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California Polytechnic State University

May 13, 2002

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Among Nation's Top 100 Schools In Awarding Bachelor's Degrees to Hispanics

Cal Poly remains among the 100 colleges and universities nationwide that award the most bachelor's degrees to Hispanic students and is second or third in its signature fields of agriculture, architecture and engineering, according to the latest report by the National Center for Education Statistics.

Cal Poly ranks second in agriculture and architecture and third in engineering. Only Texas A&M University, with a student body two and a half times as large as Cal Poly's, awards more bachelor's degrees to Hispanic students in agriculture and architecture. In all three fields, Cal Poly awards the most undergraduate degrees to Hispanic students of all universities in California -- 50 in agriculture, 30 in architecture and 109 in engineering in 1999-2000, the most recent year for which national statistics are available.

Overall, Cal Poly ranks 39th in the nation, conferring undergraduate degrees on 417 Hispanic students in 1999-2000.

"Helping to increase opportunity for all segments of California society is a high priority for Cal Poly," said Provost Paul Zingg.

"Our continuing success in graduating Hispanic students is an essential part of that greater diversity.

"The fact that Hispanics are now the largest ethnic group in California, and the growth of the Hispanic population nationwide, make it clear that education and opportunity must truly be for all," Zingg said. "As we discussed in Cal Poly's recent Baker Forum, it is essential that the Hispanic community and all other groups participate in our increasingly technological society if California is to remain an economic leader. It is in the sciences and technology in particular that Cal Poly has a special role to play, and we remain committed to broadening programs that will help us do an even better job in the future."

The federal statistics were published in the May 6 issue of The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education.

Seventeen California State University campuses are among the top 100 schools in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanic students. Twelve CSU campuses were in the top 100 in awarding master's degrees.

CSU campuses in the top 10 nationally in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanic students include Cal State L.A. (fourth), San Diego State (fifth), CSU Fullerton (ninth) and CSU Long Beach (10th). Others in the top 100 (in descending order) were CSU campuses at Northridge, Fresno, San Jose, San Bernardino, Pomona, Dominguez Hills, Sacramento, San Francisco, Stanislaus, Hayward, Bakersfield and Chico.

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