CSU imposes contract; faculty unsatisfied

By Erica Tower

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Though the California State University system (CSU) will increase faculty salaries by 6 percent beginning this month, the California Faculty Association (CFA) still remains discontent by contract negotiations.

In late January, after a heated battle that has lasted nearly three years, the CSU faculty agreed to compromise the raise, though groups still could not agree on a formal settlement.

The salary increase, which will also include retroactive pay since last July and increase the average tenure-track salary to $72,000, is supposed to be allocated in the state budget each year. However, the CFA claims that much of the money allotted for annual pay increases never reached intended faculty.

"We had to work hard to get this," said Cal Poly CFA chapter President Phil Ferret. "We're happy that they [CSU] didn't take this money from us, but still very disappointed that many other elements that we tentatively agreed upon were not settled."

Among these elements is the controversial Faculty Merit Increase Program, in which CSU employees are financially rewarded for extra work that is deemed meritorious. The concern with this program is not its purpose, which aims to increase quality of education for students, but its disproportionate distribution.

"The major issue has been with the process and not the principle," Ferret said. "It's a matter that has taken a lot of time with little pay off."

The controversy was heightened by a study conducted by the National Education Association (NEA), which found that from 1998 to 1999, women received 8 percent less in merit award money on average than male faculty. The study also showed that on some campuses, the difference was as large as 20 percent.

As reported in a Mustang Daily article on Sept. 22, 2000, the CSU chancellor's office responded with a report by an independent organization that indicated "there was no system-wide gender discrimination against women in the awarding of merit pay."

The report further claimed that from 1998 to 1999, women received merit increases of 2.67 percent compared to 2.44 percent for men.

"The CSU is committed to merit pay," said Ken Swisher, media relations manager for the CSU chancellor's office. "No companies want stability and not the principle," Ferret said."

"It's important to reward outstanding faculty and encourage them to keep up the good work." - Ken Swisher

CSU media relations manager

Lecture series features top U.S. architects

By Raul Vasquez

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Students will have an opportunity to gain first-hand experience from some of the most prominent architects in the nation in a lecture series presented by the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Peter Pran, design principal for NBBJ Seattle, the nation's second largest architecture firm, will give the second lecture in the Winter 2001 Hearst Lecture Series titled "Schism." Pran has worked as project designer on the Sears Tower and the New York Police Academy.

"Peter will bring a vast history of experience with him to share with the audience," said associate architecture professor Karen Lange, coordinator of the series. The Hearst Lecture Series, which began in 1996, brings up-and-coming and established practitioners from the architecture and design fields to campus. They deliver lectures, visit classrooms and critique students' design projects.

The speakers meet with students individually and respond to them as future professionals, said the business office. The business office of advancement for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

In late December, the Hearst Foundation contributed an additional $100,000 grant to the Hearst Lecture Series endowment. The dona-
JERUSALEM (AP) — Ariel Sharon was poised Monday for a stunning political comeback, holding a 20-point lead in the polls over Prime Minister Ehud Barak on the eve of Israel's election — a vote seen as a referendum on Israel's relationship with the Palestinians.

Barak, who said that Sharon should plunge Israel into war with its neighbors, but many voters —_fatigued by the five-month Palestinian uprising against Israel — appeared either apathetic or swayed by Sharon's mantra of "justice with security." 

Joshua Aronson, a Jerusalem travel agent, said his division had not been affected by what he called a "day of rage," with large-scale demonstrations against Sharon's policies.

"The message we want to send to the Israeli society with the demonstration is that the springing will continue, regardless of who the prime minister of Israel is," Barak said.

Sharon, 72, has been raising a wave of skepticism about Barak's leadership, appealing to Israelis upset with the prime minister's insistence on making concessions for peace while Palestinian violence continues. Fledging security first and peace talks only after calm is restored, Sharon has opposed Barak's offers to the Palestinians, including a statement in which he rejected his goal is selling his Surf Boxers all over the coast someday. 

"I was really impressed because that happened with no advertising; nobody really knew about them except for word of mouth," he said.

