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[News](#)

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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Forums Honor Warren, Carly Baker; Experts To Discuss Future of Polytechnic, Science and Tech Universities

"The Future of Polytechnic & Science and Technology Universities" is the title of the inaugural Baker Forum, April 5-6 at Cal Poly.

Warren and Carly Baker

Established by the Cal Poly President's Cabinet to commemorate the more than two decades of service to Cal Poly by university President Warren J. Baker and his wife, Carly, the biennial Baker Forum will bring together leaders from higher education, high-tech industries, and national and state governments.

The forum's discussions will have three areas of focus: preparing better-educated and diverse students for careers in science, math, engineering and technology; increasing partnerships among universities, industry and government in research and education; and addressing ethical challenges involved with science and technology's role in society.

Award-winning author and researcher Stephen Jay Gould will serve as the 2002 forum's keynote speaker in a public program in the Christopher Cohan Center on April 5 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Gould teaches biology, geology and the history of science at Harvard University, where he has been on the faculty since 1967. Well known for his scientific writings, in particular his monthly column in *Natural History* magazine, he is the author of more than 20 books.

Walter E. Massey, president of Atlanta's Morehouse College, will be recognized during the forum as the first Wiley Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. He is the former director of the National Science Foundation -- the government's lead agency for support of research and education in mathematics, science and engineering -- and the Argonne National Laboratory. He currently serves as a member of the Presidential Committee on Science and Technology.

Massey is a former chairman and president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. John Wiley and Sons Inc. funds the Wiley Lifetime Achievement Award, which will be given to Massey during the public event April 5.

"The Baker Forum will provide a vital exchange of ideas on critical issues affecting higher education - especially those pertaining to polytechnic programs, institutes and universities that have a strong concentration in the areas of science and technology," said university Provost Paul Zingg.

Envisioned as a biennial event, the Baker Forum will focus on the role of higher education in addressing public policy issues and pay tribute to individuals who have made significant contributions to higher education. The event was created and funded by the Cal Poly President's Cabinet, a group of more than 40 industry, government and community leaders who provide advice and counsel to the university.

"The forum is designed to honor the Bakers' leadership, vision and contributions to the university and to American higher education," according to President's Cabinet Chair Jaime Oaxaca. "It not only will be a fitting tribute to a wonderful team, but it also will provide prominent educators, industry leaders and public policy makers with ideas on how we can better plan for the future and educate students for the many opportunities ahead, as well as the numerous challenges our society faces."

The event is expected to attract national and international business and industry leaders, university presidents, provosts and other representatives of major polytechnic, scientific and technological institutions from the United States, Latin America, Europe and Asia.

Additional information will be released when details are finalized. For more information, see the Baker Forum Web site <http://www.bakerforum.calpoly.edu/> or contact Zingg, at (805) 756-2186. His e-mail address is: pzingg@calpoly.edu.

- 30 -

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