

Affirming the Vision

With this special edition of *Cal Poly Magazine*, we are pleased to present Cal Poly's inaugural annual report. The report shares highlights from the past year, and also a status update on Cal Poly's progress toward attainment of critical, long-term goals. I believe you will agree, after reviewing the report, that the university is on track toward a bright future, carrying its learn-by-doing educational traditions into a new century.

The year 2002 saw the culmination of Cal Poly's Centennial Celebration. Among its highlights, the 18-month

Celebration started in March 2001 with a "History Day" commemoration of Cal Poly's founding legislation. This was followed by the gala September 2001 Founders Celebration, a second History Day in March 2002 (devoted to the university's growing environmental stewardship role), and the April 2002 Baker Forum, established by the Cal Poly President's Cabinet and devoted to the "Future of Polytechnic and Science and Technology Universities."

Since the April 2001 kick-off of the university's comprehensive Centennial Campaign, Cal Poly has closed in rapidly on its \$225 million campaign goal. Several major gifts have hastened our progress toward this goal. Perhaps as significant, we have seen an increase in annual giving at all levels, dedicated to "Strengthening Cal Poly's Advantage."

Aided by the Campaign, and by the historic 2002 College-Based Student Fee Initiative, the university made significant advances over the past year in supporting students, faculty, and staff; enhancing learning programs and campus facilities; and developing instructional technology.

Captured through the words and stories of Cal Poly students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and supporters, this very eventful year is chronicled here. I trust that, as part of the Cal Poly family, you will take pride in this record of outstanding progress and achievement.



This special edition of *Cal Poly Magazine* presents Cal Poly's inaugural annual report. Its highlights from 2002 and stories of Cal Poly students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and supporters provide a record of outstanding progress and achievement and demonstrate that the university is carrying its learn-by-doing educational traditions into a new century.