Poll shows that undergraduates prefer smaller companies

Adam Widman

STANFORD, Calif. — Undergraduates seeking jobs generally prefer small- or medium-sized employers to larger corporations when they leave college, according to a recent poll on the student career Web site CollegeGrad.com. The poll gathered the responses of about 500 students nationwide, and 70 percent of respondents said they preferred small- to medium-sized employers, while 30 percent said they would prefer a large employer.

According to the Web site, the results of the poll reflect common industry expectations.

"This feedback is contrary to the generally held view that college graduates only want to work for Fortune 500 or Global 1000 companies," said Brian Kreager, president of CollegeGrad.com. "Not only are college graduates interested in small and medium-size companies, they prefer them.

Employers cited a variety of reasons for the poll's findings. Some labeled the results as a response to increasing uncertainties associated with large employers, while others said they viewed the market as experiencing a new generation of job seekers.

"Today's graduates have seen the cyclical nature of the global and national economies," said Steven Jungman, division director for ChaseSource, LP, in a press release. "Terms like 'downsizing,' 'furloughs' and 'mass-layoffs' are now a part of everyone's vocabulary and reflect the current economic climate.

Heidi Hanako, the director of client services at CollegeGrad.com, said that the poll's results were reflective of a generational shift.

"The significance is that the results represent a change in the preference that Generation X had of chasing the giant paycheck typically associated with large and small-medium sized companies."

When asked for their preferences about employer size, Stanford University seniors were split between large and small-medium sized companies. Joanna Gan, an economics and international relations major, said the poll showed students are interested in working of small to medium-sized employers.

See Poll, page 2

New fraternities plan to come to Poly

Jennifer Hall

The Cal Poly Greek System is growing again with the addition of two new fraternities, Sigma Pi and Delta Tau Delta.

Sigma Pi held informational sessions this week and last week and had a booth in the University Union for the last two weeks. They are planning to colonize this Friday.

"We had a good turnout at a meeting," Jen DeVinna, a Sigma Pi senior expansion consultant, said. "We'll be colonizing with 20 to 25 men and holding elections this Saturday."

Sigma Pi is re-colonizing at Cal Poly since they closed in 1999 due to low membership. DeVinna and Jeremy Boyd are two alumni of the fraternity that are working to re-establish the chapter on campus again.

"We're looking for campus leaders, guys that want to be involved, and diverse," Boyd, another senior expansion consultant, said.

Sigma Pi has 130 chapters and colonies in the U.S. This colony will be the 12th Sigma Pi fraternity in California.

"The real bonus here is that anyone who joins before we are chartered has the opportunity to be a founding father," DeVinna said.

As soon as they colonize on Friday, Sigma Pi will be approved by the Interfraternity Council (IFC) at Cal Poly. This will allow them to participate in all IFC events and athletics, however, they will not have a vote until they become a chartered national fraternity.

On average it takes 10 to 14 months to charter," Boyd said. "It just depends on how hard they work."

Delta Tau Delta would be completely new to Cal Poly and is still trying to make the minimum for a colony.

"To gain two more new houses is good for the greek system," said Chris Barkdale, the IFC President and member of Beta Theta Pi.

Last year, Cal Poly lost two fraternities, Kappa Sigma and Phi Delta Theta. The addition of Sigma Pi and Delta Tau Delta would bring the total number of fraternities back up to 23 according to the IFC Web site.

"For us, it's kind of a cool thing that these other houses will be on campus," Barkdale said. "I'm rooting for them."

Sigma Pi is hoping to start their national Altruistic Campus Experience Project within the next year at Cal Poly.

The project has been going on for three years and hopes to build ties between fraternities and the campus by discovering university needs and doing service projects on campus.

"We want to bring all the fraternities, sororities, clubs, students and faculty together," DeVinna said. "We want to unite the campus and instill campus pride."

Sigma Pi is holding another information meeting today in building 525 room A11 at 7 p.m.

