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Cal Poly Again Among Top 20 Public Schools in PayScale Survey

University Jumps to No. 37 Overall in Latest Rankings of College Tuition Return on Investment

SAN LUIS OBISPO — For the second consecutive year, Cal Poly ranked in the nation's top 20 public universities for college tuition return on investment, according to PayScale. Additionally, Cal Poly's overall ranking among all universities jumped to 37 from 62.

PayScale's study analyzed more than 1,000 U.S. universities and colleges.

The 2013 report ranked Cal Poly's ROI ninth out of 437 public universities. When looking at graduates' mid-career salaries, Cal Poly alumni ranked 13th among 452 state schools across the nation.

Rankings such as PayScale's illustrate the positive outcomes of a campus community dedicated to student success and faculty committed to Learn by Doing, said Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong.

"It's always gratifying when Cal Poly is praised for the value of its education," Armstrong said. "Implicitly, this ranking acknowledges the excellence of a Cal Poly education. Employers pay our graduates so well because they know that Cal Poly alumni are innovative leaders and hard-working, creative thinkers.

"Couple our students' intense academic focus with Cal Poly's renowned Learn by Doing approach, and you have graduates who are life-long learners, an invaluable trait for personal and professional success," Armstrong said.

The PayScale report ranked the cost of college, including the sum of tuition and fees, room and board, and books and supplies. The study used on-campus living costs for room and board. The calculations also used a weighted average for the number of years it takes students to graduate from the respective schools. For public schools, the analysis is conducted for both in-state and out-of-state tuition.

For a complete listing and more information, including the methodology used to calculate the ROI, go to www.payscale.com/college-education-value-2013.

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