

## EDITOR

Matt Lazier

## CONTRIBUTORS

Cathy Enns  
Rachel Henry  
Jo Ann Lloyd  
Mary McNally  
Stacia Momburg

## ART DIRECTOR

Thomas Reiss  
Kraftwerk Design, Inc.  
www.kraftwerkdesign.com

## DESIGNER

Bryan Bremer

## PRINTING

Journal Graphics Inc.

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## COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO:

*Cal Poly Magazine*  
Public Affairs, Heron Hall 109, Cal Poly  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0009  
**PHONE** (805) 756-1511  
**E-MAIL** [polynews@calpoly.edu](mailto:polynews@calpoly.edu)

## PLEASE SUBMIT CLASS NOTES INFORMATION TO:

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## MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

Advancement Services, Heron Hall, Cal Poly,  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0448;  
e-mail to [alumni-info@calpoly.edu](mailto:alumni-info@calpoly.edu); or call  
(805) 756-1511.

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

# Location, Location, Location



Devoted faculty and staff, loyal alumni, cross-disciplinary work, and the Learn by Doing education – these are some of the factors that converge to create the unique Cal Poly experience.

This edition of *Cal Poly Magazine* looks at the importance of Cal Poly's location – how it creates an empowering environment for students, presents opportunities for research and entrepreneurship, and becomes more than just a stopping point for many alums.

Our cover story examines how the area's beautiful creeks and coastline become living classrooms and laboratories for College of Science and Mathematics students researching real-world problems such as overfishing and water contamination.

Elsewhere, we show how Orfalea College of Business students benefit from the Central Coast's deep store of business expertise.

And we introduce you to grads Yishai and Kristin Horowitz, whose company, All Out Events, helps local residents experience the adventure the area has to offer.

Elsewhere, we tell you how working on a senior project to build the landmark Erhart Building Pedestrian Bridge gave alum David Boone the foundation for his success as a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy. And we show you how a generous donation from alum John Nielsen and his wife, Connie, to the Mustang '60 lab is helping to prepare the mechanical engineers of tomorrow.

This winter 2012 edition also marks the beginning of a new *Cal Poly Magazine* feature: Class Notes. Please see pages 24-25 and find out how to submit your item.

Finally, we present our annual Honor Roll of donors and supporters from the past year and offer our sincere thanks to all who have helped keep Cal Poly's renowned Learn by Doing education alive and thriving.

As always, I thank you for reading *Cal Poly Magazine* and hope it helps you stay connected to the university you love. And I welcome your comments, questions and story tips. Feel free to contact me at [mlazier@calpoly.edu](mailto:mlazier@calpoly.edu). □

*'Our cover story examines how the area's beautiful creeks and coastline become living classrooms and laboratories for students.'*

— Matt Lazier, *Editor*, B.S., Journalism, 1997