Calif. Board of Education rejects controversial edits of textbooks

Sowam Morray

DWN, Calif. — Our textbooks told us lies as children. There is misleading or outright wrong information about religion or history in the texts of most students. This past week, textbooks faced more lies at the California State Board of Education meeting only prevented by some local professors, faculty and community members.

At a special committee meeting before the State Board of Education, Hindu nationalists attempted to change Indian history in their favor by erasing the caste system, among other edits. The board voted unanimously to reject the many contentious changes proposed.

The two groups suggesting edits in the depiction of ancient Indian history and Hinduism, the Vedic Foundation and the Hindu Education Foundation, are linked to the Hindu right-wing movement.

According to UC Davis South Asia historian James Heitzman, some of the proposed changes were necessary to accurately depict the Hindu faith. However, according to the Friends of South Asia Web site, in many cases these groups were trying to make corrections to erroneous texts, which would "reflect their supremacist and chauvinistic political agenda."

Heitzman and many other professors grew concerned when they became aware of the political agenda behind the proposed changes.

The goal of Indian nationalists, according to Heitzman, is to define citizens of India as Hindus. Since not all Indians are Hindu, this ideology would marginalize other religions, including Islam, Sikhism and Christianity.

A commission of three India experts, Michael W erner from Harvard, Stanley Wolpert from UCLA and Heitzman, was immediately created in response to the proposed changes.

see Education, page 2
**Poll continued from page 1**

Social opportunities would be good, and training programs would be well established.

Sunaina Maira, an engineering major, said he too would prefer to work for a large employer, citing the prestige and resources of many large companies.

"Large companies have better security, more resources, and a better name," he said. "These are some of the same reasons I chose I chose a large, well-known university over a smaller liberal arts college."

Naran added that he would prefer to work for a small company in the more diverse Silicon Valley.

"I'd like to work for a start-up sometime in the next 10 years," he said.

**Education continued from page 1**

Textbook rules and background

Textbook cycles last approximately five years. The Board of Education approves textbooks for all subjects, but the actual textbooks are chosen by the school districts. A state will generally approve three to four textbooks, offering loose control.

This year, the history textbooks of sixth through eighth grades were brought to the school board's attention.

Sixth-grade history books deal largely with belief systems of several different religions such as Judaism, Islam and Hinduism.

In early 2005, the VF and HEF looked at the textbooks and recommended a number of changes in each.

Heitzman had a chance to look at all the textbooks as well.

"They are uniformly terrible," he said. "The treatment of Hinduism is decades out of date." Asian American Studies Professor Susanna Maira said that while the Hindu right-wing groups were right that changes need to be made, they incorrectly define India for Hindus.

"As a professor and as someone who grew up in India, I think textbooks are portraying history in a Western context," she said. "I am against portraying monkeys [in reference to India]. Other things are much more subtle, that many people are confused about."

Recommendations

To address the changes that needed to be made, the State Board of Education created a committee that would decide on the content of the changes.

Some members of the committee were professors who supported the Hindu right-wing efforts of HEF and VF which threatened to result in the inclusion of some controversial information.

In the Glenrose/ McGraw-Hill textbook, it was recommended to change "men had many more rights than women" to "men had different duties." Information on the "untouchables," India's lowest and poorest caste, was recommended to be changed as well. The original text stated that this group performed "dirty work" such as collecting trash and skinning animals. However, HEF recommended "its members were called untouchables because they performed dirty work such as skinning animals."

In other textbooks, it was recommended that the caste system be completely removed. Lower-case community members from the Dalit community in Sacramento attended the Board of Education meeting to object to the literal deletion of their identity in the history books.

One change that surprised Heitzman was the HEF's effort to impose the idea that Aryans were originally Indian.

"This would mean that Irish and English languages, for example, were from India, rather than the other way around," Heitzman said. "No serious scholars believe this thesis."

Outcome

On Monday, the Board of Education met to decide what changes would be made. In all, 70 to 80 percent of the changes were rejected.

