Group supports off-campus freshman

By Collin Hester
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

For those new Cal Poly students who couldn't find a room on campus, it may be difficult to adjust to the rigors of college life.

Fostering Off Campus University Success (FOCUS), a student affairs program, aims to get these students on the right track and facilitate their first year at Cal Poly in ways that Week of Welcome (WO) cannot.

"What we want to try to do, with a lot of the existing resources on campus, is to establish (the freshmen) presence off campus as well," said Kyle Remp, FOCUS student coordinator.

FOCUS is designed to make off-campus living easier by creating a network of off-campus students to promote social interactions and mutual support, he said.

"We're the middleman to the off-campus people," the business administration senior said. "Our main focus is on freshmen, but we'd like to include everyone as well that would like to use the resources.""1

Eleven volunteer members make up the program, and they do the majority of the event planning. They assigned four tenets to the program to help reach its goal of helping the off-campus community. The tenets are directing students to campus resources, facilitating academic success, aiding social connections and giving advice to manage day-to-day problems.

FOCUS makes students aware of the many services that allow them to be more involved.

"It offers a lot of potential for us to show them the resources that are available," Riener said.

see FOCUS, page 4

Alumni welcomed home

By Kat Corey
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Nearly $500,000 of the university's endowment fund and $40,000 of the College of Business fund lies in the hands of a small group of students.

As a senior project class, the Student Managed Portfolio Project was developed to give finance students hands-on experience managing money. The students make several critical investment decisions on a daily basis, which affect the university's money in the funds.

"It's just like a real investment corporation, this is like real life experience," said Geef Wilson, a business senior with an economics minor. "We could make a decision that could kill us."

The class, usually comprised of 16 to 18 students, meets twice a week, reviews news relating to their current stocks, and discusses whether to buy or sell certain stocks in the portfolio, said finance professor Ken Riener.

Johnson & Johnson, Nokia, America Online and Hewlett-Packard, among several others, are companies the students currently hold stock in. Riener said each student is expected to review and research three potential companies from which they might like to invest in. They write up a proposal and of those three, they must recommend a purchase and pitch it to the class. Riener then picks three other students to review the company and a vote is made among the whole class, where the majority determines the success of the proposal.

"Everyone is really into the class," said Matt Mahlman, business senior with a minor in psychology and economics. "They take pride if their recommendation is purchased."

All the stocks in the portfolio stay fairly even in value to each other, Riener said.

"You can't go out and buy just anything," he said. "If a stock is not good enough to put $15,000 in it, then it's not worth it. We don't buy penny stocks."

The students must be making the right decisions. Wilson said the class started with $411,000 in the portfolio at the beginning of the quarter. They are currently at $433,000. It is beneficial to the portfolio project that business students take two quarters of senior project classes, Riener said. Usually, half the students are new and the other half are returning.

"It works out well because the new students can learn from the old," he said. "We try to keep it well diversified."

Not just anyone can have a shot see PORTFOLIO, page 4
Cal Poly students lend a hand in state government policy-making

By Collin Hester

From a California Supreme Court justice to members of the U.S. Congress and the State Legislature, the Capital Fellows Programs have shown many college grads the way to a bright future in public service.

The Capital Fellows Programs include four 11-month fellowships that offer college graduates unique, first-hand experience in policymaking and developing California public policy. Program participants, or fellows, are given opportunities to get involved in public service and prepare for future careers.

"The principle goal of the Capital Fellows Programs is to spark an interest in public service, and more specifically, spark an interest in doing the dirty work of leading California," said David De Luz, Cal Poly alumni and Capital Fellows outreach coordinator. "(Fellows) gain an appreciation for the public policy process and work in the highest levels of California State Government."

First, the fellows go through four weeks of intensive training and orientation, where they are given a mentor and learn about themselves and their field of interest," De Luz said. "The 11-month fellowship affords them an opportunity to not only learn about the policy/policy process, but they learn a lot about themselves and their field of interest."

