

CAL POLY Report Digest

California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
Vol. 2, No. 42 • Aug. 27, 2003

Published by Public Affairs • www.calpoly.edu/~communic

Cal Poly again best in class in U.S. News

For the 11th year in a row, Cal Poly has been rated the best public, largely undergraduate university in the West by U.S. News & World Report.

In the magazine's 2004 America's Best Colleges guidebook, Cal Poly retained its No. 5 position among both public and private non-doctoral universities in the West.

The ratings show that Cal Poly's academic colleagues think highly of the university. They gave it the second-highest score in the country for academic reputation among similar public institutions.

Cal Poly is one of the most selective public undergraduate universities in the nation, according to the U.S. News data. The school receives almost 30,000 applications a year, admitting only some 3,600 new students.

In the magazine's nationwide rankings of engineering programs at schools whose highest degree is a bachelor's or master's, Cal Poly's College of Engineering is the No. 3 public school, behind only the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy.

A number of College of Engineering programs also ranked high in the Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs individual specialty categories.

The computer, electrical, industrial and manufacturing, and mechanical programs were each ranked as the top program at a public university in their respective specialty categories.

The civil engineering program was the No. 2-ranked program at a public university in its category.

U.S. News also suggested programs "to look for," defined as "outstanding examples of academic programs that lead to student success." Cal Poly is included in two categories: Internships/Co-ops and Undergraduate Research/Creative Projects.

The rankings are available at www.usnews.com and are in the Sept. 1 issue of U.S. News & World Report. □

Cal Poly recognized for campus's beauty

High school counselors around the nation think Cal Poly has one of the most beautiful campuses in the country, according to a survey conducted for Kaplan Publishing, best known for its test-preparation books for the SAT, GMAT and LSAT exams.

Kaplan Publishing recognizes Cal Poly as a top school in the category "most beautiful campus in a suburban or rural setting" in its 2004 edition of "The Unofficial, Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges." □

Grad's gift puts campaign over \$200 million mark

A \$5 million pledge from an engineering alumnus has pushed Cal Poly's Centennial Campaign fund-raising effort over the \$200 million mark.

Isaac Barpal, who graduated in 1963 with degrees in both engineering and math, recently arranged to bequeath to the College of Engineering \$5 million as part of his eventual estate. The new gift is in addition to the \$10,000 he already donates to Cal Poly every year to fund two \$5,000 student scholarships.

"I was a foreign student from Israel ... without money ... without speaking English or having any friends," Barpal said. "But the people at Cal Poly were unbelievable. From the deans to the workers in the maintenance department - they looked out for me. And it's something I never forgot," he recently told the San Luis Obispo Tribune.

Barpal said he owes his career success largely to his Cal Poly education, which gave him the foundation for a graduate degree and his career in the aerospace industry.

Barpal's pledge brought the Centennial Campaign total to \$202,295,283. The campaign's goal is to raise \$225 million by the end of 2004.

More information on the campaign is available at <http://giving.calpoly.edu/>. □

Sen. McPherson to speak at Fall Conference session

State Sen. Bruce McPherson will be the keynote speaker for the Fall Conference General Session Sept. 15.

To launch Fall Conference week, refreshments will be served in the plaza of the Christopher Cohan Center beginning at 8:30 a.m. The General Session will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Cohan Center's Harman Hall.

In addition to remarks from President Baker and others, the General Session will include recognition of this year's Distinguished Teachers, Outstanding Faculty Advisor and Outstanding Staff Members.

Distinguished Teachers, honored at Spring Commencement, are Biological Sciences Professor Alvin De Jong, Speech Communication Professor Bernard Duffy and Materials Engineering Department Chair and Professor Linda Vanasupa.

The Outstanding Faculty Advisor is Accounting Professor Jack Robison.

Outstanding Staff Members are Sue Bethel, academic personnel specialist; Jim Gerhardt, Mechanical Engineering Department equipment technician; and Bonnie Long, executive assistant to the provost.

In advance of Fall Conference week itself, an all-day session of "New Teacher Training: Surviving the First Quarter!" is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 12 and will be repeated Sept. 19. It is open to faculty members, graduate student teaching associates and assistants, and instructional staff members. Pre-registration is required; contact Ann Wilenius at ext. 6-7002 or by e-mail (awileniu@calpoly.edu).

The Fall Conference schedule is available on the Web; click on the icon on the Cal Poly home page. Program brochures will be distributed in early September. □

Van pools have openings

Cal Poly's van pool program has openings for commuters living throughout the county. For times, cost and other information, contact Deby Anderson, coordinator of commuter and access services with the University Police, at ext. 6-6680 or djanders@calpoly.edu. □

New funding available for Internet2 mini-grants

Proposals are being invited for 2003-2004 on-campus projects related to Internet2 (I2). New funds are available in the form of Internet2 mini-grants.

The grants might range in size, depending on the number of proposals and available funds. Funds may be used for student assistants, equipment and faculty release time. Allocated funds will be distributed internally at Cal Poly.

Details on the funding and on application procedures are available at <http://www.i2.calpoly.edu/I2MiniGrantPhase2/indexMinP2.htm>. The deadline to submit proposal packages is Sept. 11.

For more information, contact Computer Science Professor Hugh Smith at ext. 6-2801 or hsmith@calpoly.edu. □

Prof Emeritus Merriam wins international award

Agricultural Engineering Professor Emeritus John Merriam was awarded the 2003 Kishida International Award for his contributions to the irrigation industry, with special recognition for work with developing nations.

