

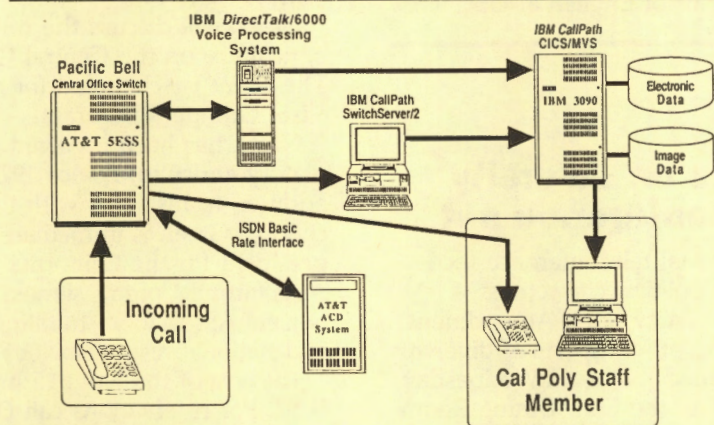
# CAL POLY

## REPORT

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Vol. 45, No. 10 Nov. 14, 1991

### Integrated Student Information Service (ISIS)



## Technology to bring improved service

IBM, Pacific Bell, AT&T Network Systems and Cal Poly are preparing to test a new way to link the university's computers to people who telephone the campus for information or other assistance.

The goal of the project is better service — initially to Cal Poly students, eventually to students at other universities and to businesses and consumers nationwide. It should also help the university contain administrative costs.

Cal Poly has tentatively dubbed its new system ISIS, or Integrated Student Information Service. Among the first to see its benefits will be current students with questions about their academic standing, as well as some of the more-than-15,000 students applying for Cal Poly's 5,000 fall 1992 openings. They should get faster, more accurate answers to their questions.

The trial is set to run from December through April.

ISIS' most useful and novel feature will be its ability to link a computerized student record to a telephone call, and to direct and transfer the two at the same time. If a caller provides student identification numbers, the student's data file will automatically appear on a staff member's computer screen

when the staffer takes the call.

Key components include an AT&T Automatic Call Distribution system and central-office switching system, IBM CallPath software, and the campus's new "ISDN" digital telephone service from Pacific Bell.

Cal Poly and the three companies envision the system's becoming a building block in a statewide "knowledge network" that would have the capacity to link all components of California's education system through the public telephone network.

For AT&T Network Systems, IBM and Pacific Bell, the project holds considerable potential for demonstrating telecommunications possibilities that reach well beyond education. The capability to instantly associate incoming calls with data stored in private computers will allow businesses, government agencies and all types of institutions to offer callers faster and more accurate service.

ISDN (integrated services digital network) technology, using the existing telephone network, allows simultaneous transmission of computer data and a person's voice over a single telephone number.

## Donna M. Fritz, 54

Donna M. Fritz, administrator for business services for the Cal Poly Foundation, died of a heart attack Thursday, Oct. 31, in a San Luis Obispo hospital.

A Foundation employee since October 1969, Mrs. Fritz has held many positions, mostly in the business and accounting offices.

Mrs. Fritz, a San Luis Obispo resident, was born in Rockford, Ill., on Jan. 8, 1937. She graduated from Chino High School in 1954 and had lived in San Luis Obispo county since 1963.

She was a past Guardian of Jobs Daughters and a member and secretary of the Women's Major Bowling League.

She is survived by her husband, Dick, a son, Rex, and a daughter, Lynn.

## Partial travel grants available to faculty

The Institute for Teaching and Learning is sponsoring "The Teaching and Learning Exchange" conference, which will be held from Feb. 27 to March 1 at the Hyatt at Los Angeles Airport Hotel. Partial travel grants are available for faculty who plan to attend. Application forms are available from school deans' offices or from Glenn Irvin, Adm. 307, ext. 2246. Applications are due in the Chancellor's Office by Monday, Dec. 9.

## Tennis coach resigns

Kevin Platt, head men's and women's tennis coach since 1989, has resigned to accept a position as the head coach of women's tennis at the University of Arkansas.

## **ACE official to speak on campus today**

An official of the American Council on Education (ACE) will give a presentation on diversity in education today (Nov. 14).