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David De Luz Capital Fellows outreach coordinator

By Collin Hester

Mustang Daily Staff Writer

State Government by various legislators in the state capitol, said Steve McShane, fellow and Cal Poly Associated Students Inc. president from 1996 to 1997. They are brought to such places as dams, water refuges, prisons and airports to learn firsthand about how the state government operates these entities in implementing public policy, he said.

"The program is phenomenal for anybody because right from day one, they introduce to you your state government and it's very hands on," McShane said. The Capital Fellows Programs are comprised of the Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship, Executive Fellowship, Judicial Administration Fellowship and the California Senate Fellows programs. The Unruh Assembly Fellowship was founded in 1957 and is one of the oldest and most prestigious fellowships in the nation, De Luz said.

Fellows in each program receive 12 graduate credits, a $1,882 monthly stipend and health benefits, according to the Center for California Studies Web site. Each year, enrollment consists of 18 assembly, 18 senate, 18 executive and 10 judicial Administration fellows, De Luz said. Applications are due at the end of February and the only requirement is for the applicant to have a bachelor's degree. He said all majors are accepted, not just those in political science.

Sacramento is in need of people with technical and creative backgrounds, McShane said. "I studied social science at Cal Poly and never before had I thought there was such a need to have someone that didn't necessarily have a political science background," McShane said. "The Capital Fellows Programs allowed me, and will allow others with similar backgrounds, to unlock those types of opportunities."

The paper-screening process and interviews are conducted in May, and the selected fellows begin their programs in early fall.

De Luz said between 600 and 700 people submit applications each year, but only 64 people are accepted to fill the assembly, executive, judicial and senate programs.

Capital Fellows is unique because it is a fellowship and not an internship, De Luz said. "There aren't many government/policy-oriented fellowships that offer what we offer, and that is a rich history providing quality experience in the legislative process combined with a strong academic component," De Luz said. "You're really given an opportunity to succeed and an opportunity to shine."

De Luz and McShane will be at Cal Poly's fall job fair on Monday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. near the ASI Children's Center to provide information on the Capital Fellows Programs. More information on these programs can be found on the Center for California Studies Web site at www.csus.edu/calst.
National Briefs
Anthrax found in Pentagon
WASHINGTON—Anthrax tests for two postal boxes in a Pentagon post office resulted in positive returns, a Pentagon spokesperson said Monday. A Navy sailor rented one of the boxes and the other was unassigned. All those renting boxes are being contacted and given the opportunity to be screened for the bacterium at the Pentagon's clinic.
The area was decontaminated Sunday and closed Monday. All testing results have returned negative results. The area had undergone random testing because it had received mail from the Washington, D.C., Brentwood post office, which was closed Oct. 15 after anthrax tests returned positive.
The post office in the Pentagon that was contaminated is part of a commercial section and is separate from the Defense Department's mailroom, which has been tested twice for anthrax with all results returning negative.
—Associated Press

Man almost boards plane with weapons, security workers punished
CHICAGO—Private security personnel at O'Hare International Airport have been suspended or fired after allowing a man to board a flight to Omaha, Neb., through security checkpoints.

Washington, D.C. Brentwood post office, which was closed Oct. 15 after anthrax tests returned positive

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—Associated Press

CIA office destroyed in terrorist attacks
NEW YORK—A secret CIA office in 7 World Trade Center was leveled on Sept. 11 when the collapse of the twin towers caused the smaller tower to fall. Intelligence operations were seriously disrupted.

An anonymous official said that a CIA team searched the area for secret paper and electronic documents immediately after the collapse. The office existed behind the false front of another federal organization. The CIA’s main New York office was not affected.
The demolished station sped on and recruited foreign diplomat who were stationed at the United Nations. It also communicated with secret business executives who traveled overseas.

It was also very involved in counter-terrorism efforts in the New York area.

A CIA spokesman declined to comment on the existence of the office.

—The Washington Post

Gas prices fall nationwide
WASHINGTON—Prices for retail gasoline have dropped to an average of $1.206 a gallon, the lowest price since 1990, the Energy Department said Monday. At this time last year, the average price was 32 cents higher.

