problems didn’t just pop up overnight.

See FOUNDATION, page 6

Directors find fault with university’s treatment of ASI

By Giselle Brady
Daily Staff Writer

The ASI Board of Directors on Wednesday publicly denounced the university’s poor communication with ASI during the last several years.

Board members addressed the university’s supervision of ASI accounting, questioning why the embezzlement was not caught before. They also criticized the history of administrative decisions made without timely student consultation.

The board discussed a resolution that addresses the transfer of accounting without prior ASI consultation. The resolution will be voted on next week.

It shouldn’t have trouble passing — 21 of the 22 directors have signed the resolution as co-authors, according to James Hufnagan, director from the College of Agriculture.

Joan Gonzalez, vice president for student affairs, said “The university’s conduct is not typical... This should not be interpreted as a precedent-setting occurrence. We are very mindful of the precious relationship we have with you.”

ASI President Erica Brown responded that this is one of many times Cal Poly President Don Shemenske called for a systematic look into the precious relationship we have with you.”

See FOUNDATION, page 6

Two Poly students involved in crash with SLO patrol car

By Garrett M. Mettler

A Cal Poly city and regional planning senior was hospitalized Thursday morning after the car he was riding in struck a San Luis Obispo patrol car at the intersection of Walnut and Santa Rosa streets.

Aaron Barger, 22, was reported to be in stable condition after undergoing surgery at French Hospital.

Barger’s step-father Rick Rogers, contacted by phone in Chico, said Barger’s seat belt had caused some internal injuries.

The accident occurred at 7:32 a.m. when civil engineering senior Carlton Thompson, 30, allegedly ran a red light. Thompson’s car was traveling northbound on Santa Rosa Street when it struck San Luis Obispo Police Officer Gil Rendon’s car broadside as it entered the intersection.

According to the police report, Rendon was responding to an injury accident call on Johnson Avenue when his car was struck.

Rendon was treated for minor injuries and released from Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center. Thompson refused aid, according to the California Highway Patrol.

Because the incident involved a city police car, the CHP is handling the investigation.

Daily Editor in Chief Silas Lyons contributed to this report.

INSIDE TODAY’S MUSTANG DAILY

OPINION

Garrett Mettler dares you to respect his religion, and he’ll respect yours

SPORTS

Cal Poly baseball loses to Berkeley despite Jon Mandarlas’ grand slam

Reaching Us

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SPORTS

Mustangs softball ready to score against Division I opponents

Killian MacGeraghty, lead singer and guitarist for San Francisco-based Watershed 400, almost made it up the U.U. steps in a garbage can.

Daily photos by L. Scott Robinson

Shake-up in ASI

Taking over ASI’s accounts will mean a revenue boost for Foundation. But officials there say it’s not necessarily a welcome one.
California teachers and educators are lashing back at a proposal by Gov. Pete Wilson to base their pay on merit.

The proposal, if passed, could potentially allow the grades students get to affect what teachers get paid.

Performance-based pay, used to reward hard-working employees, is a concept that has shown to work well in most businesses. But teachers argue against using this technique to improve education.

Having discussed the idea for decades, school administrators continue to disagree about how will merit pay work. Several schools have tried implementing the program in different ways, but according to two Cal Poly professors, its successes are rare and hard to judge.

Susan Roper, director of the Cal Poly University Center for Teacher Education and an education professor, said she has many reservations about the program.

"It is a difficult issue fraught with uncertainties," Roper said. "And it has been an issue ever since I've been in education, which spans about 25 years."

But she said she is not surprised at the recent attention the issue has received.

"It's part of a growing national movement for more accountability across public schools," she said.

Roper said she is most concerned about the problem of measuring teacher performance.

"According to Roper, students come from different backgrounds, with an endless amount of abilities, attention and drive.

Often, students have problems at home or have other aspects of their lives adversely affecting their schoolwork, she said.

Roper said poor grades from these students do not necessarily reflect a teacher's teaching ability but rather unavoidable external factors that teachers can do nothing about.

"Teachers get students who vary tremendously," Roper said. "(And they) have very little control over that factor."

"Students improve when they work hard, a better teacher does not mean better students," Roper said. "I'm not sure merit pay is the answer."

According to Palmer, a merit pay system could create a competitive environment where teachers feel reluctant to either share information or work together for the benefit of their students.

"It's part of a growing national movement for more accountability across public schools," Palmer said.

"The same philosophical issues apply across the board," Palmer said.

