

# CAL POLY Report

California Polytechnic State University  
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## DATELINE

### Exhibits

**Kennedy Library:** "A Virtual Tour: 1883 San Luis Obispo County," through June.  
**UU Galerie:** "Whoops," student art exhibition, through June 11. Monday-Friday 10 am-4 pm; Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 pm.

### Wednesday, May 26

**Panel:** SLOCOG, Caltrans, Ridesharing, Commuter Services, "Cuesta Grade Construction," UU 220, noon.

### Thursday, May 27

**Music:** Student recital, Davidson Music Center 218, 11 am.

**Physics Colloquium:** Student research, Science E-45, 11 am.

**Undergraduate Math Colloquium:** Joel Fish, Nathan Royer and Ryan Tully-Doyle, "Massive Asteroid: Tiny Hole," Math and Science Building 226.

**Music:** Percussion Ensemble Recital, Davidson Music Center 218, 7:30 pm.

### Friday, May 28

**Music:** Cellist Jakub Omsky and pianist Terry Spiller, Davidson Music Center 218, 8 pm.

### Monday, May 31

**Holiday:** Memorial Day.

### Wednesday, June 2

**Music:** Jim Bachman (student) senior guitar recital, Davidson Music Center 218, 7:30 pm.

### Thursday, June 3

**Reading:** Jimm Cushing (English) will read from his book "The Length of an Afternoon" and other selections, Fisher Science 286, 11 am.

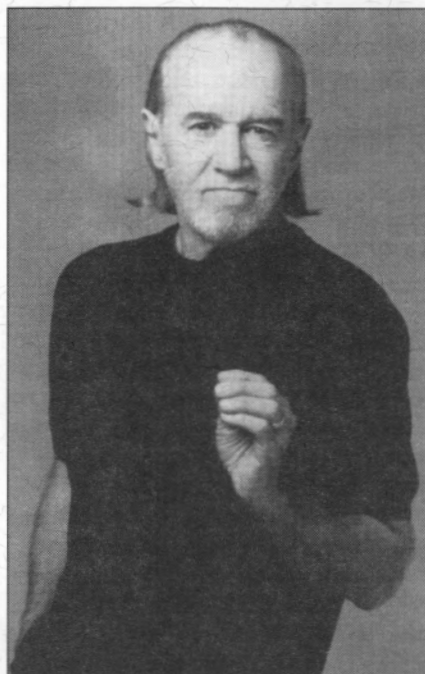
**Music:** Student recital, Davidson Music Center 218, 11 am.

**Physics Colloquium:** Student research, Science E-45, 11 am.

**Music:** Student vocal recital, Davidson Music Center 218, 7:30 pm.

### Friday, June 4

**Music:** Cal Poly Wind Quintet, Davidson Music Center 218, 7:30 pm. □



*Gesturing Jester: Comedian George Carlin is among the star-studded lineup in Cal Poly Arts' 1999-2000 season.*

## In memoriam

The flags in front of the Administration Building will fly at half staff during Memorial Day weekend, Saturday through Monday, May 29-31, in honor of America's war dead and Cal Poly students and faculty and staff members who died during the 1998-99 school year. □

## Every picture tells a story

The editors of the *Cal Poly Report* are looking to include more photos: When sending us a story, if you have a good photo, please send it along for us to consider.

What we need are good, clear close-ups of people and shots of interesting activities as they happen. Think "action."

For example, when a student wins a first place in a competition ... capture that student on film (but then let him go).

(Continued on page 4)

*President Baker submitted the following letter to local news organizations as commentary on state budget deliberations.*

## More state support needed for public higher education

Armed with a \$4.3 billion surplus, the State of California has a historic opportunity to restore public investment in a number of key areas. Gov. Davis' revised budget, shared with the public May 14, is a promising first step. The priority given to K-12 education, infrastructure and replenishment of state reserves reflects sound and prudent judgments.

