



Strengthening
Our Advantage:

The Centennial Campaign

Generous donors to Cal Poly have been the prime agents of visible changes in the university's evolving educational landscape throughout the university's Centennial Campaign.

In 2002 nearly 30,000 alumni, parents, and university friends became part of a giving base of supporters who brought the total number of campaign gifts and pledges since 1998 to 130,288 and the total campaign funds raised to nearly \$182 million.

At the highest giving levels, Cal Poly is being transformed by major gifts. Prime examples include:

- More than \$25 million by Unocal to the College of Science (for an environmental studies chair, a marine pier, two marine science professorships, and a marine science research center, and a lead gift toward the college's new Center for Science and Mathematics)
- Paul and Natalie Orfalea's \$15 million to the Orfalea College of Business to enhance learn-by-doing programs on global leadership, entrepreneurship, and technology, in addition to a \$1 million gift for the campus children's center
- More than \$10 million from the Estate of Lorenzo and Judith McComie to the College of Agriculture's Animal Science and Crop Science departments
- Paul and Sandra Bonderson's \$6 million to the College of Engineering for a new student projects facility and an endowed laboratory
- IBM's \$5.15 million to the College of Engineering to enhance industrial and manufacturing laboratories
- Clifford Chapman and Gene Shidler's \$4 million gift, comprising a \$2 million endowment for the College of Liberal Arts, a \$1 million endowment for Cal Poly Arts, and a \$1 million endowment for the Baker Forum
- Bert and Candace Forbes' \$3 million to the College of Engineering for two endowed professorships in software engineering and an endowed laboratory fund.

The generosity of these and other top donors is amplified by the giving of organizations and individuals who have made single gifts of \$100,000 and more during the campaign (*see page 11*).

And our advantage has been strengthened and made meaningful by campaign donations at all levels from alumni, parents, industry partners, and other Cal Poly friends.

Acknowledging Our Benefactors

A \$6 Million Pledge Establishes A New Engineering Center

Donald Bently's latest gift is rooted in his respect for Cal Poly students and professors.

In November 2002, Bently (CEO of Nevada's Bently Pressurized Bearing Co.) pledged \$6 million to establish the Donald E. Bently Center for Engineering Innovation in Cal Poly's Mechanical Engineering Department and endow a director and two faculty positions.

The relationship between Cal Poly and Bently began in 1997, when Bently's former company, the Bently Nevada Corp., joined in sponsoring the Solar Turbines/Bently Nevada Vibrations and Rotor Dynamics Laboratory on campus. Bently also provided funds to establish the Bently Nevada Computational Facility, later adding a donation of \$80,000 for 19 high-end workstations.