Gasoline prices, including those for the more expensive cleaner, burning gasoline sold in smoggy cities, have fallen since the Sept. 11 attacks due to a drop on fuel demand that has caused a rise in fuel supplies and less expensive crude oil.

The West Coast still has the most expensive gas in the nation at an average of $1.472 per gallon. San Francisco holds the highest price of the large cities at $1.641 per gallon. States in the lower Atlantic region have the lowest prices in the country at $1.098 per gallon.

The price for diesel fuel also fell 32 cents from this time last year to a national average of $1.291 a gallon.

—Reuter

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—Reuter

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Who is the Fastest
Neatest
Friendliest
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factory worker?

Come to Sandwich Factory to vote for the factory worker that you think is the best in these categories and others

Vote November 5 - 9
FOCUS continued from page 1

available and to make social con­nections and feel like they're a part of the Cal Poly community," said Mike Brandeberry, FOCUS volun­teer and business senior.

Unlike WOW, FOCUS has many events and meetings that occur throughout the entire academic year to get new students acclimated to the Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo communities, Remp said.

"In the fall, our emphasis is on social events because we want to establish a positive relationship with the off-campus freshmen by getting them together so that they can network with one another," Remp said.

FOCUS held their opening event on the Sunday before WOW; it attracted 400 off-campus stu­dents for a night of playing games and meeting others. Each program put on a volleyball game on the Saturday before WOW as another means to unite the students.

The events give students the opportunity to build a strong com­munity of friends.

"It's an awesome way to meet new people that are also off cam­pus, and you can relate to them because you know where they're coming from," said Chrissy Roth, journalism sophomore.

"It's an awesome way to meet new people that are also off cam­pus, and you can relate to them because you know where they're coming from," said Chrissy Roth, journalism sophomore and past FOCUS participant.

The next FOCUS event will be a barbecue at Santa Rosa Park this Sunday. Weekly meetings are held, dur­ing which volunteers discuss upcoming events and get feedback from students. The students are also given newsletters to advise them on valuable campus and acad­emic resources, class registration and how to keep safe, Remp said.

The program was initiated as a grant about three years ago under the name Off Campus Student Success Program (OCSSP) to give support to off-campus students who didn't get into the dorms, he said. Members from Housing and Residential Life, the Disability Resource Center and the Career Services Center drafted the idea.

After Remp was hired to the state-funded program last year under adviser Andreen Kaiwi-Lenting, members decided to change the name to FOCUS, thinking it had a more positive connotation, he said. Kaiwi-Lenting is also the adviser for Cal Poly's Open House and WOW.

For FOCUS to be of great use, it relies on other services.

"If we can build good relations­hips with on-campus resources as well as off-campus resources, we can really provide a great experi­ence for those who live off cam­pus," Brandeberry said.

FOCUS can be reached at 756-2133 or calpolyFOCUS@hotmail.com. For more information, FOCUS meet­ings are held every Tuesday from 6:10 p.m. to 7 p.m. in building 33, room 457.

PORTFOLIO continued from page 1

at a position on this team. Riener said there is an application process involved.

"We like to have people who take this seriously," he said. "It's mainly for people who are interested in invest­ments.

He said about a quarter of all finance students end up doing this senior project. Many of the students want to get into it because it is real life investing, he said.

The class began with $200,000 and was up to $640,000 at the beginning of fall, said Ron Weaver, investment administrator. Founda­tion decided they weren't comfortable with the students managing that much money so they put a maximum amount of $350,000 on the fund. The university endowment fund is comprised of money that people have donated. Weaver said. Those funds are invest­ed with prospects for the future in mind. The donation is not spent, only the interest earned from the investments, he said.

Weaver said Foundation couldn't be happier with the results.

"I think everyone here is really proud to be a part of the project," Weaver said. "They consistently do a good job."

The students present their project in front of the Foundation board at the end of each year. Weaver said it is great to see all the hard work they put into the project come about in a pro­fessional presentation, Weaver said.