While heartened by many aspects of the Governor's revised budget, I believe it falls well short of meeting the demonstrated needs of the state's public colleges and universities. As many will recall, in the early 1990s, sharp budget reductions forced cuts in faculty and staff, decreases in access to classes, and increases in fees. The promise of the state's Master Plan for Higher Education – broad public access to low-cost, high-quality educational programs – was imperiled. While the state economy has recovered, the damage done to higher education has not been repaired completely. Fee increases and partially restored general fund support have helped. Additional funds are needed, however, if the promise of the Master Plan is to be redeemed for a new generation of students.

Seen from the vantage point of the CSU, several key needs are evident.

- In addition to the Governor's budget, at least an additional \$29.8 is required to recognize the CSU's dedicated faculty and staff. Salary levels have been permitted over the last decade to fall far behind those of comparable institutions. If the CSU is to retain talented personnel, and compete for new faculty and staff, salaries must be restored to fair and competitive levels.

- To ensure student and faculty access to current desktop computer technology, network access and support, an addi-

(Continued on page 4)

## Cellist Jakub Omsky to perform May 28

Prize-winning Polish cellist Jakub Omsky will be the featured guest artist at a recital presented by the Music Department at 8 pm Friday, May 28, in Room 218 of the Davidson Music Center.

Music Department faculty member Terry Spiller will also perform on piano.

The duo will play Beethoven's Sonata in G minor, Op. 5, No. 2, Penderecki's "Per Slava" (for solo cello), R. Schumann's "Fantasie" pieces, Op. 73, Schubert's "Arpeggione" Sonata, and Chopin's Introduction and Polonaise Brillante, Op. 3.

The recital is funded by the Cal Poly Plan. □

## Retirement reception

Joan Cirone, nurse practitioner and head of nursing services in Health and Psychological Services, is retiring on July 2.

The campus community is invited to a retirement reception in her honor from 2 to 4 pm Wednesday, June 2, on the Health Center patio across from the Rec Sports Center. □

## Foundation Board to meet June 4

The Foundation Board of Directors will hold a meeting at 8:30 am Friday, June 4, in the Foundation Administration Building's Conference Room (#124).

This is a public meeting. For more information or to obtain a copy of the meeting agenda, contact Executive Director Al Amaral at ext. 6-1131.

A copy of the agenda packet is available for review at the Kennedy Library Reserve Desk and the Academic Senate Office, Mathematics and Science 143. □

## Share a piece of your mind

"Piece of Mind" is for your letters about campus issues. Questions, explanations, compliments, complaints — we want them all.

Keep them brief, but keep them coming. Include your name, department, and phone number.

Please e-mail them to polynews@poly mail. Questions? Call the Communications Office at ext. 6-1511. □

## Cal Poly poet Cushing to read June 3

Jimm Cushing of the English Department faculty will read some of his favorite poems, plus selections from his latest collection, "The Length of an Afternoon," from 11 am to noon Thursday, June 3, in Room 286 of the Fisher Science Building.

Cushing has published essays and poetry in numerous journals and reviews as well as a previous collection of poetry, "You and the Night and the Music."

Besides teaching and writing, Cushing's passions are music and performance. In the early '80s, he hosted a live poetry radio program on KPFK-FM in Los Angeles and directed the AI's Bar Poetry Series.

The 1994 winner of Renegade magazine's "Warlord of the Subculture" award, Cushing currently hosts a jazz program on KCPR-FM and sings and plays guitar and keyboards with his experimental jazz-rock-poetry unit, The Jimm Cushing Paradox.

Copies of his latest book will be on sale at the reading, which will be followed by a group discussion.

Cushing came to Cal Poly in 1989 after earning his doctorate at UC Irvine, where he studied poetry with George Hitchcock and John Ashbery.

The presentation is the final program in the "What Else We Do" series that showcases the research and creative projects of English Department faculty members.

For more information, contact the English Department at ext. 6-2597 or series organizer Debora Schwartz at ext. 6-2636. □

## June 12 is last workday for work-study students

The last day students can work through the Federal Work-Study program for the 1998-99 academic year is Saturday, June 12. During finals week, students may work up to 20 hours (through the 12th).