Maira said this is not a new issue, and that the Hindu right-wing groups have been doing a lot of planning for these edits. The South Asian population in America has well over 1 million members, who represent a potential base for lobbying support.

"The money is there," Heitzman said. "This is not surprising that they are reflecting their political muscle. The whole experience was positive because good information got in."

State's population tops 37 million, state officials say

SACRAMENTO — California's population has topped 37 million but is growing at a slower rate than in past years, state demographers said Thursday.

The Department of Finance's demographers unit said the nation's most populous state added 498,387 residents in the 12-month period that ended July 1, 2005, an increase of 1.37 percent that left it with 37,649,661 people.

That contained a slower pattern of growth since 2000, when the population jumped 2 percent.

Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Orange counties had the largest numerical increases in population, with Los Angeles gaining more than 92,000 residents in the period studied by demographers.

Seventy percent of Californians live in the nine largest counties, which also include Santa Clara, Alameda, Sacramento and Contra Costa.

Riverside County had the largest percentage increase in population — 4.41 percent — in the period studied by demographers. That was followed by Yuba County with 3.85 percent, Placer with 3.43 percent, Kern with a 3.23 percent and Colusa with a 3.16 percent.

Five counties — Inyo, Modoc, Mono, Sierra and Alpine — lost population, according to the report.

Nearly two-thirds of the increase was due to more births than deaths, officials said.

The state's figure differs from that released in December by the U.S. Census Bureau, which estimated California's population at 36.1 million.

With the U.S. population at 296.4 million, about one in eight U.S. residents lives in California, based on the state data. California's population is roughly equivalent to that of Poland, which has 38 million people.

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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The truth is always a compound of two half-truths, and you never reach it, because there is always something more to say.
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Wordly Wise

Largess: Generous giving; also, gifts of money or other valuables.

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US and India agree on landmark nuclear deal

Terence Hunt
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW DELHI — Reversing decades of U.S. policy, President Bush ushered India into the world's exclusive nuclear club Thursday with a landmark agreement to share nuclear reactors, fuel and expertise with the energy-starved nation in return for its acceptance of international safeguards.

Eight months in the making, the accord would end India's long isolation as a nuclear maverick that defied world appeals and developed nuclear weapons. India agreed to separate its tightly entwined nuclear industry — declaring 14 reactors as military — and to open the civilian side to international inspections for the first time.

The agreement must be approved by Congress, and Bush acknowledged that might be difficult because India still refuses to sign the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty. "I’m trying to think differently, not stay stuck in the past," said Bush, who has made improving relations with India a goal of his administration. Celebrating their agreement, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said, "We have made history today, and I thank you."

The deal was sealed a day before Bush began an overnight visit to Pakistan, a close ally struggling with its own terrorism problem. An American diplomat and three other people were killed when a suicide attacker rammed a car packed with explosives into them. The bombing happened in Karachi, about 1,000 miles south of Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, where Bush will meet with Pervez Musharraf, the military leader who took power in a 1999 coup.

U.S. officials said there was evidence the U.S. diplomat, foreign service officer David Fox, was targeted. "Terrorists and killers are not going to prevent me from going to Pakistan," Bush said at a news conference with Singh in New Delhi. Bush aides said there were security concerns about the president going to Pakistan but that officials were satisfied adequate precautions were in place. "But this is not a risk-free undertaking," said national security adviser Stephen Hadley.

The U.S.-India nuclear deal was seen as the centerpiece of better relations between the world's oldest and most powerful democracy and the world's largest and fastest-growing one.

The United Nations' nuclear watchdog agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency, gave its endorsement Thursday, calling the deal an "important step towards satisfying India's growing need for energy, including nuclear technology and fuel, as an engine for development."

"It would also bring India closer as an important partner in the non-proliferation game," IAEA Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei said in a statement.