This project has such a great repu­tation that Rainer said some recruiters actually ask if students have been involved in the portfolio pro­ject.

"It's one of those really valuable experiences," he said.

The College PrePaid Phone Card: the really cool thing about it is—it’s a prepaid card. It's virtual. You get it online with a flat per-minute rate* and no hidden fees. And it's rechargeable so you'll never need another phone card—ever.

Ordering is easy and it's instant. Just go to att.com/college/easy and choose your card denomination. Submit the form to get your PIN and you're off and dialing.

The College PrePaid Phone Card. Get it online. Keep it in your brain. How easy is that?

Go to our website now.
The dairy farm is located about two miles behind Campus Market on a small dirt road that appears to run forever. When the wind blows, the potent smell of cows, pigs and sheep pervades the air — it is an unmistakable scent. But some students have become accustomed to the aroma.

Every morning of the school year, a team of dedicated students, mostly from the agricultural department, wake up when most students are going to bed, to tend to these animals.

"It's just another day," said Albert Graham, a civil engineering senior, describes the old dairy as "orderline impossible." Benzing said it is necessary to work 10 hours per month at any job in the dairy.

"It is nice to get away from the rigors of schoolwork and come here to the dairy dorms," Benzing said. "With a cow-milking job as an opportunity to do something different and thus add one more item to the list of things he has done."

"It makes you more marketable," he said.

Benzinger likes milking the cows, except when they are acting up. He remembers a time when he got his arm pinned under a cow's leg. He had to hit her so she would let her foot off his arm; it left him with a huge bruise.

Living next door to the dairy dorms is a rare exception to the list of things he has done. "Providing an optimal learning environment while maximizing productivity at the same time is our main goal," said Reis, who was a student at Cal Poly seven years ago.

Reis started at the dairy almost three weeks ago and sees it as being a great opportunity to work with one of the best herds in the nation.

"It makes you more marketable," he said.

Benzinger heard about the dairy dorms from a girl he went to high school with. In order to stay there, it is necessary to work 20 hours per month at any job in the dairy.

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It looks like California’s government has finally been swept up by the overwhelming push toward making flights safer. On Oct. 30 The Tribune reported that Gov. Gray Davis would pressure Washington, D.C., to allow California to use sky marshals. California has used sky marshals in the past, and there are reports that the sky marshals did a good job. It is a positive step for California to take a lead in this area. Sky marshals have been used in other countries to prevent terrorism on flights. California should move forward and implement sky marshals in a way that is effective and efficient.

Commentary: California to use sky marshals

By Erin Farnsworth

It is alarming to think that a terrorist could board a plane and start a mass murder before authorities could prevent it. This is why it is so important to have a system in place to prevent such an event. Sky marshals have been used in other countries to prevent terrorism on flights. California should move forward and implement sky marshals in a way that is effective and efficient.

On October 30, The Tribune ran an article about California’s government being swayed by the recent terrorist incidents to pressure Washington, D.C. to allow California to use sky marshals. In the past, California has used sky marshals in a way that has proven to be effective. California should take this lead and move forward with implementing sky marshals in a way that is effective and efficient.

Along with the sky marshals, the FAA has also started an enhanced airplane security program. According to their Web site, they plan to improve crew compartment doors to prevent an unauthorized entry of passengers. They are also installing video cameras to alert crew members of emergency situations within the cabin. These improvements have the potential to increase security, but if the crews become complacent, they could lead to the same terrorism issues we have today. Video cameras can be manipulated just like they could be anywhere else and doors can be broken down. So while these plans do increase security, they do nothing to guarantee it.

Stephen Harvey is a journalism sophomore and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Mustang Daily

Opinion

Sky marshals: Will they really make skies safer?