The June Work-Study payroll is due to the State Payroll office, Adm. 107-B, by 4 pm Tuesday, June 15. No late Federal Work-Study pay will be authorized.

The expanded Federal Work-Study program will resume Wednesday, Sept. 1, for the 1999-2000 academic year.

For more information, contact Luann McDonald in the Financial Aid office, at ext. 6-5885 or at lmcdonal@calpoly.edu. □

## Young Scholars Program taking applications

The summer Young Scholars Program offers grade-school children an opportunity to explore a variety of subjects with Cal Poly teachers.

The weeklong classes, offered through Extended Education, are geared for kids who will be entering grades 5-12 in the fall.

Subjects to be taught include introduction to law, Japanese conversation, astronomy, 3-D computer modeling, chemistry, improving study habits, Web design, computer math and programming, biology of insects; and preparing for the PSAT and SAT I and for college admission and scholarships.

Not all classes are for all ages. Tuition runs from \$40 to \$45. For an application or more information, call Extended Education at ext. 6-7196. □

## Poly Trekkers program accepting applications

The ASI Children's Center is accepting applications for its Poly Trekkers summer program designed for children ages 6 through 10 who have just completed kindergarten through fourth grade.

The program offers five, two-week sessions plus an additional one-week session at the end of summer.

Call ext. 6-1366 for information and a registration packet. □

## Appointments

- Linda Bomstad has been elected to serve a three-year term as the Philosophy Department chair beginning this summer. Bomstad has been teaching at Cal Poly since 1991.

- Dan Williamson in the College of Business is serving as interim coordinator of the Economics Area during spring quarter. □

## UU hours to change for summer quarter

During summer quarter, the UU will be open Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 9 pm; Saturday, noon to 9 pm, and Sunday, 2 to 7 pm. □



## State reading initiative materials on display

Materials related to the California Reading Initiative, a series of laws that provide a comprehensive strategy to reform reading instruction in public schools, can be reviewed at the Learning Resources Display Center in the Kennedy Library.

The materials, on display indefinitely, are being made available to provide staff development training for teachers. They are based on research into the best ways to teach reading in kindergarten through third grade as well as support reading in grades four through eight.

The goals of the initiative are to produce higher achievement scores statewide, encourage the use of research-based practices, influence current practices in reading instruction so that it is more systematic and explicit, and emphasize the need for consistency and continuity of instruction.

Educators and members of the community are welcome to study the materials, and forms will be provided to those who want to buy items for their own use.

More information on the California Reading Initiative can be found on its Web site at <http://www.csbe.ca.gov/home.html>.

For more information on the display or to make a group reservation, call Mary Lou Brady or Carole Geile at the library at ext. 6-2273. □

## Health and wellness fair winners announced

Eight employees won prizes at the recent Employee Assistance Program health and wellness fair, "Parenting for the Millennium."

And the winners are: Sheryl Frisch, Art Department; Erika Diaz, Student Life; Lynne Gamble, Library; Chris Goetsch, Payroll; Ricio Alvear, Speech Communication; Eleornora Cervantes, architecture student; John Anderson, Financial Aid; and Bob Weaver, ASI.

Prizes included gift certificates from Applebees, Caruso's Deli, Casual Corner Outlet, Cory Everson's Aerobics and Fitness for Women, Johnson's for Children, Shore Cliff, Tom Mel Salon & Beauty Center, and Water To Go.

Additional gifts included gourmet coffee from SLO Perk and a gift basket from Generation X. □

## CRP students win award with ideas for Avila

Preserving the small-town charm of Avila Beach, adding a small park, bike paths, pedestrian-friendly areas, and hiking trails are just some of the ideas that helped Cal Poly city and regional planning students win an award from a local planning organization.

The Central Coast Chapter of the American Planning Association awarded the students first place in the academic category of its 1999 Planning Awards. Their project, "Avila Beach Community Plan: A Vision for 2020," provides options for rebuilding the downtown area of Avila as well as the tank-farm area on the hill overlooking the town.