Dr. Blandina Ramirez, director of ACE's Office of Minorities in Higher Education, will talk at 11 am in the Theatre. Her focus will be on underrepresented groups in higher education — women and minority students, faculty, and administrators. The free presentation is open to the public.

The ACE is the umbrella organization for all U.S. institutions of higher education.

Ramirez' appearance is part of Focus on Diversity, a lecture series sponsored by the Affirmative Action Office. Other presentations in the series include a national teleconference at 10 am on Nov. 20. Participants will be able to talk with a panel of scholars via telephones while watching the presentation on widescreen television in the Staff Dining Room.

For additional information, call Anna J. McDonald, director of affirmative action, ext. 2062.

## **WriterSpeak sets Nov. 14 reading**

Nationally known poet and editor David St. John will read from his new book, "Terraces of Rain," at 7 pm today (Nov. 14).

Presented by the English Department as part of the Cal Poly Arts WriterSpeak series, the reading will be held in the Science Building E27.

Known for lush environmental images that enhance his poems of love, family, and loss, St. John is one of the premier love poets of his generation. Many of his poems have a slow, sensual quality that renders the small but critical sensations lovers experience.

The poems in "Terraces of Rain" are set in Italy, where the Mediter-

anean landscape provides a sensual, sometimes melancholy atmosphere in which people, often couples, reflect on their pasts and decide on their futures.

Currently St. John is poetry editor of The Antioch Review and a professor of English at USC.

## **Focus on diversity teleconference set**

A national teleconference focusing on "political correctness," campus civility, First Amendment rights and other aspects of diversity is scheduled for 10 am Wednesday, Nov. 20, in the Staff Dining Room.

Sponsored by the Affirmative Action Office as part of the Focus on Diversity Lecture Series, the conference is titled "Diversity in Higher Education: Can We Meet the Challenge?"

Featured panelists include Antonio J. Califa, legislative counsel for the ACLU; Steven Balch, president and executive director for the National Association of Scholars; and ethnic studies faculty members from universities across the nation.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend and participate with questions and comments.

## **Open house**

Cal Poly's student Peer Health Educators will hold an open house on Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 10 am to noon in the Health Center.

Intended to be informative and fun, activities and a tour will be provided to promote the peer health programs, which provide counseling on alcohol and drug abuse, lifestyle and wellness, nutrition, oral health, and sexuality.

A raffle will be held, and a reception will follow the open house.

## **Ag commissioner to speak Nov. 15**

San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner Richard D. Greek will speak to area public administrators at a luncheon set for Friday, Nov. 15.

Greek will discuss the future of agriculture on the Central Coast. The event is scheduled for noon at Vista Grande Restaurant.

Greek has been involved in regulatory agriculture since 1972. In addition to his work with the county, Greek is immediate past president for the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, fulfilling state and national responsibilities.

The cost of the Nov. 15 luncheon is \$7. For reservations call Dr. Dianne Long of the Political Science Department, ext. 2984.

## **Grants available**

Summer grants are available to minority and female probationary faculty members to pursue research and other scholarly activities to aid them in achieving tenure and promotion. The Cal Poly Foundation has allocated \$25,000 to be awarded for individual grants of up to \$5,000 each. Awards will be made on a competitive basis.

Applications and guidelines are available in the Affirmative Action Office, Adm. 401. The deadline to submit proposals is Jan. 13.

## **Reserve Room notice**

The Kennedy Library Reserve Room is accepting material to be placed on reserve for Winter Quarter. Lists and materials must be submitted by Monday, Dec. 16, to allow sufficient processing time. Requests will be processed in the order received. Call ext. 2415 for forms and information or stop by the Reserve Desk.

## **Women's studies schedules seminar**

Noell Norton of the Political Science Dept. will discuss on Monday, Nov. 18, how women, especially poor women and women of color, are affected by decisions of the U.S. Congress.

Presented as part of the Women's Studies Lunch-Time Seminar, the talk will be held in the Staff Dining Room at noon.

One area of discussion will be "reproductive policy" — family planning, sterilization, teenage pregnancy, pregnancy and employment, surrogacy, global population planning, and abortion.

Congress's role in the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill hearings will also be discussed.