As far as the retrospective pay is concerned, the former general will see the money over the next five months in one to three checks depending on the company, Siebold said.

"For some, it's a pretty significant chunk of money," he said.

For more information on each of the lectures, go to www.calpoly.edu/cardl.

**CFA**

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The lecture will be presented in room 211 (the rotunda) of the business building. The presentation is free and open to the public and university students.

The winter 2001 lecture series included design professional Todd Dalland, design principal for FTL, Hoppeld, New York. It will conclude with Carol Burns from Taylor and Burns Architects, Boston, on Feb. 23.

For more information on each of the lectures, go to www.calpoly.edu/cardl.
Vomit Comet to send students into weightless orbit

By Ryan Ballard

The Vomit Comet gets its nickname from its likelihood to induce vomiting in passengers, whose stomachs struggle to adapt to the rapid shifting between zero gravity and double gravity while in flight.

The KC-135 is a four-engine turboprop that flies in parabolas to simulate zero gravity. Two teams from Polysat will take part in the experiment. The satellite team will test the flight characteristics of the satellites in weightlessness, while the launcher team tests the performance of its self-designed deployer.

The satellites Polysat is developing are scheduled for launch in November. Right now the group is busy trying to work out all the bugs, which is part of the reason for testing the satellites in the KC-135. The CubeSat get their name from their cubic shape. The satellites also fall under the category of picosatellites, which weigh less than one kilogram.

Many of us are very excited to be experiencing weightlessness," he said. "We had to take medical tests to make sure we are fit and qualified to go up there. It's a lengthy process, but well worth it."

Polysat has been working on the satellite project for more than a year in conjunction with Stanford University and several other colleges in the United States and Japan. Jeremy Schoos, aerospace engineering senior, founded Polysat in fall 1999. He enjoys working on the project with his peers, who take great pride in their work.

The academics here at Poly are demanding, he said. "I am impressed with the dedication and ingenuity the other team members display," Schoos said. "The academics here at Poly are very demanding, having time to work on a volunteer project outside of the classroom is a sign of some one who is ambitious and a hard working. Building a satellite with no previous experience or heritage at Cal Poly is difficult, though I think the team members enjoy the challenge."

"I think Cal Poly's 'learn by doing' approach prepares our students very well for this kind of real world project," he said. "Another great strength of our team is that we have students from a number of disciplines working very well together."

Schoos said he feels good about how the picosatellites will work.

"I am 110 percent confident that the project will be a success," he said. "There are many talented and dedicated individuals working on the project."

The trip to Houston is the first of its kind for Polysat, but hopefully will not be the last. "I hope other students take advantage of this opportunity," Schoos said. "If students working on the Polysat project go again or even other students at Cal Poly, it is an excellent learning experience and good publicity for the university."
Society decays with wrestlers as role models

Organizations like the World Wrestling Federation and XFL are bringing down America. There are a lot of bigger issues out there, but the WWF is an obvious culprit, polluting society. A lot of people would say that leagues like the WWF are popular because they're fun and that might be true. But the WWF is fun to watch for some people, I will never argue that Vince McMahon hasn't done a great job of putting together a colorful blend of characters and themes for a particular audience. But this sort of entertainment, and its popularity, do not give me any hope for the moral maturation of people in our society.

Some guys I know (smart people) love the WWF; I'm confident that they've not differentiated the fantasy world of professional wrestling from the reality of how to conduct yourself in the real world. I'm more worried about how children see wrestling and how much more extreme this brand of entertainment can potentially go.

Children cannot separate fantasy from reality as well as the enlightened college students reading this article, nor will the nirvana-driven television business shy away from the next league with more of an edge.

I have an example of the dangerousness of organizations like the WWF in my own life. My friend once took me to a wrestling event at Taranta High School, in Pacifica. This was apparently a league of wrestlers who fight just like those in the WWF, but for some reason haven't been able to make it to the big time yet. Perhaps they can't flip off the audience if they think it's okay to flip off Cal State Austin, or they lack the acting skills necessary to be a professional thespian of the WWF. Regardless, these guys tore out the roof of the place while they were wrestling.