To come up with their winning designs, the students studied the town's natural and manmade environments, land uses, housing, population, community-services, infrastructure, circulation and economics.

The third-year students worked nine months to develop four alternative plans for the city. They presented their ideas at public meetings and conducted an opinion survey to find out how residents feel about the future of their community.

Proposals for the downtown area include eliminating some parking from the beach side of Front Street, closing off Front Street's access to Avila Beach Drive to create a small park, creating a new main entrance, and closing one block of Front Street to vehicles to create a more pedestrian-friendly district in front of the Avila Beach pier.

Zeljka Howard is the professor in charge of the class. □

## Cal Poly students continue to borrow more

Following a nationwide trend, more Cal Poly students are borrowing more money than ever before to help pay expenses while in college. The number of student loans processed at Cal Poly has more than doubled in the last 10 years, and the dollar volume of those loans has increased more than fivefold.

In 1987-88, Cal Poly processed 4,961 loan applications for students who borrowed a total of \$7,363,740. In 1997-98, almost 10,050 loan applications were processed for students who borrowed nearly \$38,800,000.

A typical Cal Poly student will have amassed a total debt of \$14,888 by the time he or she completes his or her undergraduate degree.

Student-loan volume across the country has more than doubled in the past 10 years. In fiscal 1998, 5.9 million students borrowed \$38 billion in federal loans, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

"Borrowing to pay for college has moved from a position of supplementing scholarship and grants assistance to the single largest aid component within the majority of student aid packages," said John Anderson, director of Financial Aid. "Neither federal nor state grant programs have been able to keep pace with the growing demand for assistance generated by inflationary increases in educational costs."

At the CSU system level, federal student loan programs currently provide the largest portion of student aid. While the number of CSU students was more than doubling between 1992-93 and 1997-98, CSU student borrowing more than tripled, from \$192,710,858 to \$655,305,414, Anderson said.

CSU students now borrow an average of \$5,126 a year, which represents about half the cost of their education.

Cal Poly students are likely to repay their debt, according to Anderson. The most recent report received from the Department of Education in 1997, indicated about 2,500 Cal Poly student loans went into repayment status, while only 120 loans went into default — a default rate of 4.8 percent.

That is significantly lower than the 1996 national default rate of 9.6 percent and the California statewide rate of 12.1 percent, according to Anderson. □

### *Here's how to reach us*

The *Cal Poly Report* is published every Wednesday during the academic year.

Items submitted by 10 am Thursday appear in the following Wednesday's edition.

Please e-mail your articles, suggestions, and questions to [polynews@polymail](mailto:polynews@polymail). You may fax items to ext. 6-6533.

For more information, call the Communications Office at ext. 6-1511. □



## Position vacancies

Vacancy information and applications for the following positions are available from the appropriate Human Resources office. Information can also be accessed from the Cal Poly home page on the World Wide Web (address: [www.calpoly.edu](http://www.calpoly.edu); click on "General Information").

**STATE** (Adm. 110, ext. 6-2236 or job line at ext. 6-1533). Official application forms must be received by 4 pm on the closing date or be postmarked by the closing date. (No faxes.)

**#99102: Multimedia Analyst/Programmer (Analyst/Programmer - Career), ITS - Integrated Media Services (Unit 9)\* (\$3,457 - \$4,721/mo.).** Closing date: June 23.

**#97103: Honors Program Administrative (Admin Support Coord. 1), Academic Programs (Unit 7)\* (\$1,470 - \$1,866.88/mo., temporary, .625 time base (25 hrs/wk) with benefits to 6/30/2000, with likely annual renewal).** Closing date: June 9.

**#94104: Career Counselor (Student Services Professional III), Career Services (\$3,126 - \$3,763/mo., temporary, full-time to 6/30/2000, leave replacement for one year with possible extension).** Closing date: June 23.

\* Note: For positions marked with an asterisk, qualified on-campus applicants currently in Bargaining Units 2, 5, 7 and 9 will be given first consideration.

