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News

University News & Information



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2015

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Cal Poly Students Win Platinum and Gold in Western Regional Dairy Challenge

SAN LUIS OBISPO— Four Cal Poly students participated on teams ranked as platinum level and four students were on teams that earned gold status — the highest two award levels — at the 10th annual Western Regional Dairy Challenge Feb. 26-28 in Tulare, Calif.

Twenty-one Cal Poly students participated in the challenge, an innovative, three-day educational competition designed to prepare students for dairy careers.

Participants, who worked in composite teams of up to six students from various colleges selected by a regional committee, assessed various aspects of a working dairy farm, including facilities, nutrition, financials, reproduction and animal health.

Students then collaborated on a 20-minute team presentation detailing their observations and suggestions to a panel of judges. Teams were ranked based on how well their evaluations matched the judges' evaluations of the dairy operation.

In all, 83 students from 10 universities and colleges in the Western U.S. and Canada traveled to participate in the challenge.

Four of the 21 Cal Poly students who earned platinum or gold level status in the regional event will travel to the national competition from April 9-11 in Syracuse, NY. Those students were selected based on their performance at the regional contest, their effort and performance in practices during the academic quarter, and on how they fit together on a team.

About the Western Regional Dairy Challenge:

The Western Regional Dairy Challenge is under the guidance and support of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, which was established in April 2002 as a management contest to incorporate evaluation of all aspects of a dairy business. For more information, go to www.dairychallenge.org.

About Cal Poly's College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences

Cal Poly is a nationally ranked, comprehensive polytechnic university. The university's College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences is comprised of expert faculty members who take pride in their ability to transform academically motivated students into innovative students ready to solve the complex challenges associated with feeding the world in sustainable ways. Students have access to state-of-the-art laboratories including rangeland, orchards, vineyards and forests, all of which provide the basis for Cal Poly's Learn by Doing methodology.

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