I will have to admit, I had a little fun. I'm a guy, and people were getting hurt but weren't screaming — it was perfect. But someone asked me if that might be counterproductive. I had to think back, they stacked their middle fingers at the stage when the "bad guys" were introduced — the most enthusiastic, of the flipping-off crowd was on children who couldn't have been much older than 10. They spit back, they flipped people off and conducted themselves in ways that would normally get them in trouble in the worst possible way.

I have also seen episodes of the WWF, and I am disgusted by the way that they present themselves. There are cat fights, verbal abuse and near-nudity scenes in almost every show that I've viewed. We're talking rap-video-style of disrespect here, and it seems to get more intense every season.

This brings me to my next point; these shows seem to get worse as time goes on. I will give McMahon his credit, in that he knows his audience and he runs on the show what they want. But in the entertainment business, someone will always try to out-do the competition. How long will it be before kids in our country are attending more violent and sexist performances in their local high schools?

I know a lot of hardcore WWF fans will disagree with me. But they all have to admit that wrestlers are becoming role models for our nation's children. I would like to ask these fans if they want their future children emulating the way that the wrestlers act and deal with conflicts. I think that the WWF and the emergence of the XFL are warning signs that we have gone too far in entertainment.

Kids in our country are being exposed to more and more violent behavior, and it only seems to be getting worse. It is time to set a step back, to do what we're supporting by watching it, and just turn it off.

Dan Davitt is a political science sophomore.

Dan Davitt

An earthquake, measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale, hit India two weeks ago. El Salvador had an earthquake four weeks ago, injuring and killing hundreds. In Chile, two new cases of the Hanta virus were found in metropolitan areas. In Guatemala, there has been a 100 percent increase of registered firearms from 1994 to 2000. Most Americans have heard about the first two stories, but not the other two. These stories are just two examples of stories that just never made it to the United States. The Hanta virus and the increase in arms are both important to Chile and Guatemala, respectively, but in the United States, they are just not "newsworthy." The deficiency of printed international news is due to the lack of interest from the American public.

The media are always fingered as the reason for the lack of global information, but it all comes back to the public. All the stories written by journalists are chosen with their readers in mind. Be it Manhattan's elite or the common college student, all newspapers are written for a specific audience.

So in deciding whether or not to write about a new company in the area or a political change in China, the small, local paper will probably choose the new company. International news doesn't seem to interest people. People have too many problems dealing with issues in this country for them to also think about the injustices occurring overseas. The problem with this way of thinking is that news-making events usually have a ripple effect; they impact more than just the community in which they happen. People in the media are only shown what they want the public to see. This is incorrect. The media show what the public has enough time to read. As Americans, we have the attention span of a gnat. People want newspapers to tell them the biggest news of the day in seven words or less. Americans are busy people; they don't have the time to read about the world's problems. The only reason we did hear about the two earthquakes is because they were too big not to mention.

This is not to say that the American media don't have any fault in our absence of world news, but the newspaper reflects the type of stories the audience has shown interest in in the past. Foreign news has to be catastrophe or unique or fit to be written or read. The Hanta virus will probably not be in our newspaper until it grows to epic proportions in Chile. And it's not until an American gets shot by one of the million guns in Guatemala that we will read about it. Most Americans don't care what is going on in other countries. We should care. Knowing what is going around the world is beneficial to all Americans on all levels.

A stockbroker in New York reads that in Germany there have been some political party changes. Now he might have a perfect opportunity to invest in a German company. Reading about revolt and social upheaval in Africa might make a local student rethink his or her summer trip to Zambia.

As American readers, we make the news. We don't know what can affect us. Next time when you're in a hurry, don't overlook the international news. Even though it's foreign news, it can still hit home.

Byron Samaya is an ecology and systems biology senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Please limit length to 350 words. Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and signed with major and class standing. Preference must be given to e-mailed letters. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to mustangdaily@hotmail.com. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

Letter to the Editor

Mustang Daily

Tuesday, February 6, 2001

Volunteerism is an important value in our society. It helps to strengthen our community and promotes a sense of giving. However, we must be cautious about how we support these efforts.

