Cal Poly Float Wins Extraordinary Award at 2023 Rose Parade

Cal Poly universities’ “Road to Reclamation” float, which depicts a small scene on a forest floor featuring animated snails and colorful mushrooms, and blows it up to gigantic proportions, received the Extraordinaire Award at the 134th Rose Parade® on Jan. 2. The honor recognizes the parade’s most extraordinary float, including those 55 feet in length and greater, said Annie Doody, the Cal Poly team president. It’s the second time the schools have been lauded for creating the parade’s most extraordinary float; the first was 2019’s outer space entry, “Far Out Frequencies.” “I am so proud of everyone on this team and all the hard work they put into making this happen,” Doody said. The entry exemplifies the parade’s 2023 theme of “Turning the Corner” — celebrating the unlimited potential that each new year brings. It was one of only six self-built entries in this year’s extravaganza. Read more at https://www.calpoly.edu/news.

Cal Poly Awarded $475,000 Grant for Inclusive Teaching in STEM Fields

Cal Poly received a $475,000 grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) toward advancing diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, goals over the next six years among educators who teach STEM — science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It joins 103 other U.S. colleges and universities to be awarded funding as part of an initiative designed to encourage a more-inclusive learning environment for underrepresented STEM students. Camille O’Bryant, the university’s HHMI IE3 program director, said faculty will also work to develop new DEI-related instructional guidance, mentoring and evaluation, among other support mechanisms. Read more at https://calpolynews.calpoly.edu.

Professor Patrick Lin Appointed to U.S. National Space Council Users Advisory Group

In a White House announcement Dec. 16, Vice President Kamala Harris, chair of the National Space Council, appointed philosophy Professor Patrick Lin to the council’s Users Advisory Group. “I’m honored to be the first ethicist on the U.S. National Space Council’s Users Advisory Group,” said Lin, director of the Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group at Cal Poly. “What I hope to bring to this important group is a new perspective, guided by my ethics experience in outer space affairs, artificial intelligence, robotics, cybersecurity, bioengineering, security and defense systems, and other relevant technology domains.” Read more at https://www.calpoly.edu/news.

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**Employment**

**Employment Opportunities**

For all available job openings, visit jobs.calpoly.edu. All new positions opened this week are listed below. To apply, go online and complete the application form. For assistance, call Human Resources at ext. 6-2236.

**#521447 — Administrative Assistant — Civil and Environmental Engineering (Administrative Support Assistant II, 10/12)** — Academic Affairs-Provost — Civil and Environmental Engineering. $33,384-$49,128 per year. Anticipated hiring range: $33,384-$40,128 per year. Open until filled.

**#521992 — Sustainable Transportation Coordinator (Administrative Support Coordinator II)** — Administration and Finance — Transportation and Parking Services. $44,172-$72,408 per year. Anticipated hiring range: $46,224-$60,348 per year. Open until filled.

**#523045 — Early Assessment Program Coordinator (Student Services Professional II)** — Academic Affairs-Provost — Office of Writing and Learning. $51,648-$73,440 per year. Anticipated hiring range: $55,320-$60,420 per year. Open until filled.

**#523442 — Faculty Program and Recruitment Coordinator (Administrative Support Coordinator II)** — University Personnel — Academic Personnel. $44,172-$72,408 per year. Anticipated hiring range: $46,224-$60,348 per year. Open until filled.

**ASI Employment Opportunities**

Hiring, developing and empowering quality staff is what drives the ASI organization. Join ASI’s dynamic team that supports not only the students of Cal Poly, but the entire university and greater San Luis Obispo communities. Only new job listings are posted below.

