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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Unocal Endows Two Cal Poly Professorships in Marine Science

Two Cal Poly College of Science and Mathematics professors have been named Unocal Professors of Marine Science. These endowed professorships will be supported by a gift of \$1 million from Unocal.

Professor Emeritus Tom Richards, who is officially retired from full-time teaching, was named along with Biological Sciences Professor Mark Moline to fill the two professorships. The honor was announced as part of the recent transfer of Unocal's Avila Beach Pier to Cal Poly.

Richards will direct operations of the facility and oversee 20 undergraduate research and marine experiments to be conducted there.

"Tom was named a Unocal Professor in recognition of his work and vision in bringing the pier to Cal Poly and for his commitment, even in retirement, to participating in development of the Cal Poly Marine Science Education and Research Center that will be established on the pier," said Philip Bailey, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics.

The honor also recognizes Richards' contributions to the study of marine science at the university and in the community and his founding of the Quarter at Sea Program, through which Cal Poly students pursue marine studies aboard the California Maritime Academy training ship, the Golden Bear."

Moline was chosen, Bailey said, for his vision and commitment in helping establish the marine science center, as well as for the research opportunities he has provided students through the more than \$1.5 million in research grants he has obtained since arriving at Cal Poly in 1998.

"Mark is recognized nationally for his research efforts and has just

acquired an advanced autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) to study phytoplankton and bioluminescence," Bailey said.

"The creation of these two professorships," said Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker, "marks a major step forward in our continuing efforts to improve and expand the educational opportunities we offer and in developing our partnership with Unocal in the expansion of a national-caliber science program.

"It's exciting to think of the opportunities offered by the creation of these professorships in conjunction with the establishment of the Marine Science Education and Research Center," Baker said. "Tom Richards and Mark Moline have contributed immeasurably to developing this concept, and I know they will help mold a program that will be the envy of universities nationwide."

- 30 -

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