Adam Jarman, editor in chief

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"Those are brownies. Don't be scared by the turkey bologna label."
Letters to the editor

Absurd accusations don't help editor

Editor,

Jason Feld, a physics senior and an officer in the United Socialists and Anarchists, accused Christians of stealing his club's sandwich. "I know for a fact that my club's sandwich Kiard. But, because he obviously has a Kine to pick with me, he was so lucky that his sketchy words were published today and not in the form of an 'odious' scheme."

Christopher Weber is an architecture student.

Shoes on wires may indicate trafficking

This letter is in response to Ken Savala's column ("Puzzling over one life's great mysteries," Feb. 1). I grew up in the outskirts of Pittsburgh, Pa. Every now and then we would take trips into the city. On one occasion, I would pass through the slums and "ghetto" areas that were not very pleasant. I can still recall being around five and I started noticing "shoes hanging over a phone wire" at almost every intersection. I grow up thinking this was some form of gangland normal. I don't remember how I came to know it, but I knew that the pair of shoes hanging over a phone wire was some sort of symbol that meant a drug dealer was in that part of town and that's why you should take that matter of business. So every time I see a pair of shoes hanging over a phone wire, it gets me wondering if what I learned about them is true, especially when I came to San Luis Obispo and saw them here. Maybe there are a bunch of drug users and dealers that live right here in San Luis Obispo. Who knows?

Leah Mason is a business sophomore.

Want patience? Don't daydream in my way editor

I agree in many ways with Andrew Savala's editorial on impa­
tience in our society ("Ask yourself if your time is really worth it," Feb. 5). No, people should not throw a fit because they have to wait in a car wash for 50 seconds, but I do believe that our society is lacking in patience. I think it is enough to fill my mind with thoughts of debates concerning the debate of evolution versus creation. I write these, "If there is no Supreme Being, and that humanity was intentionally created each one of us, then we are left to our own devices to determine our own purpose."

Cameron Eiddmann is a business sophomore.

I determine my life's purpose editor

I have to start by thanking Ms. Rosner for explaining Evangelism and encouraging the stirring of thought ("A Chance to stir thought, open dialog," Jan. 15). Yes, the posters, flyers, signs on posts, bulletins, pamphlets and billboards have also been stirring a thought or two. Ms. Rosner suggests starting a dialogue concerning the debate of evolution versus creation. I write these, "If there is no Supreme Being, and that humanity was intentionally created each one of us, then we are left to our own devices to determine our own purpose."

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Rebecca Howard is an environmen­
tal horticulture senior.
Senators start pushing for more special education money, reform

WASHINGTON (AP) — Going beyond President Bush's education package, the Senate's top GOP education lawmaker said Monday he'll seek a stable boost in special education money. The top Democrat said his party will push for money to hire more teachers and fix crumbling schools.

Both Sen. Jim Jeffords, R-Vt., chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., the ranking Democrat on the panel, told a meeting of the National School Boards Association that they were pleased with Bush's emphasis on education reform.

"It would be hard to imagine a more positive climate for education than what we have today," Jeffords told the school officials, who were also hearing from Education Secretary Rod Paige. Bush's education agenda includes consolidating dozens of programs into five general grant categories, testing students annually to hold schools accountable and providing children attending failing schools with vouchers to enroll in the public or private schools of their choice.

Jeffords said he would soon propose legislation to increase by $2.5 billion a year over the next six years federal funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for special education programs.

Increasing that funding has long been a top goal of Republicans, who say the 1975 law put a heavy financial burden on local school districts by requiring them to provide special education but not backing the requirements with funds.

The original law envisioned that Washington would pay up to 40 percent of the cost, but despite a budget boost of more than $1 billion in this fiscal year, only about 12 percent of special education programs are federally funded.

Jeffords said there is a lot of consensus on the Bush education package, but it will not be a "slam dunk" because of differences over such issues as vouchers.

Kennedy agreed, saying that while he was gratified by Bush's education priorities, he had told the president he will oppose vouchers for private schools.

