Visions I, through Dec. 4

Trustees urge campuses to learn about CETI

The CSU Board of Trustees continues to urge faculty, staff, and students to become informed about the California Education Technology Initiative (CETI), a project that will have a widespread impact on all CSU campuses.

Everyone at Cal Poly needs to know what the project entails and what it will mean to the university, according to Jerry Hanley, vice provost, Information Technology Services.

Here is an overview:

What is CETI?
CETI is a proposed corporation joining the CSU through an auxiliary of four private companies: GTE, Fujitsu, Hughes Communications, and Microsoft.

What's it for?
CETI will build a "baseline" electronic communications infrastructure on every CSU campus—the wires, cables, satellite dishes, other connections—so people can communicate locally and with the rest of the world.

Why do we need a corporation to do this?
The CSU doesn't have the $300 million to build this technology baseline, and it's unlikely the state will provide it. Funds will be raised by the corporation in the equity market under guarantees from the four private firms.

What will Cal Poly get out of this?
Offices and appropriate classrooms now lacking communications links will have them installed, and locations currently connected with equipment below baseline quality will be upgraded. The campus will benefit from future enhancements of its system and from CETI-supplied maintenance and support.

What will the private companies get out of this?
The CSU's faculty, staff, and students make up a huge potential customer base. While no individual or unit will be required to buy products and services from CETI, the partners should be able to bundle products at mass-marketing prices to make them attractive. Also, the partners' presence on CSU campuses may give them leverage to sell goods and services to education, government, business, and private markets in the state.

What other points should faculty, staff, and students know?
• The initial agreement forming CETI will be signed Jan. 27. A second agreement outlining specific campus technology goals will be signed in late spring, and a third iteration dealing with intellectual properties will be signed later in the year. For several months now, Cal Poly and CSU officials have been encouraging everyone in the system to become informed and involved in this ongoing process.

• A CSU committee studied almost 100 companies last spring before 14 of the world's largest high-tech firms were invited to submit business plans to show how the CSU could create its baseline technology infrastructure. Three plans were returned, and following systemwide consultation that included university presidents, the CETI proposal was selected.

• CSU staff will be retained by the CSU; collective bargaining agreements remain intact.

• The CSU will have a majority role in the corporation's governance.

• Faculty retain all rights regarding curricula, course content, and course delivery.

• Unique campus needs will be met.

• CETI may give faculty opportunities beyond what are now available to produce courseware and other intellectual properties that might be marketed by the corporation, officials said. The faculty member will retain full rights.

• CSU officials say this is not the first step in an effort to privatize the CSU. While CETI is very different in scope, it might be seen as similar in kind to this example: Cal Poly enters into an agreement through its

Exhibits
• University Art Gallery: Thai Visuals I, through Dec. 4
• UU Galerie "The Shape of Things," two-dimensional mixed media by Charlene Vido.

Dateline
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3
• Holiday Luncheon: Chumash, 11:30 am. ($) SOLD OUT
• Men's Basketball: UC Santa Cruz, Mott Gym, 7 pm. ($) 

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4
• Meeting: Pacific Rim Group fall quarter meeting, Ethart Agriculture 231, 11 am.
• Open House: El Corral, 11 am.
• Speaker: Felicity Hill (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), will speak on a variety of topics, 1 pm.
• Dateline: Wednesday, December 3

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5
• Music: Cal Poly Choirs"A Christmas Celebration," 8 pm. 

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
• Music: Cal Poly Chamber Orchestra's Fall Concert, Theatre, 3 pm. ($) 
• Women's Basketball: Gonzaga, Mott Gym, 7 pm. ($) 
• Music: Cal Poly Choirs"A Christmas Celebration," Cohan Center, 8:30 pm. ($) 

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
• Autographs and Music: Judy Collins—book, CD signing, El Corral, 3 p.m.; concert, Cohan Center, 8 pm. ($) SOLD OUT.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10
• Commencement: Colleges of Agriculture, Architecture and Environmental Design, and Liberal Arts at 9:30 am; Colleges of Business, Engineering, Science and Mathematics, and candidates for a Master of Arts in Education, 1:30 pm, Rec Center.
Judy Collins to sign books, CDs at El Corral

Singer-songwriter Judy Collins is making a special appearance before her Dec. 9 concert to meet fans and sign copies of her latest compact discs and books from 3 to 4:30 pm at El Corral Bookstore. Collins will perform before a sold-out crowd at 8 pm that night in the Cohan Culture Building.

