

WASC ACCREDITATION TEAM VISITS CAL POLY CAMPUS

CAL POLY HOSTED A VISITING TEAM from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Feb. 10-12. The team's visit is part of the process of re-affirming the university's accreditation, a review that happens every 10 years. The WASC team members are faculty and administrators from peer universities.

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Through several open forums, the visiting team sought input from Cal Poly faculty, staff and students on the university and its ability to provide a high-quality education.

In addition, Cal Poly submitted a report to WASC, which President Warren J. Baker called the best he has seen in his 30 years as the university's leader.

"It focuses on very pertinent and important themes and has a real chance of doing considerable good for the institution," Baker said of the report in an email to campus. "I congratulate all involved in the development of this outstanding work of analysis and reflection."

For more information on the WASC process and to read a summary of the report Cal Poly submitted to WASC, visit <http://wasc.calpoly.edu>. □

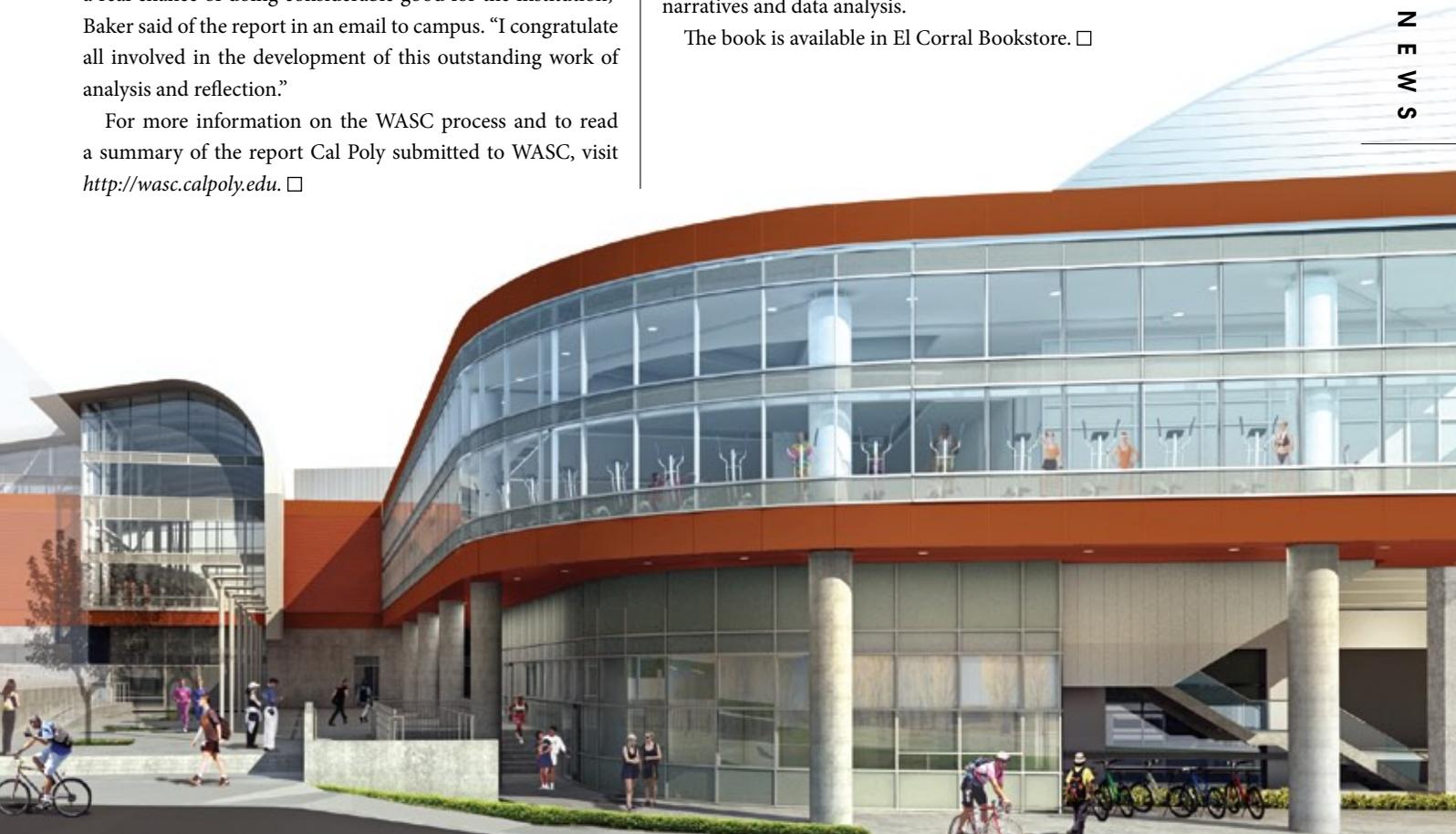
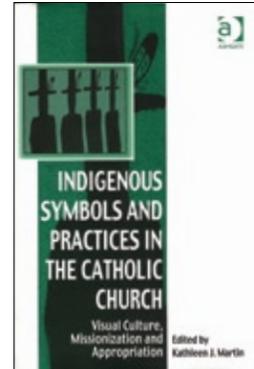
PROFESSOR CO-AUTHORS BOOK ON INDIGENOUS SYMBOLS

CAL POLY ETHNIC STUDIES PROFESSOR Kathleen Martin has co-authored the book "Indigenous Symbols and Practices in the Catholic Church: Visual Culture, Missionization and Appropriation," released in February by Ashgate Publishing.

The text focuses on Native American and indigenous people and their relationship with the Roman Catholic Church. It illustrates the effects of appropriation of indigenous symbols, as well as the political, educational and economic oppression of indigenous peoples the authors contend were the result of Christian organizations.