Of special concern for college students, Palmer said, would be the over-inflation of grades as a possible effect of pressure from a merit system.

"At the K-12 level, there is a lot of standardized testing which really is not done at the university level," he said. Neither Palmer nor Roper wanted to speculate on the chances of the program's approval, but Palmer expressed his lack of confidence in any version of merit pay passing through legislature.

"I don't think California has the political will to do it correctly," he said. "I don't think (the government) will deal honestly with the issue involved. If it does implement a system, it will not be one that works."
Located the son and told him someone had called about a credit card application that had ended up in the wrong folder. After the meeting was reopened, the discussion centered on the matter of the Foundation's accounting system. The most recent incidents were a result of the compromise. According to Frank Lebend, vice president for administration and finance, the university's responsibility—which stems from a CSU trustee policy—is to ensure the integrity of ASI. The university has already decided that payroll and accounting functions will move to the Foundation. According to Brad Howard, associate vice president for administrative services, the university has the authority to take action if ASI is at risk. Lebend said. ASI Executive Vice President Mike Aquino raised the concern that the university did not take any action to correct the long-standing problem with ASI's accounting department until recent incidents. According to Frank Lebend, vice president for administration and finance, the university's responsibility—which stems from a CSU trustee policy—is to ensure the integrity of ASI. The university has the authority to take action if ASI is at risk, Lebend said. The most recent incidents were the result of a compromise between ASI staff members identifying the problem. In switching ASI's accounting and accounting functions to the Cal Poly Foundation, the administration cited a variety of infractions and inconsistencies. These included charges of embezzlement against a former ASI accountant, alleged mismanagement of funds, improper handling of personal issues and payroll, and lack of expertise in using the ASI computer system. According to Lebend, the checks a university conducts include reviewing financial reports and reviewing an annual outside audit. Lebend also said these checks could not have picked up the most recent incidents, but could have been able to pick up initial problems. The task force is made up of people who have the potential for missing problems, since they only sample the accounts process and don't duplicate it, he said. After moving to the Foundation, the accounting process will be reviewed by the university. Following the recommendation of Dave Junk, an ASI attorney, the entire Board of Directors met in closed session at the beginning of Wednesday night's meeting. Brown said the board met in closed session to discuss legal and personnel matters regarding the financial aspect of it threw a bucket of cold water on his enthusiasm. The decision leaves three definite Republican candidates: Senator Alan Cranston of California, Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas and former Gov. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee. A handful of others are contemplating runs, including Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana and Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, as well as 1992 Bush primary challenger Patrick Buchanan. A few GOP governors and California Rep. Bob Dornan are also mulling the race. For all his image problems in the electorate at large, Quayle was a favorite of cultural and religious conservatives who are active in GOP affairs and particularly influential in several early primary states. He is scheduled to speak Saturday night to a major conservative gathering in Washington.
FROM THE HIP:
What do you value most in a relationship?

"Someone who I've never seen or heard before — something new. I want them to surprise me."

Dave Farrey
Agricultural business senior

"The mutual sharing of yourself, both mentally and physically. In other words, sex."

Brad Downey
Construction management junior

"Compatibility — if you're going to spend the rest of your life with someone, you have to enjoy being with them."

Blake Robertson
Art and design senior

"Trust is the most important thing. If you don't have trust, it's difficult to go ahead with a relationship."

All Smith
Psychology senior

"Trustworthiness and kindness are important things. If you want to build a relationship, you need to be trustworthy, kind, and easy to get on the level with."

"Something in someone that I've never seen before — something new. I want them to surprise me."

Respect my faith and I'll respect yours

By Garrett M. Mettler

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Respect my faith and I'll respect yours

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Christiarty at Cal Poly is such a tired subject. It seems that everything worthwhile to say has been said, repeated, and then, in case you didn't get it the first two times, repeated again. And that's just the beginning.

So why should you spend five minutes of your precious time reading about something you've probably already made up your mind about? Why should I be so presumptuous?

It's a simple matter of respect — a quality which mysteriously seems to disappear when conversations turn to Christianity. It's amazing to me how quickly common courtesies of conversation fly out the window because of a simple change in topic.

I'm talking no-holds-barred, verbal slugfests here — the desirable product of the apparent superior attitudes of its participants. These are glaring advertisements of their close-mindedness.

Quality debate between informed participants is one thing, but most of what I've heard are thinly veiled insults and name calling. The guilty parties are both Christians and nonbelievers.