India has more than 1 billion people, and its booming economy has created millions of jobs along with a middle class that has attract ed American businesses. India's middle class has swelled to 300 million — more than the population of the United States. Still, 80 percent of Indians live on less than $2 a day.

Bush acknowledged that Washington and New Delhi were estranged during the Cold War, when India declared itself a non-aligned nation but tilted toward Moscow. "Now the relationship is changing dramatically," he said.

Bush began the day by paying respects at a memorial to Mohandas K. Gandhi, India's independence leader and apostle of nonviolence. Following tradition, the president and his wife, Laura, left their shoes behind. Bush also conferred with the CEOs of Indian and American business, religious leaders and the head of India's political opposition.

Bush and Singh announced new bilateral cooperation on issues from investment, trade and health to agriculture, the environment and even mangos. Bush agreed to resume imports of the juicy, large-pitted fruit after a 17-year ban.

The president ended the day at a state dinner with Indian President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam under a crescent moon in a lush courtyard of the presidential palace. Waiters in red tunics and red-and-white turbans scurried to serve broccoli-almond soup, seafood and peach ice cream after toasts of mango juice by the two heads of state.

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Senior project helps local boutique

Cal Poly student Amanda Domingues' work can be seen today at Adonis in downtown San Luis Obispo.

Art and design student takes her love for photography and uses it to market fashion line at local downtown business

Nick Coury

Amanda Domingues, an art and design senior, is using fashion and photography as the focus of her senior project. Set to graduate from Cal Poly in June 2006, her project features 16 pictures showing off the spring fashion line of Adonis, an indie-chic apparel store, formerly known as Yellow Kiss, in downtown San Luis Obispo.

"I love seeing things in a different way, through a lens," Domingues said. "It just captures a moment in time."

Domingues started taking photos in 1999 as a junior in high school in Davis. She continued to cultivate her skills through a fashion photography class at Contra Costa Junior College in Sacramento.

"I continued shooting fashion portraits because Kurt Brown (a photography technician at Cal Poly) said he saw me doing work in fashion," Domingues said.

While at Cal Poly, Domingues became friends with Brooke Chase, who eventually connected her with Yellow Kiss owner Alissa Disalvo.

"She asked me if she could do some photos, and I said sure," Disalvo said. "I think (her work) will bring awareness to the store."

According to a press release, after just over two years of running her boutique, Disalvo realized a need for a store "devoted exclusively to apparel, and adopted the Adonis name to reflect the change in merchandise."

She is also working with Disalvo to make a Web site for Adonis, using Domingues' photography.

"It's interesting how I can use photography and lighting to help promote the store," Domingues said. "Now, 25, she hopes to focus more on wedding photography beginning this summer.

Domingues' exhibit opens today from 5 to 9 p.m. at the store Adonis at 952 Chorro St.

Send submissions of 700 words or less to mustangdailydiversions@gmail.com

Diversions editor: Mariecar Mendoza
A few classy guidelines for cocaine use

LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

A little-known war
In northern Uganda, a war led by abducted children has been taking place for 17 years. They are kept awake at night from remote African villages and forced into a violent and militaristic lifestyle by rebel factions, becoming part of a "kid military." They are targeted at the ages of 8 to 14, making them the best candidates to be forced into an undesired lifestyle of violence. Many young girls end up raped or as rebel wives. As a result, children hide away in major towns, hiding from their remote villages a few miles a day, sleeping together crammed like toddlers in various hospitals and churches where they cannot be abducted. Proper education and nutrition are, of course, far beyond the expectations of anyone. Millions have died in the last two decades as a result of this war, and no one in the United States really knows about this. Please become informed about this, so it will eventually become a priority of our government.