The American Society of Agricultural Engineers presented the award to Merriam at a ceremony in Las Vegas in July.

After retiring in 1978, Merriam continued consulting and promoting programs to improve social and agricultural welfare in developing countries through irrigation and water management programs. He designed and supervised construction of flexible supply pipeline demonstration and production projects in Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan and helped in a nationwide program in Egypt. □

Two trustees named by Davis to CSU board

Gov. Gray Davis has appointed two new trustees to the CSU's governing board.

Chico State Sociology Professor Kathleen E. Kaiser was appointed the new faculty trustee, filling the seat formerly held by Harold Goldwhite. The appointment, which does not require further confirmation, expires June 30, 2005.

Dan Weinstein, a managing partner at Los Angeles-based Wetherly Capital Group, will fill the vacant position previously held by William Denny Campbell after Senate confirmation. □

Audra McDonald to sing in Cohan Center Sept. 12

Three-time Tony Award-winning vocalist Audra McDonald will sing Sept. 12 in Harman Hall of the Christopher Cohan Center. McDonald and her trio will perform at 8 p.m. in the final Cal Poly Arts Center Stage Summer series concert. Tickets are \$38 and \$44.

The Broadway star, actress and recording artist is the daughter of Anna McDonald, former Cal Poly director of human resources and affirmative action.

More information about this and other Cal Poly events is accessible from the Cal Poly News Web site, www.calpolynews.calpoly.edu, and the Cal Poly Arts site, www.calpolyarts.org. □

Xitron donates system to Graphic Communication

Xitron Corp. has donated a raster image processor (RIP) system to the Graphic Communication Department

The new system, which uses portable document format (PDF) files, allows students in prepress labs to transport electronic images to a printing press faster and at a higher quality than previously. PDF saves information in smaller files without sacrificing the quality of the document.

"We now have the ability to teach a complete workflow solution including full PDF capabilities to our students," said Penny Osmond, graphics communication professor.

Two weeks after the donation was made, the new system was helping print the Mustang Daily. □

Cal Poly Report schedule

This is the final *Cal Poly Report Digest* for summer quarter. The first issues of fall quarter will be the Fall Conference Monday edition, Sept. 15, and the first regular weekly issue, Wednesday, Sept. 17. The deadlines are 10 a.m. Sept. 8 and 10, respectively.

During the academic year, the *Cal Poly Report Digest* and the *Cal Poly Report* online appear every Wednesday. Articles for regular issues of both the *Cal Poly Report Digest* and the *Cal Poly Report* online are due to Public Affairs by 10 a.m. Wednesday, one week before publication. Articles can be e-mailed to polynews@polymail.calpoly.edu or faxed to ext. 6-6533.

See the online *Cal Poly Report* at www.calpoly.edu/~communic. For more information, call ext. 6-1511. □

Position Vacancies

STATE The official listing of staff and management vacancies is posted on Cal Poly's online employment system, www.calpolyjobs.org. As a courtesy to on-campus employees, job vacancies are also published in the *Cal Poly Report*. Positions marked with an asterisk indicate that qualified on-campus applicants in bargaining units 2, 5, 7 and 9 will be given first consideration. To apply, go to www.calpolyjobs.org and complete the online application. Applicants needing computer/Internet access and/or assistance may contact Human Resources at ext. 6-2236 for information on available resources.

#100110-Poultry Technician,* College of Agriculture, Animal Science, \$3,018-\$3,949/month. Closing date: Friday (Aug. 29).

#100139-Career Counselor, (Student Services Professional II), Student Affairs, Career Services, \$3,173-\$4,278/month. Closing date: Thursday (Aug. 28).

#100148-Building Service Engineer, Administration & Finance, Facility Services, \$4,241-\$5,270/month. Closing date: Tuesday (Sept. 2).

#100150-Supervising Building Service Engineer, Administration & Finance, Facility Services, \$4,687-\$5,744/month. Closing date: Tuesday (Sept. 2).

#100152-Grounds Worker,* Administration & Finance, Facility Services, \$2,450-\$3,060/month. Closing date: Tuesday (Sept. 2).

#100156-Plumber, Administration & Finance, Facility Services, \$4,301-\$5,270/month. Closing date: Sept. 3.

#100158-Facilities Worker II, Administration & Finance, Facility Services, \$3,567-\$4,335/month. Closing date: Sept. 3.

FOUNDATION (Foundation Adm. Building, job line at ext. 6-7107.) All Foundation applications must be received (not just postmarked) by 5 p.m. of the closing date. (No faxes.)

Lead Cook, Campus Dining: \$14.11-\$20.48/hour. Open until filled; review begins Friday (Aug. 29).

Policy Liaison, California Institute for the Study of Specialty Crops, in Sacramento, \$54,096-\$78,391/year. Closing date: Sept. 12.

FACULTY Candidates are asked to visit our online employment Web site at www.calpolyjobs.org to complete an application and apply for any of the positions shown below. Please submit all requested application materials as attachments to your online application, unless otherwise specified in the ad. Rank and salary are commensurate with qualifications and experience (and time base where applicable), unless otherwise stated.

#100133: Tenure-Track, Full-Time Chemical Education Assistant/Associate Professor(s), Chemistry and Biochemistry Department, College of Science and Mathematics (ext. 6-2694). Review begins Nov. 21; applications received after that date may be considered.

#100137: Tenure-Track, Full-Time Analytical Chemistry Assistant/Associate Professor(s), Chemistry and Biochemistry Department, College of Science and Mathematics (ext. 6-2694). Review begins Nov. 21; applications received after that date may be considered. □