Sure, I've also heard the defenses for these exchanges — something like, and I'm quoting this mildly, "All these Christians are so mean about their religion and that's great. But I don't share their beliefs and I wish they'd just keep their worshiping to themselves."

This is where I feel there is room for a little more understanding. Speaking as a Christian, it is in my hope that anyone not sharing my views will have the patience or at least the respect to allow me to share why I am so excited about my faith. In exchange, I make it a policy to respect his or her right not to care in the slightest.

Problems arise when participants in "religious" discussions become frustrated either a) because they feel they've heard this "conversion" spiel before and want no part in it again or b) because a point has been made to which they have no strong counter argument. Too often, this is the point where the cheap insults and name calling start to fly.

I feel like Rodney King saying this but, can't we all get along? Each other and shared our personal beliefs, but not once did either of us try to put the other down.

"The mutual sharing of yourself, both mentally and physically. In other words, sex."

Brad Downey
Construction management junior

"Someone who is trustworthy, kind, and easy to get on the same level with and relate to."

All Smith
Psychology senior

"Trust is the most important thing. If you don't have trust, it's difficult to go ahead with a relationship."

Gustavo Nava-Rosales
Architecture sophomore

Mustang Daily welcomes letters and commentaries from students, staff, and other community members. Letters should be typed, double spaced and under 250 words. Commentaries should be typed, double spaced, and about 750 words.

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar, and length.

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LETTERS

Setting the record straight: Milosz had a parking pass

"Nobel poet is not above the law," Feb. 7

I guess I have to set the record straight on the Czeslaw Milosz parking ticket "outrage."

Before Milosz received his ticket, I called over to Public Safety explaining the situation and asking them for advice. They told me that since he was a sponsored guest of the university I could buy him a day pass, and if the pass was being processed — he got a ticket. He got the ticket. It was canceled.

Garrett M. Mettler is a journalism junior and a Daily staff writer who will not accost you with "hellfire and brimstone" preaching.
Costner's casino
draws criticism
from Sioux tribes

By Matt Kelley
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — Kevin Costner, who played a Sioux- sympathizing soldier in the hit film "Dances With Wolves," is drawing fire from tribal leaders with a new project, a $100 million resort casino.

Costner and his brother, Dan, already own one of the 86 casinos that have sprung up in Deadwood since 1988, when South Dakota legalized slot machines, poker and blackjack in the Black Hills town. The new resort, scheduled to open in 1997, would dwarf the other casinos and compete with those operated on reservations by South Dakota's nine tribes.

"It's the old theory of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer," said Mike Jandreau, a Sisseton-Wawasee tribal councilman. "It's been inaccessible lately. He's befriended a band of Sioux Indians.

"It's just a continued pure capitalistic immoral process to continue using Indian people," Jandreau said.

Costner never shared with the Sioux any of his multimillion-dollar profits from the 1990 "Dances With Wolves," which won seven Academy Awards, Jandreau said.

Efforts to reach Costner for comment Thursday through his talent agency in Los Angeles were unsuccessful. Costner has been inaccessible lately. He's making the trouble-plagued movie "Waterworld" in Hawaii, which is expected to cost at least a record $160 million, and he's being sued for divorce.

Dan Costner, who lives in Deadwood, declined to be interviewed, but said in a statement that the Dunbar's effect will hardly be noticed during the town's summer tourist season.

"The strong, positive, measurable impact on Deadwood and the surrounding communities' economies will be felt in the traditionally off-season period. The enhanced presence of year-round business conferences and resort-seeking travelers at those times represent the change in dynamics," Dan Costner said.
MUSTANG DAILY

Friday, February 10, 1995

Foundation: ASI's staff and equipment could not keep up with the rapid growth of adding two new facilities

From page 1

"This situation has been festering for a while and it's finally bubbled to the top," he said.

"Two years ago, auditors noted eight financial areas that needed to be strengthened. Last year only three of these areas had been addressed and there were 13 additional recommendations that no one did anything about.

"You have to ask," Amaral said.

He said the rapid growth of ASI during the last few years — and the lack of staffing and adequate equipment needed to keep up with the demands — compounded the problem.

Part of this fast-paced growth was due to large investments which included building both the Children's Center and the Rec Center.

"However, ASI wouldn't have these assets if it weren't for the support and financial backing of the Foundation," Amaral said.

"We re-negotiated our outside loans with Mid-State Bank for the Children's Center and the Rec Center. We guaranteed $700,000 because ASI was short of funds at the time. These funds were then recouped with student fees.

