U.S. News rates Cal Poly best in its class again

U.S. News and World Report has again rated Cal Poly the best public “regional” university in the Western states.

The magazine’s Sept. 1 “America’s Best Colleges” edition also gives Cal Poly high marks again this year for both academic reputation and the quality of its students.

Among all Western regional colleges and universities, both public and private, Cal Poly is rated third in reputation and student quality and ranked 11th overall. That overall ranking is up two notches from last year.

In “operating efficiently” – providing a high-quality education while spending relatively less – U.S. News ranked Cal Poly fourth in its category.

Academic reputation – the only subjective factor used to calculate the rankings – is based on a survey of presidents, provosts and admissions directors of other universities. It counts for 25 percent of the score used to rank an institution.

Student quality, or “selectivity” as U.S. News terms it, reflects test scores, high school class standing, and the percentages of applicants who are accepted and who actually attend.

In other factors used to rate the more than 100 Western regional universities, Cal Poly’s success rate in keeping and graduating students rose from 24th to 19th, and its rank in terms of the resources devoted to instruction and the faculty rose from 51st to 38th.

Compared to other schools in the category, Cal Poly’s relative position slipped in both total financial resources (53rd to 57th) and the percentage of alumni who give to their alma mater (from 30th to 49th).

Other CSU schools rated among the best public regional institutions in the West are Humboldt State University (No. 3), Fresno State (4th), Sonoma State (tie for 5th), and Cal Poly Pomona and Chico State (tied at 7th).

U.S. News divides America’s approximately 1,400 accredited four-year colleges and universities into 11 groups based on categories used by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Regional universities are those that offer a majority of bachelor’s degrees in occupational and professional fields and some master’s degrees. Research universities such as Stanford and the University of California campuses, which offer doctoral programs, are listed in the “national universities” class.

Bruno appointed associate vice president

Dean Bruno has been appointed associate vice president for university advancement for a two-year term.

He has been serving as interim associate vice president for the past year.

“Under his leadership, the Cal Poly Fund set new records, Advancement Services processed a record 25,000 gifts, and the integrity of the alumni database has been enhanced,” Vice President Bill Boldt said.

In addition to overseeing the Cal Poly Fund and Advancement Services offices, Bruno is responsible for the division’s budget and personnel matters.

Bruno came to Cal Poly from Arizona State University in 1995 as the director of major gifts and was also responsible for the Planned Giving and Endowment offices.

Alum 1st runner-up in national competition

Mike Campos, a 1997 architecture graduate who won three other competitions for his leadership ability, was selected National Outstanding Student Employee of the Year 1st Runner-Up for 1996-97.

After winning the university’s 1996-97 Outstanding Student Employee of the Year award last spring, Campos went on to take top honors at state and Western regional competitions, making him eligible for the national contest.

Campos first worked in the Crafts Center as a pottery instructor and was promoted to assistant manager of the center and then manager. He created,
Carol Burnett to appear Nov. 1

Five-time Emmy-Award-winning actress-comedian Carol Burnett will appear at the Performing Arts Center as a special Cal Poly Arts Center Stage event at 8 pm Saturday, Nov. 1.

The show, “Laughter and Reflection With Carol Burnett — A Conversation With Carol Where the Audience Asks the Questions,” will be in the Cohan Center’s Harman Hall.

Burnett became widely known for her comedic abilities during the 11 years she starred in the television series “The Carol Burnett Show.” The series, which won a total of 25 Emmy awards from 1967 until 1978, was the longest-running musical comedy variety show in television history.

Regarded by many as a living legend in entertainment, Burnett has won more People’s Choice awards than any other woman in the award show’s history.

Tickets to the show are $35 to $55 and go on sale Saturday, Sept. 6.

Canadian Trio to play ‘New French folk music’

Bagpipes and electric bass guitar are just two of the instruments that will create the “new French folk music” of the Ad Vielle Que Pourra trio in a concert at 8 pm Saturday, Sept. 20, in the Theatre.

The French Canadian folk group is known for its masterful playing and its energy, droll wit, and off-beat charm.

The music, written in the historical styles of Brittany, Belgium, the Alps and Paris, is played on traditional as well as contemporary instruments.