El Corral will have for sale her two new compact discs, a children’s book, “My Father,” illustrated by award-winning artist Jane Dyer, and a novel “Shameless.” Her CD “Forever” is a comprehensive career anthology highlighting Collins’ most beloved songs, and “Judy Collins: A Christmas at the Biltmore” is described as a “stunning keepsake” of her fifth annual Christmas tour.

Famous for her signature soprano and folk songs, Collins is a trained classical pianist and proficient guitarist who has been performing for 50 years. For more information, call Margaret Gardner at El Corral ext. 6-5328.

El Corral to hold open house Dec. 4

El Corral Bookstore has a new look and is going to show it off at a grand reopening celebration with door prizes, gift certificates from each of the store’s departments, music, and refreshments from 11 am to 1 pm, Thursday, Dec. 4. Provost Paul Zingg, Executive Assistant to the President Daniel Howard-Greene, and Foundation Director Al Amanal will deliver remarks.

KSBY-TV will broadcast the event live from the UU Plaza. During the summer, El Corral was gutted, remodeled, and fitted with new fixtures, flooring and lighting. A new, more efficient checkout system is designed to reduce the wait during “rush” times from 46 minutes to nine.

For more information, call Frank Cawley, bookstore director, at ext. 6-1161.

Solicitation of vacation, sick leave

Employees are being asked to donate sick leave and/or vacation credits for Laurie Quiram, administrative assistant in the Mechanical Engineering Department, who must take several weeks off from work because of a medical disability.

Donations of sick leave or vacation credits will help her to remain in full pay status during her absence. Anyone interested in donating leave may contact solicitation coordinator Dee Dee King in the Mechanical Engineering Department ext. 6-1334 or dking@calpoly.edu for the Catastrophic Donation form.

Eligible state employees may donate up to 16 hours total of sick leave or vacation credits per fiscal year in increments of one hour or more.

Position vacant

Vacancy information and applications for the following positions are available from the appropriate Human Resources office. Vacancy information can also be accessed from the Cal Poly home page on the World Wide Web (address: www.calpoly.edu; click on “General Information”).

Questions and comments should be for the position, not for general information. For more information, call Frank Cawley, bookstore director, at ext. 6-1161.

Pacific Rim Group to meet Dec. 4

The Pacific Rim Group will hold its fall quarter meeting at 11 am Thursday, Dec. 4, in Room 231 in the Erhart Agriculture Building. Discussion will include an update on the group’s move from the College of Liberal Arts to the Global Affairs Office, spring study and internships in Thailand, the summer-study program that brings Higashi Nippon International University students to Cal Poly, and fall ’98 study programs in Japan and Brazil.

For more information, call the Pacific Rim Group office at ext. 6-1161.

CETI

CETI (Cont. from page 1)

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foundation to sell computers in the campus bookstore. Students, faculty, staff, and university units are free to buy at the campus store, or to buy from other vendors. Through pricing and special service contracts, the bookstore tries to make its products the best buy and, thus, to win customers. The bookstore returns its profits to the university. In a similar fashion, the CSU will share in part of the CETI profits.

How do you find out more about CETI?

The Trustees and other CSU officials have repeatedly expressed the desire to have as much information as possible laid out before faculty, staff, and students. They have constructed a Web site that carries a full description of CETI as well as the Integrated Technology Strategy (ITS) and Systemwide Internal Partnership (SIP) background information: www.its.calstate.edu/sip. This and other information can also be found on the Cal Poly Web site: www.calpoly.edu/~its/sip. Questions and comments should be forwarded to Jerry Hanley at jhanley@ polymail.calpoly.edu. Hard copy information is available from Hanley’s office at ext. 6-2966.

Faculty and staff are urged by Hanley to consult these sources, discuss the CETI with colleagues, and as appropriate, give him their conclusions. They are also asked to inform students about the project and where they can find additional information.