

## Report (Spring 2009)

### Academic Senate Grants Review Committee

Ken Griggs, Chair

The grants review committee activities are primarily confined to the Winter term and consist of a review of grant applications for the State Faculty Support Grant program and the selection of Student Research Competition presentations. This year, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Student Research Competition was held at CSU Los Angeles on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The only activity relevant to the work of the committee that occurred during the Spring term was a report of the results of the competition as described below in a message to President Baker. CalPoly was well represented in the competition and two students won first place in their respective competitions.

## Memorandum

**To:** Warren J. Baker  
President

**Date:** May 14, 2009

**File No.:**

**From:** Susan C. Opava, Dean  
Research and Graduate Programs

**Copies:** Robert Koob, Provost;  
College Deans, Department  
Chairs, Student Advisers,  
Student Competitors

**Subject:** 23rd Annual CSU Student Research Competition

On May 1 and 2, I accompanied a contingent of twelve Cal Poly students to the 23rd Annual CSU Student Research Competition at CSU Los Angeles, where they were among approximately 180 students presenting the results of their research and creative efforts. All of our students represented Cal Poly with distinction. To their credit, two received awards for their work:

- Gregg M. Erickson, an MBA student, took first place in the Business, Economics & Public Administration category for his research work, "A Comparative Study of Large-Scale Consumer Electronics-Centered Online Forums." (Faculty adviser: Kevin Lertwachara, Management)
- Mario L. Garcia, a Master's student in Mechanical Engineering, took first place in the Graduate Engineering & Computer Science category for his research on development of a "Robotic Fingerspelling Hand." (Faculty adviser: Saeed Niku, Mechanical Engineering)

Other participants included:

Student name(s)	Department	Adviser	Category
Joseph Campanale	Biological Sciences	Nikki Adams	Graduate Biological & Agricultural Sciences

Xiomara E. Elias-Argote	Dairy Science	Rafael Jimenez-Flores	Graduate Physical & Mathematical Sciences
Alison V. Goodsell and Laura C. Sparks	Physics	Thomas Gutierrez	Undergraduate Physical & Mathematical Sciences
Darin Grandfield and Tedman Tong	Materials Engineering	Trevor Harding	Graduate Engineering & Computer Science
Adam Gruner	Biological Sciences	Charles Knight	Undergraduate Biological & Agricultural Sciences
Jonathan Henzel	Biological Sciences	Ken Hillers	Graduate Biological & Agricultural Sciences
Katie Miyashiro	Materials Engineering	Trevor Harding	Graduate Engineering & Computer Science
Stephane Roussel	Mechanical Engineering	Charles Birdsong	Graduate Engineering & Computer Science

The accomplishments of these students attest to the excellence of our undergraduate and graduate programs and the commitment and quality of our faculty. All of the students who competed deserve our praise and appreciation of their efforts. We especially commend Gregg Erickson and Mario Garcia for their winning presentations.