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC.** is accepting applications for the following position. Complete position descriptions and applications are available at the ASI Business Office, University Union, Room 212, M-F, 8 am - 5 pm, ext. 6-1281. All applications must be received by 5 pm of the listed closing date. AA/ED.

**Recreational Sports Office Assistant (Administrative Support Assistant I).** Salary range: \$1,748 - \$2,534. Full-time with benefits. Under the direct supervision of the executive assistant. A working supervisor position responsible for the oversight of general clerical office support and front line service. Previous clerical experience, including knowledge of Windows-based computer system and standard office equipment, is required. Customer service and supervisory experience preferred. Review of applications begins June 7. □

## ... Support

(Continued from page 1)

tional \$23 million is needed. If the CSU is to educate students for life in the next century, we must provide them with access to the technology and information at the heart of its economy.

• Next year, \$15 million more will be needed (and \$13 million the following year) to restore support for CSU agriculture, architecture, engineering and nursing programs. These programs, so critical to the state's economy, have special equipment needs and intensive teaching requirements. They are not funded adequately. At a campus like Cal Poly, where more than 70 percent of students are enrolled in high-cost technical programs, this restored support is a critical need.

As debate about the budget returns to the Assembly and Senate, there is still time to restore support for higher education. Strong advocates are present in both houses. We are fortunate to have two such representatives in key positions.

Sen. Jack O'Connell, chair of the Senate Budget Education Subcommittee, is a leading proponent of higher education. This year, for example, through his leadership, the proposal to provide \$15 million for CSU high-cost programs was introduced. His colleague, Assembly Member Sarah Reyes, chair of the Assembly Budget Education Subcommittee, is also an important voice for higher education. Their continued leadership and advocacy is critical. They deserve our full support.

Let's make this the year when we restore California's commitment to higher education. This is certainly more important than whatever modest tax relief the budget surplus can provide. We owe it to the youth of the state and to everyone who looks to higher education as a gateway to full participation in the new century. □

## Ag students take 1st, 2nd at CSU research contest

Two College of Agriculture graduate students took top honors recently at the annual CSU student research contest held at Cal State Bakersfield.

Vincent Yeung and Po Sai Marie Yeung, both master's degree candidates in the dairy products technology specialization, placed first and second, respectively, in the Agriculture Section. They were two of nine finalists.

Vincent Yeung presented "Altering Milkfat Composition by Supplementing the Diet of Dairy Cows and its Relationship to Thermal Properties of Milkfat, Butter Texture and Butter Rheology." His thesis committee and research project are under the direction of associate professor Phil Tong.

Po Sai Marie Yeung presented "Gene-Based Techniques for Species Identification and Strain Relatedness of Commercial Probiotic Strains." Her thesis committee and research project are under the direction of Tong and adjunct research professor Mary Ellen Sanders.

Both projects are being conducted at the Dairy Products Technology Center and were funded through grants from the California Dairy Research Foundation and Dairy Management Inc.

Other professors who collaborated on the projects were biological sciences professors Raul Cano and Christopher Kitts, food science professor Robert Noyes, statistics professor John M. Rogers, and dairy science professors Stanley Hendersen, Ed Jaster and Rafael Jimenez.

This year, 147 undergraduate and graduate students competed in 10 different categories, from physiology and genetics to creative arts and design. Five Cal Poly students were selected to compete.

Winners receive \$250 and runners-up are awarded \$150. □

## ... Picture

(Continued from page 1)

When a faculty member is amply rewarded by a prestigious organization ... say cheese, please.

In-kind gifts make nifty pics.

You get the picture. Pun intended.

Please send color or black and white prints only (no slides or negatives) to the Communications Office via campus mail. Please include identifying information. We'll be happy to return the photo. □

## Ticket information

Tickets to performances at the Performing Arts Center can be purchased at the PAC Ticket Office from 10 am to 6 pm weekdays and from 10 am to 4 pm Saturdays. Call 6-ARTS (ext. 6-2787). □