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## *Cal Poly Ranks No. 7 on List of Affordable Colleges with Highest Returns on Investment*

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly has been named the nation's No. 7 most affordable college with highest return on investment by the website Affordable Colleges Online.

The site released its rankings Monday — a week after the website PayScale.com released its own rankings on college tuition return on investment, listing Cal Poly among the top 20 public universities and No. 37 overall in the nation.

“We appreciate seeing continued recognition of what we have long said: Our faculty provide a top-rate education that produces graduates who are primed for long-term success in their chosen careers,” said Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong. “Industry leaders pay our alumni well because they are hard-working, they leave Cal Poly ready to contribute on Day One, and they have the leadership skills and creativity needed to solve the problems of our increasingly complex and fast-paced world.”

The Affordable Colleges Online list ranks the top 50 colleges and universities out of nearly 900 surveyed in the U.S. The list includes public and private four-year, nonprofit institutions with four-year tuition of less than \$40,000. The ranking system factors in PayScale's data on 30-year net return on investment.

The ranking lists Cal Poly grads' average annual starting salary at \$53,400, with a return on investment of \$542,700.

The top six universities on the list in ascending order are: the College of William and Mary, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Texas A&M University-College Station, University of Virginia-Main Campus, State University of New York at New Paltz, and Georgia Institute of Technology.

Cal Poly, which is part of the renowned California State University (CSU) system, was joined in the top 50 by four other CSU campuses: Cal Poly-Pomona, San Jose State University, Cal State Fullerton, and San Diego State University.

For more information, visit <http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/affordable-colleges-with-high-returns/>.

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