By Michelle Demeter

It looks like California’s government has finally been swept up by the overwhelming push toward making flights safer. On Oct. 30 The Tribune reported that Gov. Gray Davis would pressure Washington, D.C., to allow California to use sky marshals. But, they would only be marshals for a flight if they already were going on the flight in some other form of business. This is a poor idea for low cost air travel. The CHF has enough to deal with without the added workload of being trained to work as sky marshals. It is a completely different situation at 10,000 feet than on the ground. If a gun fight occurs in the cabin of an airplane, the effects would probably result in more innocent casualties than on the ground.

Sky marshaling should be a specific job independent of other law enforcement agencies. If we are going to create a sky marshaling network, then the marshals should be employed and trained by the federal government. A good idea would be to conduct training with the counter-terrorism groups already established in the CIA. If they aren’t trained there, they should at least have military training. This would establish a level of professionalism on the same level as the men and women who already deal with foreign affairs.

Of course, the best way to increase the stringency of flight security is to increase the amount of press covering the safety procedures put in place to prevent passengers from entering if they are considered a threat. But, there has been very little mention of ground workers and flight crew member being screened or put through any intensive security procedures.

The Federal Aviation Administration should impose regulations on ground crew to prevent them from entering the airport area without first being searched. Ground crew members are constantly getting on and off planes so they should be searched just like passengers are.

Of course, there is only so much government regulation and increased security on flights can do. Everyone involved is only human, but if enough security measures are added to the process of boarding a plane and taking a trip, perhaps all the dangerous elements will be strained out. On Nov. 3, according to CNN.com, a man was caught by one of the secondary security checks. He was found carrying seven knives, a can of mace and a stun gun during a random search at O‘Hare airport in Chicago.

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Stephen Harvey is a journalism sophomore and Mustang Daily staff writer.
UCSD students protest Staples' paper products

By T.J. Tallie
THE GUARDIAN

(U-WIRE) LA JOLLA, Calif. — Concerned students from the California Public Interest Research Group held a demonstration at a local Staples Office Superstore on Saturday to inform the public of what they call the company's environmentally unfriendly policies.

CalPIRG members organized the demonstration to call on Staples to stop using wood from old-growth forests in its office supply products and to alert consumers of what the organization deems as destructive practices.

Old-growth forests provide habitat for endangered and threatened species, and the destruction of such forests is worrisome to some environmentalists because old-growth forests take centuries to form, but can be decimated relatively quickly by wood chippers.

"We're here to educate as many people as we can," said Matt McKeelley, a Revelle senior and the chapter chairman at CalPIRG, "Educating consumers is an effective way to make companies change their tactics."  

"Consumers don't know what's going on. We're here for consumer awareness. Staples wants to keep its customers happy, and we're definitely for that — as long as Staples improves its environmental track record," said Melinda Gibson, CalPIRG campaign coordinator.

Staples spokesman Tom Nurtile said the company is in the process of developing a policy to promote sustainable regrowth programs by giving preference to wood certified to be from such sources.

"We believe this certification process is one of the best ways to eliminate or minimize the possibilities of any old-growth fibers in Staples products," he said.

"In the vast majority of cases, recycled paper costs more than non-recycled paper, and it's harder to get the consumer to pay more," he said. CalPIRG tracked a 50 percent post-consumer waste recycled paper, two different papers with 10 percent and a Staples brand paper with 10 percent recycled fibers.

"In the last major cases, recycled paper costs more than non-recycled paper, and it's harder to get the consumer to pay more," he said. CalPIRG tracked a 50 percent post-consumer waste recycled paper, two different papers with 10 percent and a Staples brand paper with 10 percent recycled fibers.

"It's a simple step that (Staples) can take to switch from using old-growth forest wood to wood from new-growth forests," Deckman said. Nurtile said Staples is a leader in environmentally friendly practices, and the company sells more than 100 different recycled paper products in each store and 1,000 campuses.

Nurtile also said Staples encourages consumers to buy paper brands that use recycled post-consumer fibers. He said Staples recently introduced a $0.25 percent post-consumer waste recycled paper, two different papers with 10 percent and a Staples brand paper with 10 percent recycled fibers.