Mike Matzke
Douglas Brunzzone

Wildflower: beyond the rumors
Forget Mardi Gras. It's time to focus on something that students actually have a use for. I'm talking about Wildflower. For those of you who don't know what it is, Wildflower is a Tri-California event where Cal Poly students camp out, run for the volunteer of the second largest triathlon in the world. Last year's event was marred by the lack of undergear, Tri-California had to change the alcohol policy, allowing no students to bring in their own alcohol. This change has had a dramatic effect on Cal Poly students' support of the event, and it has caused a spread of rumors that I want to put an end to. The most common rumor I hear was that there would be no alcohol at the event, which is completely false. Tri-California has made the effort to provide "beer garden" for students of age. serving a variety of beers from Firestone to Budlight for one cheap price. (You get free beers for volunteering.) There were other rumors as well, but they all stemmed from this key issue. Basically, I want students to forget the rumors, come support Wildflower and make the week-end what it once was. How can you put up a weekend of campus beautification and positive energy without food, free food and good old volunteering?

The party is not over for Wildflower on May 5-7, and it's up to every single student to keep this event alive. It's too late to sign a group up. E-mail volunteerregistration@mustangdaily.com for more details. Feel free to send suggestions or concerns as well! We've all heard "Kristin Zellhart interval junior

heimlich manuever"
Brad
continued from page 8

The jury testimony that he vehemently denied using steroids, the year, and then turns around and then refused to comment on leaked

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57 Child’s cry at a
Cal Poly hosts San Diego for three games against Santa Clara last weekend, will host the University of San Diego (7-4) for a three-game series this weekend in Baggett Stadium.

Friday's contest begins at 6 p.m., while first pitch for the Saturday and Sunday games will be at 1 p.m. The series will be broadcast on ESPN Radio (1260 AM) as well as the Internet at www.GoPoly.com.

Coach Larry Lee's Mustangs, ranked No. 30 by Collegiate Baseball Newspaper this week and receiving votes in the other three major Division I college baseball polls, opened the 2006 season with 6-3, 4-1 and 9-8 victories over Fresno State before a series total of 5,735 fans attended. The Mustangs forced a tie with San Diego State.

University of San Diego, coached by Rich Ellerson, features five home dates and six conference games in a 16-4 record. The Toreros hosted the collegiate baseball world Feb. 3-5 by sweeping pre-season No. 1-ranked Texas at Cunningham Stadium by scores of 4-2, 6-0 and 12-8. San Diego then won two of three games at UC Davis and won two-of-three games in tournament hosted by USC, moving up to No. 8 in the polls. Last weekend, San Diego was swept by non-ranked Georgia. Among the top returnees are junior outfielder Shane Buschini (.352, six home runs, 42 RBIs, 15 stolen bases in 2005), junior infielder Kevin Ruth (.338, 34 RBIs, nine stolen bases in 2005) and sophomore utility player Justin Snyder (.318, 31 RBIs in 2005).

Also back are three starting pitchers — junior right-hander Josh Butler (7-7, 3.42 ERA in 2005), sophomore right-hander Matt Canepa owns a team-leading 447 average, followed by junior third baseman Josh LANdor (.365), who went 7-for-12 against the Broncos. After playing nine straight games on the road, the Mustangs are in the midst of a six-game homestand and 15 of 20 at home. Cal Poly will play three non-conference games against UC Santa Barbara next weekend — Friday and Sunday in Santa Barbara and Saturday at 1 p.m. in Baggett Stadium.

Mustangs end six-game losing streak

Cal Poly's women's basketball team ended a six-game losing streak with a 80-67 win over Cal State Northridge Thursday at Mott Gym.Sparkle Andrews was the difference-maker for the Mustangs, running through the Matadors' defense for numerous layups en route to a 17-point and three steal performance. Andrews was six-for-10 form the field and free-for-five from the free throw line.

Sarah Grieve chipped in 15 for the Mustangs while Asia Eggleston and Megan Harrison had 12 apiece. Cal Poly led most of the game and pulled away in the final five minutes with plenty of effort on the defensive side of the ball. The Mustangs forced 21 turnovers and had six blocked shots, three coming from Grieve.

Cal Poly plays in regular season games against University of the Pacific at Mott Gym on Saturday at 4 p.m.