

California Polytechnic State University

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"Shrek" Lead Effects Animator, Aerospace Researcher, Three Other Grads Honored by Cal Poly College of Engineering

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- The lead effects animator for "Shrek" and an aerospace systems researcher have been named Outstanding Recent Alumni by Cal Poly's College of Engineering.

Sunnyvale's Scott B. Peterson, a 1997 computer science graduate, and Mableton, Ga., resident Danielle Soban, a 1996 aerospace engineering graduate, were honored at an Alumni Recognition Luncheon as part of Cal Poly's recent annual Open House activities. The Outstanding Recent Alumnus or Alumna Award honors graduates who have contributed significantly to their fields within 10 years of graduation.

The College of Engineering also bestowed its Professional Achievement Award on three graduates of 10 years or more who have attained a high level of distinction in their fields: 1973 aerospace engineering graduate David Esposto from Redondo Beach, 1983 computer science graduate Mark Lucovsky from Montecito, and 1985 environmental engineering graduate Larry Sun from Irvine.

Peterson serves as a lead effects animator for PDI DreamWorks. His film credits include "Shrek," "Antz" and "Shrek II," among others. "Shrek" won the first-ever Academy Award for Best Animated Feature. Peterson's short animation film "Sprout" was selected by the national computer graphics association, SIGGRAPH, as one of the 35 films out of thousands submitted to air at the group's 2002 convention. "Sprout" also won an international award for best animation at Europe's Imagina 2003 gathering.

Soban earned a bachelor's and a master's degree at Cal Poly in 1991 and 1996; her doctorate is from Georgia Tech. While at Cal Poly, she spent summers at NASA's Ames Research Center as an intern and was awarded a two-year fellowship as part of the NASA Langley-funded program. Her master's thesis involved calculations related to aircraft stability. She is now a research engineer at Georgia Tech's Aerospace Systems Design Laboratory, where she has been program lead and technical lead on a

large number of funded projects.

Esposito joined Boeing Satellite Systems after he graduated in 1973 and now serves as chief engineer, currently responsible for the Measat 3 Satellite Program and structures for the 702, a powerful satellite known for its capacity, performance and cost efficiency. He has received five patents related to heat transport and has earned a number of awards for his work, including the Hughes Lawrence A. Hyland Patent Award. In 2002, Esposito was given the prestigious title of associate technical fellow. He serves on the Cal Poly Aerospace Engineering Department's Industry Advisory Board, volunteers to lecture in aerospace classes, and coordinates a yearly class trip to Boeing Satellite Systems.

Lucovsky joined Microsoft in 1998 as a founding member and principal architect of the 32-bit Windows line. He has been responsible for designing and coding major, broad portions of the Windows operating system. Currently, Lucovsky is leading the industry in a new generation of Web services through revolutionary work on XML. In July 2000, he was promoted to distinguished engineer, a position reserved for the highest ranking engineers at Microsoft, a title held by roughly a dozen others.

Sun, a heating, ventilation and air conditioning engineer, has worked on systems found in many public buildings, including the headquarters of the California State University and the Ronald Reagan Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Santa Ana. He is a principal with Tsuchiyama Kaino Sun & Carter, emphasizing energy efficiency and optimum system operation. Sun is involved in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or LEED Program created and administered by the U.S. Green Building Council. As regional vice chairman of student activities for the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Sun strives to motivate students to consider entering the profession. He also serves as the co-chair of the HVAC Industrial Council for Cal Poly's Mechanical Engineering Department.

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