The concept for this volume arose from a visual inspection of Catholic churches and the ways indigenous symbols are employed. Martin visited 50-60 churches on reservations, took 600-700 photographs, and conducted interviews for the project, which includes 17 full-page photographs, personal narratives and data analysis.

The book is available in El Corral Bookstore. □



CAL POLY STUDENT HOUSING EARNS GOLD CERTIFICATION

CAL POLY'S NEWLY COMPLETED student housing project, Poly Canyon Village, has earned a LEED Gold certification for meeting required standards in sustainable building according to the U.S. Green Building Council.

Poly Canyon Village received certification for meeting 42 of the required 39-51 points to earn the designation. Standards for the designation included low volatile organic compounds material, energy efficient buildings, reduction of water use, water-efficient landscaping, use of recycled content, 90 percent diversion from the landfill of construction waste, and more. Read the USGBC Report. Larry Kelley, Cal Poly's vice president for Administration and Finance, said the LEED gold designation means 25 percent of Cal Poly's facilities are now certified sustainable. "We are really pleased with the award," Kelley said. "The project team, from initial planning to design and through construction, did a great job on this project. Cal Poly students are enjoying Poly Canyon Village and value this new facility on campus."

For more information about Poly Canyon Village, visit <http://polycanyonvillage.calpoly.edu/>. For more information about U.S. Green Building Council and LEED certification, visit <http://www.usgbc.org/>. □



STUDENT PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL COORDINATES 2009 SENIOR GIFT

THE 2009 SENIOR GIFT – the first fundraising project by the Student Philanthropy Council – was unveiled last fall in the form of a new bike rack outside the Campus Market.

The council was created a year and a half ago at the recommendation of the Cal Poly Foundation Board and is now an official ASI student club.

The mission of the council is to develop a culture of philanthropy among the student body, by educating students about the importance of giving back through private support.

Students raised money for the bike rack through a variety of ways, such as sponsoring a booth at Open House in April.

The group is also traveling statewide to speak at Parent Philanthropy Council events. "We hope to let potential donors know how much we, the students, appreciate their funds and continual support," said council president Sarah Storelli. □



CAL POLY RECEIVES RECORD NUMBER OF APPLICANTS

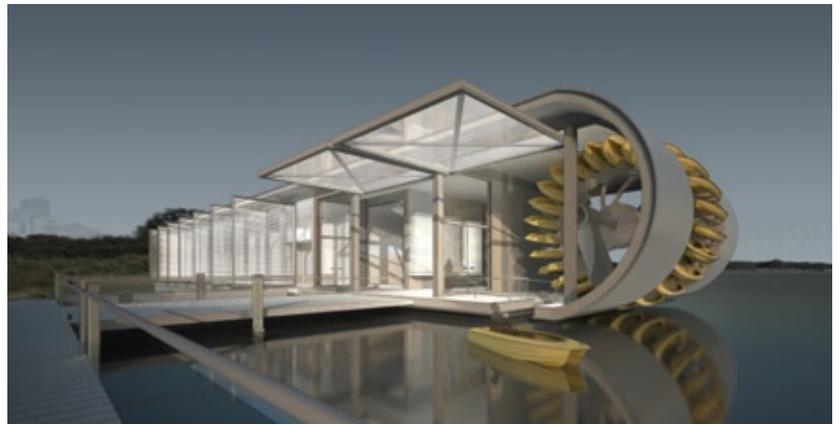
CAL POLY RECEIVED A RECORD NUMBER of undergraduate applications for the 2010 fall quarter – a total of 40,904 applications, up 12.1 percent from 36,489 in 2008.

Of the nearly 41,000 first-time freshmen who submitted applications, 4,744 were submitted as early decision applications, or applications for students who made Cal Poly their

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first choice. The early decision pool increased by more than 32 percent from last year, a sign of the increasing number of students considering Cal Poly as their first choice.

“The number of applications we received this year is a testament to the hard work of our academic departments in helping my unit build relationships with our prospective students and parents long before the application process ever begins,” said James Maraviglia, assistant vice president of Admissions, Recruitment and Financial Aid. “We are really pleased with the result, especially given the tough economy and state budget cuts to higher education.” □



CAL POLY ARCHITECTURE STUDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

CAL POLY ARCHITECTURE STUDENT John Vierra won first place and took home \$2,500 in the 2009 Bohemian Flats Boathouse Student Design Competition. The competition was sponsored by the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) in conjunction with The Vinyl Institute.

Vierra, a senior in Cal Poly’s Architecture Department, won for his design “Boat on Board.”

Judges noted the technical exploration, as well as the “ingenious way of dealing with the river’s ebb and flow.” It was considered one of the most respectful designs with regards to the site and the river.

This year’s competition focused on rewarding design excellence at a small-scale, highlighting the unique aspects of designing a boathouse and building knowledge about materials, products and assembly contributing to a sustainable and safe environment. The competition site was The Bohemian Flats, a historic parcel of land on the bank of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis.

Vierra was also the first place winner of the 2008 AIAS Student Competition. □

WHERE’S MUSTY?

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE CAL POLY CAMPUS?



OUR MIN-MASCOT, MUSTY THE MUSTANG, went exploring recently and came back with photos from his adventure. Can you tell where on campus he’s been?

We’ll run one of Musty’s photos in each edition of Cal Poly Magazine and let you tell us where Musty is. Send your responses to mlazier@calpoly.edu. Be very specific in your answer.

The correct answer and the name of the first person who submitted it will be printed in this space in the next edition, along with Musty’s next photo.

ASI staff member **Brittany Tomasko** was the first to guess the correct answer for our Winter 2009 edition: Musty was in the Natatorium across from Alex G. Spanos Stadium.