“Flemish bagpipes, hurdy-gurdy and accordion provide the driving force of many of the tunes, although there is ample use of guitar, bouzouki, violin, recorder and other folk instruments to round out the sound,” wrote one critic.

Trio member Daniel Thonon plays the hurdy-gurdy and accordion.

Jean Louis Cros plays classical, folk and electric guitar. Alain Leroux plays a “feisty” violin and is known for his dry humor.

Single tickets go on sale Tuesday, Sept. 2, and cost $10 to $15.

Alison Krauss to perform Sept. 19

Grammy winner and champion fiddler Alison Krauss and her band, Union Station, will bring their unique contemporary sound to the Performing Arts Center Friday, Sept. 19.

The group, using traditional acoustic instruments to combine country, pop and bluegrass, opens the Cal Poly Arts 1997-98 season in the Cohan Center’s Harman Hall. The evening will begin at 8 pm with an opening concert by country newcomer Kris Tyler.

A review of the band’s latest recording stated: “Krauss unleashes her angelic soprano, carrying songs along like a breeze through a field of wildflowers. ‘So Long So Wrong’ is a true collaborative effort that showcases her crack-jack band and artfully blends traditional bluegrass with touching ballads.”

Single tickets go on sale Tuesday, Sept. 2. They range from $14 to $28.

Effective teaching course to be offered

So you want to learn to teach more effectively? Details on how you can sign up for the course Maintaining Instructor Effectiveness: Techniques and Strategies for More Effective Teaching will be published in the Cal Poly Report’s first fall-quarter issue — that’s Monday, Sept. 15.

The course will be offered in the fall by Don Maas of the University Center for Teacher Education.

Grand Avenue to close to employees Sept. 13-14

Only students moving into the residence halls will be able to use Grand Avenue on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 13-14.

Other vehicles will need to use California Boulevard or Highland Drive to enter campus those two days.

In addition, some parking lots in the vicinity of the halls will be reserved for residence hall check-in.

For more information, call Public Safety Services at ext. 6-2281.

Fall Conference:

Sept. 17 rooms wrong for Arch, Liberal Arts

Locations for two of the colleges’ orientation sessions with new students on Fall Conference Wednesday are listed incorrectly in the Fall Conference program brochure.

The correct locations for the academic orientations between 10 am and 3 pm on Sept. 17 are:

• Architecture and Environmental Design: Cal Poly Theatre.
• Liberal Arts: Harman Hall of the Performing Arts Center’s Cohan Center.

For more information, call the college concerned.

ITS Fall Conference meeting changes rooms

The location of the 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, Fall Conference meeting of the Information Technology Services division has been moved from the Staff Dining Room to the Sandwich Plant. The location is wrong in the Fall Conference brochure.

Unless stated otherwise, you can buy tickets to the performances listed in today’s Cal Poly Report at the Performing Arts Ticket Office from 10 am to 6 pm weekdays and from 10 am to 4 pm Saturdays. To order by phone, dial 6-ARTS (ext. 6-2787).
Cat Program to hold raffle

The Cal Poly Cat Program will be selling raffle tickets during September. Prizes include 2 handmade hanging quilts 15" high by 13" wide; a basket filled with jams, coffee, cocoa and other breakfast items; and a handmade floral wreath.
The drawing will take place at 1 pm Wednesday, Oct. 1, in Facility Services, Room 100.
Tickets are $1 and can be bought from Elizabeth Ball, ext. 6-2548; Geri Bolivar, ext. 6-2321; Joan Dezember, ext. 6-2326; Sharon Dobson ext. 6-1157; Edie Griffin-Shaw, ext. 6-5220; Heidi Lorge, ext. 6-2459; Rebecca Nadel, ext. 6-6271; Ellen Notermann, ext. 6-1325, and Julie Smith, ext. 6-2600.

Technical Tip of the Day:

For others out there still getting used to Microsoft Word: You might watch your step around Word’s automatic spell-checking mode. We must have clicked “Change” instead of “Ignore” a couple of times when we checked the article above about the Cat Program. We came close to printing the story identifying Geri Bolivar as Geri Believer, Sharon Dobson as Sharon Doublon, Heidi Lorge as Heed Lore, and Rebecca Nadel as Rebecca Navel.
We hate to think what “Auto-Correct” might do to the rest of us.