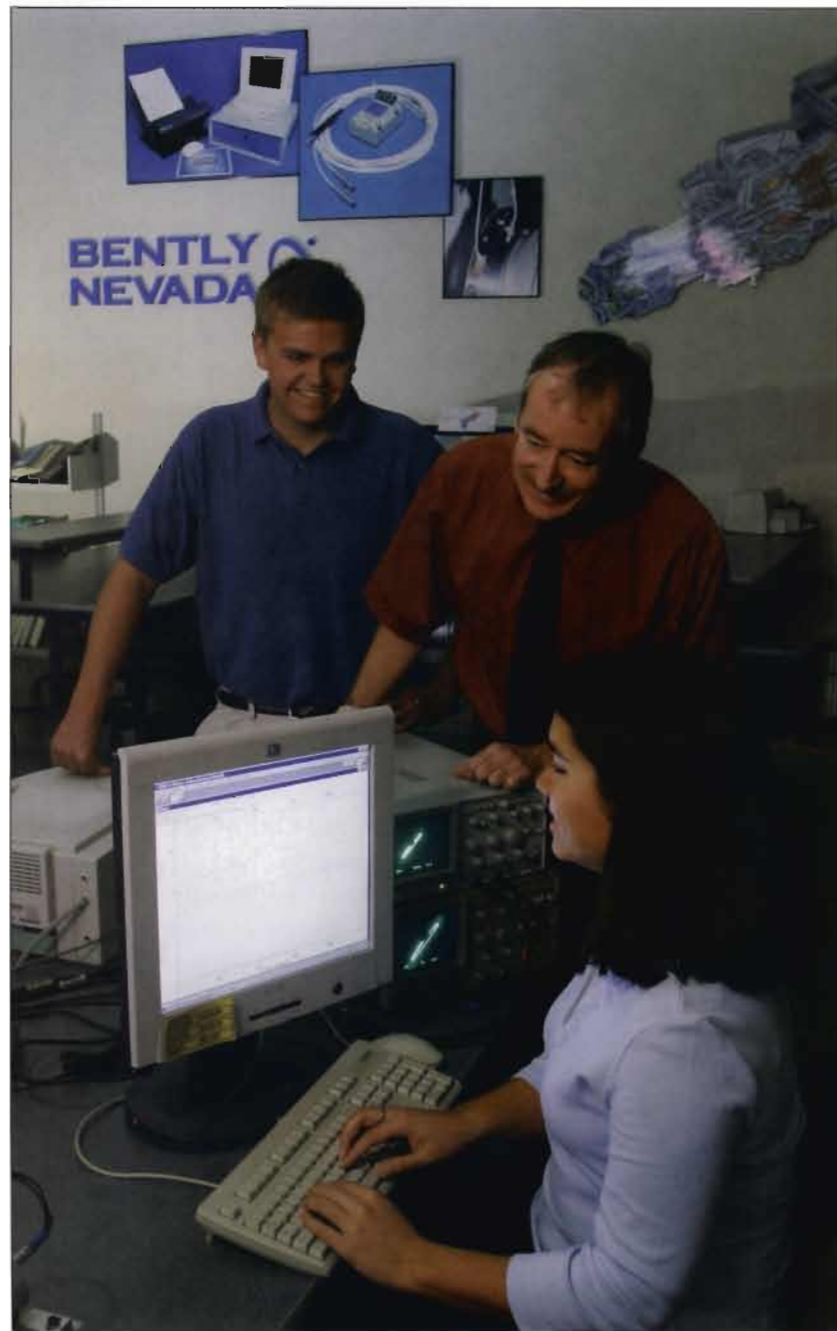
"Bently Nevada has hired a number of Cal Poly-educated employees and hosted student interns, and I've found those individuals to be of the highest quality," Bently says. "I also believe it's very important to endow outstanding faculty, and I've been extremely impressed with the way the Mechanical Engineering Department has used our rotor dynamics technology."

Mechanical Engineering Professor Jim Meagher has been named the first Bently Center director.

"Don's gift will profoundly impact our program at every level," Meagher says. "The endowment helps attract the best faculty members in the nation and provide resources to keep them at the cutting edge of their fields. It will also result in lab development as a natural outcome of applied research."

"The Donald E. Bently Center will stand as a cornerstone of our vital learn-by-doing model of engineering education," says College of Engineering Dean Peter Lee. "We are indebted to Don for his investment in the spirit of innovation within the college."

Professor Jim Meagher works with mechanical engineering juniors Nick Piini and Malia Francisco in Cal Poly's Vibrations and Rotor Dynamics Lab.



Acknowledging
Our Benefactors

Don Bently: A Lifetime of Innovation

Donald E. Bently is a visionary, a pioneer, and a shrewd investor whose work has advanced the entire field of mechanical engineering. And with his \$6 million dollar gift to the College of Engineering last fall, he has also stepped forward as one of Cal Poly's leading benefactors.

In the 1950s Bently worked out of his Berkeley garage to perfect an eddy current proximity transducer to measure vibration and other critical parameters in rotating machinery. The probe's commercial success led to the development of his first company – the initial step in what he has referred to as a “fantastic 50-year journey.”

That company went on to become Bently Nevada Corporation (Minden, Nev.), which currently sells \$200 million annually in products and services for assessing and ensuring the mechanical and thermodynamic stability of industrial equipment. Bently served as owner, CEO, and chairman of the board until he sold the company early last year to GE Power Systems.

Bently retained ownership of the bearing division and is now chairman and CEO of Bently Pressurized Bearing Co.

Bently's many awards include the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Frederick P. Smarro Award (for his contributions to plant maintenance and engineering) and ASME's R. Tom Sawyer Award (for advancements in gas turbine engine



Donald Bently, who is once again revolutionizing rotating machinery through his development of pressurized bearing technology in his new Bently Pressurized Bearing Co.

Photo by Jeff Ross

development). He was also inducted into the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Academy in the School of Engineering at the University of Iowa, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering and later an honorary doctorate.

