

The College of Architecture and Environmental Design Awards and Special Projects

ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT THE FRATESSA TOWER

With the assistance of alumni and practitioners, the Fratessa Tower in memory of former department head Paul Fratessa was built in Poly Canyon by students Mike Braund, Justin Wei, Tanya Worotko, Rachel Martin, and Eric McDonnell (see figure 1, back row L-R, McDonnell not present). “We chose this project in order to gain hands-on experience in designing a difficult, experimental system with sustainable materials and in assembling a structure from start to finish,” Martin said. They received generous donations from people and companies such as Alan Hanson of Simpson Strong-Tie and Jim Decoursey of Ultra Merchandising, Inc. (see figure 1, front row L-R). Visitors to this year’s Open House are invited to view the tower and a series of other new structures in Poly Canyon such as the Tensile Structure and a recently rebuilt Concrete Blade Structure.



Figure 1. Members of the Architectural Engineering Team and the Fratessa Tower.

ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM AGAIN RANKS “BEST IN THE WEST”

A national poll of practicing architects ranked Cal Poly’s five-year architecture program as one of the best in the United States at producing “graduates most prepared for real-world practice.” The survey, conducted for the architecture and engineering journal DesignIntelligence, rated Cal Poly’s program no. 3 in the nation in 2004 among Bachelor of Architecture degree programs and the best bachelor’s program west of the Mississippi. Cal Poly also scored as practically the best value in architecture education in the nation, one point behind a school that charges no tuition. It received the highest scores given in the survey for ranking selectivity, resources such as technology and studios, and the quality of its dean, faculty and students. This was the second year in a row that Cal Poly’s architecture program has been rated best in the West. It is estimated that one of every five architects in California comes from Cal Poly.

ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS WIN AWARDS AT NATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITION

Two teams of Cal Poly architecture students won awards for designs entered in the interdisciplinary 2004 National Low-Impact Development Student Design Competition. The subject was water and runoff, and students were asked to submit integrated site designs to address impacts to the environment normally associated with conventional land development on college campuses. The competition was sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Landscape Architecture Department of the University of Maryland and Prince George County, Md.

The winning entries proposed designs for student housing as infill development in the central campus core, with 30-40 small housing units to be constructed on top of the Architecture Building. A team of fourth-year students, Trixie Castillo and Cheryl Lipang, won the third-place design award, and a team of fourth-year student John Ambert and second-year student Nick Leone earned sixth-place honors. Cal Poly’s was the only program in the competition to win multiple awards.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT STUDENT TEAM WINS FIRST PLACE AT NATIONAL HOMEBUILDERS COMPETITION

Cal Poly's construction management team topped 27 other universities to earn first place at the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) Student Competition on January 12-15. The "Polytex" team spent more than 200 hours developing the winning plan for a 90-unit, moderate-priced housing development, "The Village," at Charleston, S.C. The team was formed by CM students Quincy McNames, Korey Carroll, Christian Edwards, Michael Crocker, Froy Gutierrez and Aaron Amchastegui; it was assisted by professors Barbara Jackson and Paul Weber, and Cal Poly's NAHB Student Chapter officers Jeremy Johnson and John Parnell. The first-place award included \$2,000, a plaque for the department, and a traveling Legacy trophy.

TEAM TAKES FIRST PLACE AT ASC REGIONAL COMPETITION

CM student team composed of Scott Chappelle, Jared Mettee, Jimmy Picard, Matt Sutton, Garret Tomforde, and Tina Webb finished first in the Commercial Division of the Associated Schools of Construction Far West Regional Competition in Reno, Nevada. Their task was to create a plan to build a research building at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and they will advance to the National Competition in Las Vegas, Nevada. Cal Poly's CM students also placed well in the Residential, Design/Build and Heavy/Civil divisions. The teams took home two, second place awards and a third place award respectively.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT AWARDS IN ASLA STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

Recent Landscape Architecture Cal Poly graduates Brooke Saavedra and Michael O'Connell have been recognized for an entry they completed as students in the 2004 American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) student design competition. Saavedra's design "The Gardens at St. Joseph's Health and Retirement Center: Exploring the Garden as a Healing Center" was part of a remodel of a senior care facility set among native trees, orchards and formal gardens in Ojai, CA. O'Connell's designed a "California Center for Native Plants and Wildlife" on a 130-acre parcel, converted

from an existing ranch, and it to create change by exploring restoration of native Californian plants while responding to historic cultural conditions.

WAYNE GRACE MEMORIAL STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

Bronwen Mastro from the LA Department was one of the winners of the fifth annual Wayne Grace Memorial Student Design Competition, sponsored by the Landscape Architectural Registration Boards Foundation, a nonprofit charitable organization actively engaged in advancing licensure for landscape architects. Mastro's entry "Synergy: Culture and Ecology Converging" balanced ecology, sociology and aesthetics principles to a master plan for a site situated along the San Joaquin River in one of the most productive agricultural regions of the country.

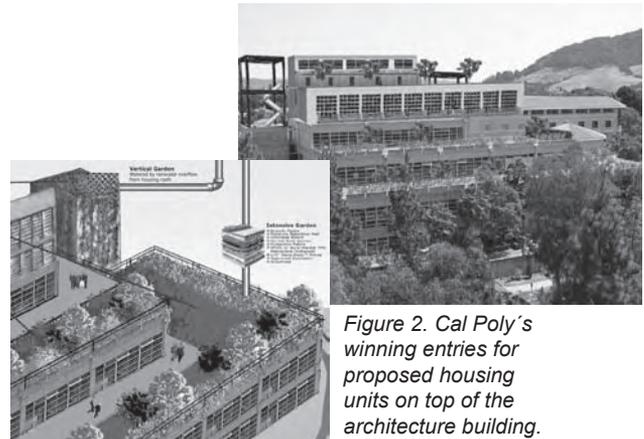


Figure 2. Cal Poly's winning entries for proposed housing units on top of the architecture building.



Figure 3. Construction Management team accepting the award from the NAHB.