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Contact: Stacia Momburg
805-756-6260 or 756-1511

For 15th Straight Year, Cal Poly Is Best in the West in U.S. News Rankings

SAN LUIS OBISPO - For the 15th year in a row, Cal Poly has been rated the best public-master's university in the West by U.S. News & World Report, in its 2008 America's Best Colleges guidebook.

Cal Poly ranked 10th in the magazine's overall list of the West's best universities, including both public and private institutions, that provide "a full range of undergraduate and master's-level programs but few, if any, doctoral programs."

U.S. News ranks colleges that grant doctoral degrees, such as those in the University of California system, in a separate category.

"Perhaps the most important gauge of the effectiveness of Cal Poly's educational programs is how well our graduates do, their success in the real world," said Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker. "We hear that our graduates are doing great things and we take pride in that. Getting a ranking in U.S. News for the 15th straight year reflects the success of our gifted faculty in preparing students with an emphasis on learn by doing.

This year, Cal Poly's College of Engineering was named the No. 1 public engineering program in the nation in the magazine's Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs - for schools whose highest degree is a bachelor's or master's.

A number of College of Engineering programs also ranked high in the Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs in their individual specialty categories. Cal Poly's computer, electrical, industrial/manufacturing and mechanical engineering programs were each ranked as the top program at a public university in their respective specialty categories. Other engineering programs that ranked well are civil and aerospace at No. 2.

The U.S. News rankings will be available at www.usnews.com starting Aug. 17 and will be in the U.S. News & World Report magazine that goes on sale Monday, Aug. 20.

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Cal Poly Public Affairs

California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
805.756.7266
polynews@calpoly.edu