"We've worked well together in the past and would like to form a productive, dual partnership for the future," Amaral said.

Both executives agree that while they didn't go looking for this problem, it makes sense for the two corporations to work together.

"However, some of our staff have been asking us why we are doing this when all ASI has to say about us is negative," Shemenske said.

"Our answer is that we have a responsibility to the University and that includes ASI.

"He said in light of the recent problems, it makes sense for the Foundation to handle the accounting since the working systems for both organizations are very similar.

Foundation and ASI are both individual parts of the same structure. ASI's fiscal responsibility amounts to $8 million and Foundation's assets are $74 million.

But even though Foundation and ASI will be working together, they will remain separate.

"All their purchase orders, payroll checks and forms will say ASI," Shemenske said.

"We won't be cutting a check or paying a single bill without an authorizing signature from ASI, and they are still 100 percent responsible for their own budget.

"Both executives have to subscribe to our time schedule for having checks cut and running financial reports.

"Foundation will also be making a financial gain from this arrangement — none of the accounting services will be done for free.

"ASI will be picking up the tab for the conversion and restructuring of material necessary to operate on Foundation's system.

"We haven't figured out all the costs yet," Shemenske said. "But estimating the converted costs is around $70,000. Additionally, the annual service fee will be approximately $230,000 to $250,000."

Shemenske believes choosing Foundation services rather than overhauling ASI's own accounting systems will save money.

"At the present time, they've budgeted $240,000 annually, and by all accounts they've under-staffed with inadequate equipment," he said. "To do this in house would require a minimum of $300,000, plus new equipment and staff."

Shemenske said. "But gearing up to do this required using their people and diverting our staff in order to duplicate their January payroll."

Foundation is advertising for, and will hire, five new staff members to handle the increased human resources, payroll and accounting services of ASI.

According to Shemenske, current ASI staffers will not be discriminated against for clerical positions, but management positions won't be available to them.

"We don't hold them completely responsible for the current problems," Shemenske said. "When you're understaffed, things slip through the cracks."

"In this situation it makes sense for us to help out. We have controls and back-up systems, including computer back-ups and off-site record storage which ASI has never had, and that will be an advantage for them," Shemenske said.

"To ensure employees on ASI's payroll are paid on the 15th, February payroll is being done without an agreement between ASI and Foundation."

"Nothing has been determined yet, but the most cost-effective agreement, according to Shemenske, is a five-year program. At that point, ASI would need to look at restaffing and obtaining new computer systems in order to re-establish control.

"It really doesn't make sense if they're getting full service," Shemenske said. "Besides, it will take us at least one full year to iron out all the wrinkles."

"But if in five years ASI and the University say they want to ..."

Both men said Foundation is willing to answer any questions students might have about the takeover.

Right now, Foundation doesn't see the situation as being any different than its agreement with the Foundation for the Performing Arts and the new Performing Arts Center currently under construction.

"We guarantee the resources for the funding needed to make the project work, and we take care of the problems," Shemenske said. "That's our job."

"Our major role in all this is to cut through the red tape," he said. "And, we've got really big scissors."
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NY Times

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Community Line:
Call (805) 546-4908 or at the SLO Chamber of Commerce
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Chumash Auditorium
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Cal Poly Arts presents

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Senior third baseman Kelley Bannon leads a list of returning players as Cal Poly's softball team begins its first Division I season. Daily Life photo

Veterans welcome new talent to battle more challenging foes

By Anthony Pedrotti
Special to the Daily

After putting together a 30-win season and making a trip to the NCAA West Regional last year, Cal Poly's softball team has some confidence heading into its inaugural season in Division I. However, head coach Lisa Boyer, ready to begin her eighth season, said she has the team prepared to meet the challenge head-on.

"Division I is definitely going to be tough for us, but I feel we have a very good team and we will compete," Boyer said.

The Mustangs will field a young team. Eight returning players will be joined by nine newcomers, four of them freshman.

Leading the way is senior third baseman Kelley Bannon, who returns for her final season with the Mustangs brings three years of experience to the team.

Last year's CCAC Most Valuable Player, Bannon, led the Mustangs in batting average (.388), hits (71), and stolen bases (16). "It's great seeing the younger players getting excited for the season to start," Bannon said. "We're really coming together, and the chemistry is there."

Returning with Bannon are seniors, pitcher Ruth Henry and second baseman Kathleen Russell, along with junior catcher Christie Collier, junior shortstop Cyndy Barnett, and sophomore catcher Heather Seattini. Barnett, a consistent shortstop last year who batted .310, will be one of the keys to the Mustangs' hitting attack, while Collier and Seattini will split duties at first base and behind home plate.

