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Two Cal Poly Faculty Members to Receive the University’s Annual Distinguished Scholarship Award

Cal Poly has named a professor of aerospace engineering and a professor of business to receive the university’s Distinguished Scholarship Award for 2010-11, the eighth year for the award program.

Aerospace Engineering Professor Jordi Puig-Suari and Business Professor Michael Geringer were recognized for raising Cal Poly’s international profile, creating unique opportunities for students at Cal Poly which makes them paragons of the Cal Poly Teacher-Scholar paradigm.

They will be honored at spring commencement ceremonies, Saturday, June 11 and will be recognized during the university’s Fall Conference General Session on Tuesday, September 13.

Puig-Suari was honored for his work on the CubeSat Program which was established in 1999 by Cal Poly and Stanford University. Through this program Puig-Suari has opened the exploration of space to dozens of universities, institutions and students throughout the world. More than 100 organizations participate in the CubeSat Program. CubeSats have proven to be so successful that NASA has awarded Cal Poly a five-year contract to provide P-POD services of its own CubeSat Program.

Puig-Suari was recipient of the TRW Excellence in Teaching Award in 2001, received the CENG Lockheed Martin Endowed Professorship in 2001-02, and received the 2004 CENG Northrop Grumman Excellence in Teaching and Research Award. Puig-Suari is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, American Society of Engineering Education, and Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers.

Puig-Suari has been teaching at Cal Poly since 1998 and served as department chair 2004-2008. He earned a bachelor’s degree in 1988 and master’s degree in 1990 in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from Purdue University, and a doctorate degree in the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 1993 from Purdue University.

Geringer embodies the Cal Poly Teacher-Scholar model for the twenty-first century. He has published numerous peer-reviewed articles on international business, garnering awards such as the Decade Award from the Journal of International Business Studies in 1999. Geringer also co-authored International Business, a standard textbook on the topic whose reach is demonstrated by its longevity (now in its 13th edition).

Geringer is a recipient of Cal Poly’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 2000. He has collaborated with students on publications,
authored articles on instructional tools, and produced numerous case studies in international business. Geringer has served as a teacher, consultant, and scholar in Finland, Australia, China, South Africa, Poland, Korea, Indonesia, Hungary and Canada.

Geringer has been teaching at Cal Poly since 1992. He earned a bachelor's degree in business at Indiana University in 1980, a MBA in 1983, and a doctorate in strategy and international business in 1986 from the University of Washington.

The Distinguished Scholarship Award was established in 2003 to recognize faculty achievements in research, creative work and other professional development activities. The award supports research and other creative endeavors and encourages the professional growth of Cal Poly faculty members.

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