Proctors needed to administer tests

The Test Office is recruiting proctors to give such tests as the Graduate Record Exam, English Placement Test, and Entry-Level Math Test. Employees interested in becoming proctors are invited to an informational meeting beginning at 9 am Saturday, Sept. 20.
Proctors are required to administer the tests — generally held on weekends — in strict adherence to standardized testing practices, supervise those being tested, and be responsible for test security. Public speaking and oral reading ability are required. Related experience is helpful but not necessary.
Proctors will be paid from $38 to $75 per test administration, depending on program length and complexity.
Individuals who plan to attend the Sept. 20 meeting are asked to call the Assessment and Testing Center at ext. 6-1551. Those who attend will be asked to demonstrate their oral reading ability.
Proctors selected will be required to attend a morning workshop on Saturday, Sept. 27.

Emeritus faculty, staff get free ride, too

Beginning Sept. 2, Cal Poly emeritus faculty and staff members will be able to ride the city bus for free simply by showing their Cal Poly ID. Also beginning Sept. 2, emeriti will be able to buy discount bus passes for CCAT, the countywide bus service.
CCAT buses cover the North and South counties and the coastal areas with routes directly to campus.
Passes are sold at the State Cashier’s office in the Administration Building during regular business hours and at Public Safety Services before and after hours. CCAT passes cost $12 for $36 worth of rides.
For information call Jacque Paulsen, Commuter Services, at ext. 6-6680.

View the latest Speakers list on Web

The latest edition of the Cal Poly Speakers list is on the Web.
The directory lists almost 90 faculty and staff members from all areas of campus who are interested in speaking to groups.
To reach it on the Web, go to Cal Poly’s home page and click first on “What’s New(s), then on “Publications.”
You can get a paper copy from the Communications Office, ext. 6-1511.

Cross-cultural workshop set for Fall Conference

All faculty and staff members are invited to “BaFa BaFa’ – A Cross-Cultural How-To” sponsored by the Staff Council Cultural Awareness Committee as part of Fall Conference week.
The workshop will run from 1 to 4 pm Tuesday, Sept. 16, in Fisher Science, Room 285. It is being presented by Cande Munoz from Cuesta College.
If you plan to attend, please call Hope Perez at ext. 6-7195.

...input needed

We hope to improve communication within the university by giving you another place to voice your concerns. We want to foster dialogue that addresses individual issues and helps explain universitywide policies and procedures. (You might remember we tried a similar “Campus Forum” a couple of years back. We’d like your help in making it work this time.)
Letters received by noon Friday will be published in the next Friday’s Report. Please keep letters brief and submit them typed and double-spaced. Also include your name, department, and a phone number.
Letters may be mailed to “Piece of Mind,” Cal Poly Report, Heron Hall, faxed to ext. 6-6533; or sent via e-mail to polynews@polymail.
We might need to edit letters for clarity and brevity.
— The editors

...Alum 1st runner up

designed and initiated the building of a new student gallery, remodeled the Crafts Center with original cabinet designs, created an efficient inventory management system, increased the center’s income 47 percent, and won Cal Poly’s Open House “best overall booth” design competition in 1996.
Telephone training to continue in September

Staff and faculty members who have not attended a training session for the new telephone and voice mail system should plan to attend one in September.

Eight sessions will be offered every day during Fall Conference week, Monday through Friday, Sept. 15-19. Two concurrent sessions will be held from 8 to 10 am; 10:30 am to 12:30 pm; 1:30 to 3:30 pm; and 3:45 to 5:45.

Twenty spaces are available in each session, and each individual will have a live telephone for training. Sessions are taught in the Math and Home Economics Building, Rooms 225 and 226.

To reserve either an individual spot or make a group reservation, call ext. 6-6452 between 8 am and 5 pm weekdays.

Employees, students win prizes at EAP event

Several employees and students won prizes at the recent summer quarter health and wellness activity sponsored by the Employee Assistance Program.