Russini will likely be the power hitter for the Mustangs this year. Last season, she knocked in 22 runs on 38 hits, six of which were for extra bases. Senior outfielders Deborah Lewis and Samantha Lewis will provide leadership off the bench in utility roles.

The pitching duties will be anchored by three-year veteran Ruth Henry. Last year, Henry started 20 games, winning 11. Her earned run average of 2.58 was second on the team behind Trixia Wyano, who graduated last year.

Joining the three-person rotation will be the addition of two heavily recruited athletes. Freshman Deasit Knipfer and Kelly Smith join the Mustangs after capping off two successful high school careers.

Knipfer set the national high school strikeout record last year at Sioqua High School in Santa Cruz with 518 strikeouts. It was a record, which brought her notoriety in an issue of Sports Illustrated last year.

Smith, who posted a 21-1 career record at Upland High School, led her team to a No. 1 ranking in Southern California last year.

Other newcomers to watch this season are a host of new infielders including freshman Anna Bauer, senior Stephens Clark, sophomore Gina Douglass and freshman Delbra Redal. New players in the outfield include junior Michelle Ruff and sophomores Kimber Joyce and junior Traci Lonquist.

Preparing for the season has been a chore for the team because of the January rains. In the past four weeks, the team has only had four days out on the field as most of their workouts have been confined to early morning practices in Mott gym.

"Some of the best softball in the country is out here on the West coast, and we'll all be playing against each other," Boyer said. "But our field drains really well and in road games we should be able to play on.

Ten teams will travel to San Luis Obispo for doubleheaders including Stanford, Minnesota, UC-Santa Barbara, San Jose State, Santa Clara and Cal State Fullerton.

But while Cal Poly will face some talented teams at home, their toughest challenges appear to be on the road. Their away games include Cal State Northridge and UCLA, two nationally-ranked teams which competed in last year's NCAA championships.

"The schedule this year is going to be much tougher than previous years, and the adjustment may take a while," Bannon said. "But we've played a lot of these teams before, and have done well."

Cal Poly loses 6-run lead to Berkeley on 9-inning homerun

Mustangs drop their first road game

Daily Staff Report

Cal first baseman Pat O'Hara's lead-off homerun in the bottom of the ninth inning dipped off a seven-run lead and Cal Poly dropped its first road game Thursday at Evans Diamond in Berkeley.

After building a six-run lead highlighted by a grand slam by designated hitter Jon Macalutas in the fifth inning, the Mustangs gave up four runs in the seventh and two in the eighth before O'Hara's game-winning homerun.

The Bears chased Cal Poly pitcher Dennis Miller in the seventh after he pitched six scoreless innings in his season debut. Miller, who struck out five through the first six innings, ran into problems in the seventh, giving up a walk to lead-off batter catcher Cody Cormack and a single to third baseman Pete Romanos.

Cal Poly pitcher Kevin Green came in to relieve Miller, but he was unable to record an out as Cal tagged him for two runs in the inning before Mustnag coach Ritch Price went to his bullpen once again, this time bringing in pitcher Matt Attorre. Attorre gave up one more run in the seventh before retiring the side.

Cal Poly was unable to mount any kind of offensive attack in the eighth or ninth innings as Cal pitcher Bob Stone shut down the Mustangs in the eighth before giving way to closer Alex Franklin, who retired the visitors in the ninth inning. Franklin (1-0) picked up his first win of the season.

Cal Poly bounced on starter Mike Wolger for one run in the second before Macalutas hit his first homerun of the season and first grand slam of his career off Cal pitcher Jim Verbas — in for relief of Wolger — giving the Mustangs their six-run lead.

Macalutas ended the game going 3-for-5 with four RBIs.

Also contributing for the Mustangs was shortstop Marc Townes, who went 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI, and leftfielder K.J. Radier, who went 2-for-4 with one RBI.

Cal Poly loses 5-run lead to UCLA on 9-inning homerun

Cal Poly's 15-hit attack was led by second baseman Jon Rinda, who went 4-for-5 with three RBIs, two of them coming in the seventh, and rightfielder Gavin Brown, 3-for-5, and leftfielder Jonathan Pelle, 2-for-4.

It was Cal Poly's first loss of the season, after coming off an 8-6 win over Division III Cal Lutheran on Feb. 2. The heart-