"We care very much about the environment," Nurtile said. "We consider ourselves a leader in selling environmentally friendly products in our stores, our catalog and on our web site."

Melinda Gibson, CalPIRG campaign coordinator.

The program demonstrates that engineering is a respectable profession that requires personal communication and technical skills, she said. It is good for women, she added, because in comparison to careers in law and medicine, engineering makes it a lot easier to balance work and family once one establishes a reputation.

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Anti-abortion ad insert in newspaper raises eyebrows

By Anthony Heinertman

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

(U-WIRE) CHICAGO — Those who picked up the Nov. 6-8 issue of the Chronicle may have noticed a colorful and well-designed eight-page advertising insert. On the front was a retro-looking black and white picture of a woman with the words “Life is full of surprises.” What was inside the ad is what has really surprised some people.

The advertisement was for the Human Life Alliance, an anti-abortion group. It featured two pictures of aborted fetuses, an interview with a woman who regrets having had an abortion, interviews with women who are glad they changed their minds about having abortions, and several other anti-abortion essays.

Columbia College Chronicle advertising and business manager Chris Richert said that the editors of the paper did not meet to discuss running the ad because he knew from viewing a synopsis of it that it did not violate the paper’s policy of rejecting any advertising that discriminates against race, religion or sexuality. An advertising firm contacted the Chronicle about four weeks before it ran, and the insert was delivered to the publisher without being seen prior to publication.

“With all the heavy deadlines that we are under every week,” Richert explained, “I did not stick to our policy of getting a copy of this insert before it ran. When I called up business managers at other papers and saw that they were also running the insert, I felt that it wasn’t going to be a problem.”

By the end of the week the ad ran, the Chronicle had received three complaints. The biggest came from Hokin Center Coordinator Julie Caffey, who considered pulling the advertising for the center. Caffey changed her mind after considering the effects. “I don’t want to punish the students. I want them to know about the events that are happening in the Hokin Center,” Caffey said. “I think running the ad was a human error. It was human greed and time.”

After seeing the ad, Caffey pointed it out to English professor Michael Seaton. Seaton was shocked by the ad and has been carrying it with her to show others. “I would like change,” Seaton said. “I would like to raise the level of awareness. I don’t want to alienate people or make people defensive.”

“Seaton said that she has already had a student approach her about doing something to speak out against the ad. Caffey said that she has been working with other colleagues to respond. Both said that one of the most disconcerting things about the ad is the lack of student action against the ad.

“Light is full of surprises” was the advertisement’s advertisement for the Human Life Alliance, an anti-abortion group. It featured two pictures of aborted fetuses, an interview with a woman who regrets having had an abortion, interviews with women who are glad they changed their minds about having abortions, and several other anti-abortion essays.

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“With all the heavy deadlines that we are under every week,” Richert explained, “I did not stick to our policy of getting a copy of this insert before it ran. When I called up business managers at other papers and saw that they were also running the insert, I felt that it wasn’t going to be a problem.”

By the end of the week the ad ran, the Chronicle had received three complaints. The biggest came from Hokin Center Coordinator Julie Caffey, who considered pulling the advertising for the center. Caffey changed her mind after considering the effects. “I don’t want to punish the students. I want them to know about the events that are happening in the Hokin Center,” Caffey said. “I think running the ad was a human error. It was human greed and time.”

After seeing the ad, Caffey pointed it out to English professor Michael Seaton. Seaton was shocked by the ad and has been carrying it with her to show others. “I would like change,” Seaton said. “I would like to raise the level of awareness. I don’t want to alienate people or make people defensive.”

“Seaton said that she has already had a student approach her about doing something to speak out against the ad. Caffey said that she has been working with other colleagues to respond. Both said that one of the most disconcerting things about the ad is the lack of student action against the ad.

“Light is full of surprises” was the advertisement’s advertisement for the Human Life Alliance, an anti-abortion group. It featured two pictures of aborted fetuses, an interview with a woman who regrets having had an abortion, interviews with women who are glad they changed their minds about having abortions, and several other anti-abortion essays.