Representatives from the San Luis Obispo Parks and Recreation Department, Coastal Financial Planning Group, Games People Play, Gulliver's Travel, Woods Humane Society, Barnes & Noble, and the Cal Poly Plant Shop were on hand to help participants learn how to bond with family members through leisure activities.

Refreshments were donated by Vons, Smart & Final, and the Bagel Cafe.

Door prizes included gift certificates, coffee mugs, and baskets, toys, and movie passes from such businesses as Trader Joe's, Gottschalks, Blockbuster Video, Marie Callender's, the Downtown Theatre, Fresh Choice, Firestone Grill, Woodstock's Pizza, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, Central Coast Kayaks, Kona's Deli, Coastal Financial Planning Group, and McIntocks.

The prizes were won by Gayle Chipman, Donna Lister and Joan Kennedy, Library; Regina Brown, Advancement Services, Vin Aceto and DeLores Estrada, Facility Services; Carolyn Jones and Donna Davis, Career Services; Donetta Rosson, Liberal Studies; Joe Long, ASI; Christine Williams and Katina Palamidas, Information Technology Services; Lily Escobar and Theresa Rush, Psychological Services; Scott Cooke, Financial Reports; Gail Wilson, Chemistry; and Chris Carney, Joe Garofalo, Jessica Mintz, and Jessica Balfour, students.

Position vacancies

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: http://www.calpoly.edu; click on "General Information"). AA/EEO

STATE (Adm. 110, ext. 2236 or job line at ext. 1533). Official application forms must be received by 4 pm on the closing date or be postmarked by the closing date. (No faxes.)

CLOSING DATE: September 12
#89033: Instructional Support Technician I, Environmental Horticultural Science (Unit 9)*, $1,296-$1,556.50/mo., temporary, half-time, to 8/31/98 with possibility of extension and increase in time base.

CLOSING DATE: October 1
#87036: Hourly/On-Call Parking Enforcement Officer Pool, Public Safety Services (Unit 7)*, $11.86-$14.03/hr., temporary, intermittent, to 9/30/98 with possibility of renewal. Positions require successful completion of a background check including fingerprinting.

CLOSING DATE: November 30
#87037: Clerical Assistant III, University Center For Teacher Education (Unit 7)*, $2,020-$2,393/mo., temporary to 6/30/98 with possibility of reappointment.

NOTE: For positions marked with an asterisk, qualified on-campus applicants currently in Bargaining Units 2, 5, 7, and 9 will be given first consideration.

ASI (University Union 212, ext. 1281)

CLOSING DATE: August 29

Building Service Worker, $10.10-$13.11/hour.

FACULTY (Adm. 312, ext. 2844)

Candidates interested in faculty positions are asked to contact the appropriate department office at the phone number listed for more information and an application. Please submit all application materials to the department head/chair unless otherwise specified. Rank and salary are commensurate with qualifications and experience, and timebase where applicable, unless otherwise stated.

CLOSING DATE: January 2
#83015: Assistant/Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering (805/756-1334). Tenure-track position starting fall quarter 1998. Duties include teaching basic and advanced courses in mechanical engineering design while pursuing an appropriate program of professional development. Qualifications: Recent industrial experience in mechanical design. Specialty in controls or composite materials. Ph.D. in mechanical engineering required. Apply with cover letter and resume to: Search Committee, Mechanical Engineering Department.

CLOSING DATE: December 1
#83017: Tenure-Track Position (Asst. Professor), History Department (805/756-2670). Position in American intellectual and cultural history, 19th or 20th Century, with emphasis in historiography, beginning September 1998. Candidates must have Ph.D., college teaching experience and publications. Duties also include teaching sections of required general education courses in United States history. Apply to Robert Burton, History Department.

FOUNDATION (Foundation Adm. Building, job line at ext. 7107).

All foundation applications must be received (not just postmarked) by 5 pm of the closing date. (No faxes)

CLOSING DATE: September 5
Research Associate, Dairy Products Technology Center, $2,306-$2,998/ mo., hiring range up to $2,500/mo.

**Readvertisement**
Accountant/Internal Auditor, Foundation Business Office, $2,606-$3,388/mo.

**Readvertisement**