Also on Monday, the Education Leaders Council, representing education officials from eight states, published a list of recommendations for the new Congress that, like the Bush plan, stressed student achievement, school accountability and greater spending flexibility.

Republicans in the past have resisted specific funds for hiring teachers and school repair, preferring to give the money to state and local governments in the form of grants and letting them decide how best to use it.

Also on Monday, the Education Leaders Council, representing education officials from eight states, published a list of recommendations for the new Congress that, like the Bush plan, stressed student achievement, school accountability and greater spending flexibility.
GILMORE continued from page 8

responsibility to his coaches, his teammates and his fans to stay and play for the school that's giving him a scholarship and for his teammates and his fans to stay and play for the school that's giving him a scholarship.

Mike Gilmore is a journalism senior. E-mail him at happygillmore@calpoly.edu.

NOLAN continued from page 8

joel Nolan is a journalism senior. E-mail comments to him at
nolan@calpoly.edu.

SAFETY continued from page 8

down in Colorado. It was on the return trip from a game in Boulder that one of the team's three planes crashed. The plane was traveling between Denver and Boulder, a 20-mile flight. Two other planes, which included the remaining members of the team and head coach Eddie Sutton, arrived safely at Stillwater, Okla., before the third plane crashed.

The two players that were among the 10 killed were Daniel Lawson and Nate Bird. Lawson, a 31-year-old senior, averaged 9.9 points in 17 games this season. Fleming, a 19-year-old freshman, scored just three points in eight games this season.

The charter plane that the Cal Poly football team uses, either a DC-9 or MD 82, carries 30 to 112 passengers, Webb said.

Even with the perceived danger of flying in small, chartered airplanes, Frumley said that no one has come up to him with any complaints. "Part of the fun of DC-9 sports is that you get to fly," he said. "It's a lot of travel, excitement and fun."

The only time passengers felt scared is when a plane encounters turbulence during a flight.

"The charter flights are a little scarier than commercial planes," Osgood said. "You can feel more turbulence on a smaller plane. But you have to think that it's easier to drive a smaller car than a bus."
Stick it to 'em

Grant Middleton of the Cal Poly lacrosse team battles a UCLA defender in Saturday's game at the Sports Complex. The Mustangs defeated the Bruins 9-8. It was the season opener for Cal Poly. The team's next game is against UCSB at 1 p.m. at the Sports Complex.

Travel safety important for Mustang athletes

By Michelle Hatfield
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The crash on Jan. 27 of an Oklahoma State University plane that killed all 10 passengers on the minds of Cal Poly's sports teams when they fly, however the crash hasn't made them less likely to fly.

"Anytime you get into an airplane, there's a risk, but there's a risk when you step out the door everyday, too," said Kevin Bromley, men's basketball head coach.

Oklahoma State was flying in a donated, privately owned charter plane. Although Cal Poly does use charter planes, most planes used to get players to games are commercial airlines.

The Mustangs are one of the few college teams that use planes to travel to out-of-state games include women's basketball, volleyball, track and field and wrestling.

All teams drive to all in-state games by bus or van.

Players admit that they do think about the Oklahoma State crash.

"It definitely hits home," said wide receiver Kassim Osgood, "especially with the similar situation with the crash here in 1960.""

Kassim Osgood
Cal Poly wide receiver

Oklahoma State was flying in a chartered plane when they crashed killing 16 players and six other passengers. The team was returning from a game in Toledo, Ohio.

"With last year being the anniversary (of the crash), it's in front of everybody's mind," Webb said. "Safety is always in front of our minds. Nobody's ever forgotten that incident."

The Oklahoma State crash killed 10 people abroad. The plane was a turbo Beechcraft B-200, which went down in the mountains of Montana and Iowa.

The Mustangs and the Oklahoma State crash are about the same. The Oklahoma crash was a twin-prop plane. The Mustangs team is so big that it's hard to complete this education. Vick had a

Joe Nolan

Joe Nolan

Joe Nolan

Joe Nolan

Joe Nolan

Joe Nolan