



News

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Cal Poly Names New Vice President for Administration & Finance

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Cindy Vizcaino Villa brings 28 years of experience as University of Texas at El Paso's Business Affairs Chief

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cynthia Vizcaino Villa, a veteran University of Texas administrator, has been named Cal Poly's new vice president for administration and finance, the university's chief fiscal officer. She will begin her duties July 1.

Villa is the vice president for business affairs at The University of Texas at El Paso. She obtained her undergraduate and master's degrees at the West Texas university. She had worked there since 1987, rising through the ranks from assistant director of budget and payroll to become one of the top university administrators, a position she has held since mid-2002.

"Cindy's 28-year background in business-related services and higher education will make Cal Poly even stronger," said Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong. "She knows the critical role that the Administration and Finance Division plays in a university's success through prudent fiscal management and facilitation of public-private partnerships. This hire supports our Learn by Doing philosophy and, ultimately, the continued success of our students."

As Cal Poly's top fiscal executive, Villa will oversee a key division in the university that is responsible for budgets and capital project planning. The division also includes the human resources office, which deals with one of the largest workforces in San Luis Obispo County — more than 2,700 employees, including 1,400 staff and administrators and nearly 1,300 faculty members.

Villa will also oversee the campus police department; the Cal Poly Corporation, the university's nonprofit that operates the bookstore and campus dining facilities; the Performing Arts Center, one of the premier concert venues on the Central Coast; and maintaining nearly 6 million square feet of space in the university's 150 major buildings.

"I'm honored to be a part of Cal Poly and its Learn by Doing traditions," she said. "When I visited the campus in January, I was very impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of the students, faculty and staff. I look forward to helping Cal Poly continue its long tradition of excellence."

In her role as chief budget officer at the University of Texas, Villa oversaw an annual budget of \$418 million. She managed a division of 535 full- and part-time employees and an operating budget of \$93 million.

Villa will assume leadership of the Administration and Finance Division from Karen Webb, who has served as interim vice president for the division since July 1, 2014. She succeeded Stan Nosek, a retired UC Davis vice chancellor for administration, who

held the post for a year after former vice president Larry Kelley retired in 2013.

"I'd like to thank Karen for her leadership," Armstrong said. "As associate vice president for Administration and Finance and with more than 18 years experience at Cal Poly, she stepped into the position with a true understanding of the crucial role the division plays in supporting Learn by Doing. She is a team player who has brought a collaborative spirit to her role every day."

For more information on Cal Poly's Administration and Finance Division, visit www.afd.calpoly.edu.

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