**Director — Recreational Sports Programs and Services**, $115,386.66–$184,618.66 annually.

**Director — University Union Programs and Services**, $115,386.66–$184,618.66 annually.

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Cal Poly Report
Jan. 11, 2023
Cal Poly Police Releases Annual Report of Regulated Equipment

The Cal Poly Police Department (CPPD) is committed to transparency through communication and engagement with members of the campus community. In July 2022, the CSU board of trustees approved the systemwide Regulated Tools and Equipment policy, which requires that every law enforcement agency in the state publish certain information annually regarding specified equipment. CPPD will host two community engagement events to discuss information contained within the report. These events are set for 5 p.m. Jan. 20 and 25 in the Public Safety Building (No. 36), Room 105 (Public Safety Training Room). The community engagement event is open to all students, faculty and staff. Read the report at https://afd.calpoly.edu/police/campus-reports.

Retirements

Bruno Giberti retired on Dec. 31. Giberti led the Office of Academic Programs and Planning and oversaw the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology (CTLT), the Office of Writing and Learning Initiatives, the Service Learning Program, and the University Honors Program. As accreditation liaison officer, he managed the university’s accreditation and served as primary point of contact with Western Association of Schools and Colleges. He has played a crucial role in strategic planning for the university and Academic Affairs, and in the two most recent WSCUC self-studies and institutional reports, each of which resulted in reaffirmations of accreditation for 10 years. Giberti’s leadership skills, focus on institutional improvement, and attention to student success were transformative in these efforts. Giberti came to Cal Poly’s Architecture Department in 1994 and also previously served as director of CTLT, associate head of the Architecture Department, and chair of the Academic Senate. These experiences provided Giberti with the broad perspective and institutional knowledge necessary to lead so effectively and to build networks of collaboration and support in service to the campus. Giberti is a proud Cal Poly alumnus; after graduating with a B.S. in architecture, he earned his M.A. and doctorate in architecture from UC Berkeley. In retirement Giberti plans to continue his current research project into the architecture of post-Napoleonic French Protestant churches. A retirement reception, open to the campus community, will be held from 3-5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, in the Rossi Grand Lobby of the PAC. Share a message at https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/UVZV1HyD.

Dale Kohler, ITS client services manager, retired on Dec. 31 after 23 years of service. Kohler is a Cal Poly graduate (GRC, ’88) and returned to work for ITS after working for 10 years in private industry as an IT manager. Initially hired in 1999 as part of a team of technicians addressing the Y2K crisis, he became known as the face of the Faculty Workstation Program (FWP). Kohler later assumed a position as director of Library Information Technology with the Kennedy Library, where he led many innovative efforts that transformed the library into a student-inspired space with technology as the bedrock. He returned to ITS in 2016 to focus on customer advocacy and support, which has been a passion throughout his career. In his time at Cal Poly, he has enjoyed mentoring others and building relationships across campus in every facet of his work. In retirement, Kohler looks forward to spending more time with family and friends and deeply enjoying everything life on the Central Coast has to offer.

In Memoriam

George Gowgani, a Cal Poly alumnus who later taught crop science and served as a department head and associate dean in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences before becoming a CSU trustee, died Dec. 13. Born in Tabriz, Iran, Gowgani immigrated to the U.S. in 1958. He earned his bachelor’s degree in crop science and master’s degree in education at Cal Poly and then attended the University of Nevada, earning a master’s degree in agronomy and a doctorate in biological sciences. He returned to Cal Poly in 1967, subsequently serving as head of the Crop Science Department and associate dean for the college. In 1994, then-President Warren J. Baker appointed Gowgani as Goodwill Ambassador for Higher Education, CSU. Gowgani served on the CSU board of trustees from 2004-11 and was named Honored Alumnus for the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences in 2006. “George’s contributions to the department and the college set a strong path for student success that continues today,” CAFES Dean Andrew Thulin said. “Both in the classroom and as a mentor to faculty, his dedication to Cal Poly and higher education was boundless.” Plant Sciences Department Head Scott Steinmaus fondly remembers Gowgani stopping by his office to share a pile of notes and slides for his Weed Science class. “George introduced me to a different way of teaching, more practical and something that college students could actually understand. He was a great perspective builder for me; and my students are very thankful.” A memorial will be held for Gowgani on Feb. 18. RSVP at https://www.gowganifamily.com.