In the 1950s Bently worked out of his Berkeley garage to perfect an eddy current proximity transducer to measure vibration and other critical parameters in rotating machinery.

Approaching
Our Goal

Centennial Campaign Donors

We wish to thank the following donors who have made gifts and/or pledges of \$100,000 or more from January 1, 1998, through February 26, 2003.

**Deceased*

Redacted for privacy purposes

Celebrating a Banner Year

In 2002 Cal Poly broke all records for gifts, pledges, and total numbers of gifts. The university's endowment doubled from the Centennial Campaign's inception in 1998, and Cal Poly earned national recognition with another Circle of Excellence Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education – the only university in the country to do so for four consecutive years.

Cal Poly's endowment has grown dramatically, doubling to \$90.1 million in

2002 since the Centennial Campaign's inception in 1998 through the synergy of generous support and prudent financial stewardship by the Cal Poly Foundation. The endowment – a collection of assets invested by the university to support its educational mission in perpetuity – includes endowed gifts (often earmarked for specific purposes) which sustain academic excellence by ensuring a continuing source of funding for hands-on learning, new laboratories, merit scholarships, and faculty research.

Gifts and pledges in 2002 peaked at more than \$54.8 million, with the total number of gifts and pledges at 28,000-plus. Increasing the level of sustainable private support remained a priority to provide the margin of excellence for which Cal Poly is renowned, and raising funds for targeted high-priority projects was a related objective. Continuing to engage new friends, alumni, and parents in Centennial Campaign efforts and beyond continued to be critical in supporting these goals.

But the wider mission of the Centennial Campaign goes beyond fund-raising.

Gifts at all levels throughout the campaign have helped maintain Cal Poly's reputation as one of the best public undergraduate universities in the nation.

More than 100,000 alumni and students have benefited from a Cal Poly education and from the university's learn-by-doing philosophy, which defines how we teach, learn,

Foundation Endowment Totals
Calendar Year 1998-2002



and live. It is the central theme of Cal Poly's mission as a distinctive, hands-on, residential, polytechnic university education.

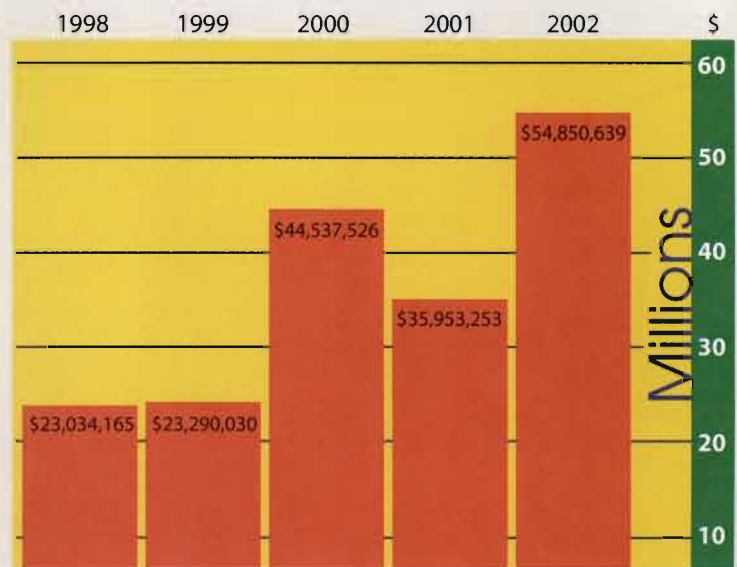
Through its Centennial Campaign, Cal Poly seeks to affirm these values, establish a solid base of financial support, and strengthen the university's ability to plan and execute strategies that will make its programs more widely available to a new generation of students.

In the section that follows ("Advancing the Mission: The Year in Review") we focus on new and continuing programs in 2002 enhanced through giving in areas targeted by Cal Poly's Centennial Campaign. These include supporting students, supporting faculty and staff, enhancing learning, enhancing and developing campus facilities, developing state-of-the-art instructional technology, and improving the library.

The initiatives of this past year are the foundation for sustaining Cal Poly's development as an innovative institution and for enlarging the university's creative efforts in the years to come.

Qualifying gifts and pledges include all distinct receipts for gifts or matching gifts of \$1 or more, or active pledges of \$5,000 or more, made since January 1, 1998.

Gift and Pledge Totals Calendar Year 1998-2002



Gift and Pledge Count Calendar Year 1998-2002