For additional information on the seminar series, call Carolyn Stefanco of the History Department, ext. 2845.

## **Cal Poly robot to fly on national TV**

A computer-controlled flying robot designed by Cal Poly students took second place in an unprecedented competition this summer and will be featured in a segment on national public television on Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Cal Poly's "robotic aerial vehicle" won the \$2,000 runner-up award in the First International Aerial Robotics Competition held on the Georgia Tech campus in Atlanta.

The Cal Poly craft competed against vehicles from the University of Texas at Arlington (the first-place winner), Georgia Tech, MIT, and the University of Dayton (Ohio). Ten university teams entered originally, but only five were able to produce an operating craft.

The formidable challenge was to design and build a machine that could travel from one end of a volleyball court to the other, fly

over a 3-foot high barrier, pick up a metal disk, take it to another container, and do it all six times in three minutes without human direction. Cal Poly's was the only craft that used the principle of the hovercraft. Its competitors flew — or tried to fly — like helicopters.

Cal Poly's entry was also the only one that successfully picked up a disk — but only one disk.

The Cal Poly team developed its 4-foot diameter, 200-pound vehicle with a \$31,000 grant from Teledyne-Ryan Aeronautical of San Diego.

Aeronautical Engineering Associate Professor Dan Biezdad proposed the project to the students and advised them throughout the nine-month effort.

The Aerial Robotics Competition will be part of an edition of public television's "Scientific American Frontiers." Los Angeles PBS station KCET, carried by Sonic Cable, is scheduled to broadcast the show from 8 to 9 pm Nov. 20. Other PBS stations might broadcast the segment on a different day or at a different time.

## **Library to offer two new workshops**

The Kennedy Library will offer two workshops designed to acquaint individuals with enhanced electronic information sources.

The workshops will be held Wednesday, Nov. 20, and Thursday, Nov. 21, from 11 am to noon in Room 202 of the Library.

The same information will be presented at both sessions. Topics will include text and image article delivery services through UnCover (a periodical database), searching 300 library catalogs through the Internet, remote access to Polycat, new features of Melvyl (the University of California's nine campus union catalog), and accessing electronic journals and newsletters.

No pre-registration is required. For more information, call Ilene Rockman, ext. 5787, or Paul Adalian, ext. 2649.

## **Panel discussion scheduled Nov. 19**

A panel discussion on "Problems in Multicultural Classroom Communication — and Some Solutions" is scheduled for noon on Tuesday, Nov. 19, in the Staff Dining Room.

Presented by FIDO—Faculty Instruction Development Opportunity, the discussion will cover ways in which communication among people of different ethnicities, cultural and linguistic backgrounds in a classroom setting can be derailed and put back on track.

The panelists include Dr. Sidney Ribeau, dean of the School of Liberal Arts, who has written extensively on interethnic communication and cognitive styles; David Sanchez, professor of education, who has expertise on the use of "sheltered English" as a means for effective communication, and liberal studies students Felipe Cantu and Jaime Cuello.

Lunch will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **New phone number for service requests**

Plant Operations has a new direct telephone number for all maintenance service requests — ext. 5555. This is a direct number to the Work Control Center. When calling this number, be prepared to provide your name; department; a contact person, if necessary; phone number; location and description of the problem.

Maintenance calls placed to the main Plant Operations number, ext. 2321, will be forwarded to the Work Control Center. As in the past, all non-maintenance requests must be submitted in writing and must include an account to be charged and a dean, division head or department head's signature.

**Faculty/Staff  
payday is Dec. 2**

### Dateline. . . .

**(\$) - Admission Charged**

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

**Speaker:** Blandina Ramirez (American Council on Education's Office of Minorities in Higher Education) will speak as part of the Focus on Diversity Lecture Series. Theatre, 11:30 am.

**Potluck:** Carolyn Stefanco (History) will host a potluck for individuals interested in supporting women's studies and women's interests at Cal Poly and in the community. For more information and location, call Rose at 546-9703. 6:30 pm.

**WriterSpeak:** David St. John will give a poetry reading. Science E27, 7 pm.

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

**Speaker/Luncheon:** Richard Greek (SLO Ag Commissioner) will talk on the future of agriculture on the Central Coast. For reservations call ext. 2984. Vista Grande, noon. (\$)

**Performance:** Illusionist Craig Karges will perform in Chumash. 7 pm. (\$)

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**Football:** Portland State University, Mustang Stadium, 7 pm. (\$)

**Volleyball:** Cal State Northridge, Mott Gym, 7:30 pm. (\$)

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

**Open House:** Student Peer Health Educators will hold an open house in the Health Center. 10 am.

**Speaker:** Noell Norton (Political Science) will discuss "Reproductive Policy Decisions: The Family Planning 'Inner-Circle'" as part of the Women's Studies Lunch-Time Seminar. Staff Dining Room, noon.

**Support Group:** Full Circle Grief Support Group Meeting. University Christian Center, 7 pm.

**Film:** "Go Tell it on The Mountain," Chumash, 7:30 pm. (\$)

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

**Panel Discussion:** Sidney Ribeau (Liberal Arts), David Sanchez (Education), and two liberal arts students will discuss "Problems in Multicultural Classroom Communication—and Some Solutions," Staff Dining Room, noon.

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

**Teleconference:** "Diversity in Higher Education: Can We Meet the Challenge?" will be presented as part of the Focus on Diversity Lecture Series. Staff Dining Room, 10 am.

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**Recital:** Students will give piano recitals. Davidson Music Bldg. 218, 11 am.

**Play:** "Waiting for Godot." Continues on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 22 and 23. Theatre, 8 pm. (\$)

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**Basketball:** UC Santa Cruz, Mott Gym, 5 pm. (\$)

**Volleyball:** New Mexico State, Mott Gym, 7:30 pm. (\$)

### Position Vacancies

Vacant staff positions at Cal Poly and the Cal Poly Foundation are announced in this column and are posted outside the respective offices. Contact those offices (State: Adm. 110, 805-756-2236 — Foundation Administration Building, 805-756-1121) for applications and additional position details. Both Cal Poly and the Foundation are subject to all laws governing affirmative action and equal employment opportunity. Cal Poly hires only individuals lawfully authorized to work in the United States. All eligible and interested persons are encouraged to apply. Applications must be received by 5 pm or postmarked by the closing date.

#### STATE

**CLOSING DATE:** Nov. 20, 1991 (corrected salary)

**Adm. Operations Analyst II**, \$2849-\$3430/month; temporary through 6/30/92 with possibility of extension, Athletics.

**CLOSING DATE:** Nov. 27, 1991

**Clerical Assistant I**, \$786.50-\$926/month; half-time, University Center for Teacher Education/Services Center.

**Custodian**, \$624.40-\$736.80/month; 4/10-time; 2 positions available, 3-6 am, M-F, Plant Operations.

**Pharmacist**, \$20.07-\$24.20/hour; On-call/intermittent pool, temporary through 6/30/92, Health & Psychological Services.

#### FOUNDATION

**CLOSING DATE:** Dec. 2, 1991

**Software Research Analyst**, \$15.90-\$19.87/hour, part-time, subject to continued funding.

### Search for authors

Kerry Roberts, general books department manager at El Corral Bookstore, is looking for books written by Cal Poly employees to be displayed in the "campus and local authors" book section.

Specifically, Roberts is seeking books by campus authors that cover a broad range of general interest topics without duplicating those book titles already offered in the textbook department.

Faculty and staff members who have recently had a book published, or are in the process of writing a fiction or non-fiction book, are encouraged to contact Roberts at ext. 5316.

### SIS PLUS new user training

New user training for the Student Information System (SIS PLUS) will continue until mid-December. New employees or those who have not yet obtained a SIS account number must attend this training before a number can be assigned.

The dates for the sessions are Tuesday, Nov. 26, and Tuesday, Dec. 10. Two sessions are scheduled both days — from 9 to 10:30 am and 1:30 to 3 pm.

Beginning Winter Quarter, there will be one training session held each month. Contact Jane Paris, ext. 2723, to enroll.

### CPR holiday schedule

One additional issue of *Cal Poly Report* will be printed in November (Nov. 21). There will be no issue the week of Thanksgiving.

In December, *Cal Poly Report* will appear Dec. 5 and 12. The first issue of Winter Quarter will be Jan. 9. All copy must be in the Communications and Special Events Department a week before the issue date.