Cal Poly Names Adriana Popescu Dean of Library Services

Adriana Popescu, who has served as interim dean of library services since 2016, has been appointed dean of library services effective June 1, Provost Kathleen Enz Finken announced. Popescu, who joined Kennedy Library in 2015 as the associate dean for academic services, will be responsible for the direction, development, implementation and evaluation of all aspects of library services and programs to meet the scholarly and intellectual needs of the university community. She has filled this role in an interim capacity for nearly two years, overseeing an annual budget of more than $7 million and about 50 faculty and staff members. “I am honored by this appointment and delighted to continue working with the campus community on upholding the library’s place at the heart of holistic learning at Cal Poly,” Popescu said. “I look forward to working alongside the talented library faculty and staff to further Kennedy Library’s role in bringing diverse people and disciplines together and enabling collaboration, innovation and the creation of new knowledge.” During her time on campus, Popescu has led Kennedy Library in visioning and programming for an upcoming, expansive project to renovate the building; led an effort to reenvision the library’s role, its programs and services; and has worked to establish the library as a partner in student success by fostering student development as researchers, authors, communicators and producers of knowledge.

Cal Poly Corporation Board of Directors to Meet June 1

The board of directors of the Cal Poly Corporation will hold a regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 1, in the Corporation Administration Building (No. 15), Conference Room 124, on campus. This is a public meeting. For more information or to obtain a copy of the meeting agenda, contact Ann Roy at ext. 6-1131.

Poly Body + Being Workshops To Be Held in May and June

Celebrate Cal Poly Wellness Month with Poly Body + Being fitness and wellness workshops at the Recreation Center. Embark on your wellness journey with these upcoming classes:

- Every Thursday through May 31, 5 to 6:30 p.m.: Women and Weights.
- Tuesday, May 22, noon to 1 p.m.: Poolside Meditation.
- Wednesday, May 23, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.: Listen to Your Gut. Open to the campus community.
- Thursday, May 24, 6 to 9 p.m.: Dance the Night Away.
- Saturday, June 2, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.: Practice of Balance.

All workshops located in the Training Room are complimentary for the campus community, including non-members. Workshops that are not held in the Training Room will be available to the campus community with a purchase of a day pass. All workshops are complimentary for Rec Center members. No registration is required. View the complete list of offerings at https://access.asi.calpoly.edu/. For more information, contact Recreation Center Wellness Graduate Assistant Danielle Jones at djones43@calpoly.edu.

Catastrophic Leave

Dejana Lubura, administrative support coordinator I in College of Liberal Arts — Social Sciences, has qualified for catastrophic leave. Those wishing to donate leave credits to help her remain in full-pay status during an extended leave of absence should contact catastrophic leave coordinator Joy Sisler at ext. 6-5755 or jsisler@calpoly.edu to request a donation form.
Retirements
The campus community is invited to join the College of Liberal Arts and the Provost’s Office from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 5, in the Performing Arts Center lobby to wish College of Liberal Arts Dean Douglas Epperson a fond farewell.
All are invited to celebrate his August retirement with wine, beer and hors d’oeuvres. “Under Dean Epperson’s leadership, the College of Liberal Arts has achieved a new level of excellence,” said Kathleen Enz Finken, Cal Poly’s provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. Epperson has been the dean of Cal Poly’s College of Liberal Arts since 2012. Prior to that appointment, he served as dean at Washington State University and associate dean at Iowa State University, where he was an administrator and professor in the Psychology Department for more than 25 years. “This was an enormously difficult decision to make, because I have greatly enjoyed my time at Cal Poly,” Epperson said. “I have never worked with a better or more collaborative and effective group. My only regret is that I was not able to spend more of my career with such a fine college at such an excellent university.” Epperson has been a strong proponent for interdisciplinary collaboration at Cal Poly. He helped to introduce four new minors that combine the studies of science, technology and society. He also formed a standing inclusivity and diversity committee for both students and faculty, and he hired the first associate dean for diversity and curriculum in CLA. Outside of higher education, Epperson was chair of the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs and was a fellow for the American Psychological Association, Society of Counseling Psychology. Questions? Call Lynne Ricard at ext. 6-2706.

Jordi Puig-Sauri, professor in the Aerospace Engineering Department, will retire July 1 after 19 years of service. Puig-Sauri joined the department in 1998 as an associate professor. He was awarded tenure and promotion to full professor in 2002. He served as chair from 2004-08. When he started with Cal Poly, the department had very little in the way of spacecraft-specific education for students. Puig-Sauri developed a design track specifically for spacecraft and was instrumental in the creation of a concentration in aeronautics within the aerospace major. Puig-Sauri’s contributions to the aerospace community as a whole have been monumental. He is the co-inventor of the CubeSat standard, which led to the launch of the first CubeSat in 2003. Through his efforts, the Cal Poly CubeSat lab has developed and launched 12 CubeSats with seven more in development. Cal Poly has also launched 153 CubeSats on 24 missions from all around the world. His contributions to the university and to student success have been immeasurable. He was the principal investigator on more than 100 projects and grants totaling over $20 million. He will be sorely missed as he moves into retirement and sails around the world.

David Harris, M.D., executive director of Campus Health and Wellbeing, will retire June 1 after 14 years of service to the campus. Prior to coming to Cal Poly, Dr. Harris served the community as emergency physician and president and CEO of Arroyo Grande Medical Group. He joined Cal Poly as a staff physician in December 2004, was promoted to medical director four years later, and assumed the role of executive director in 2013. He was honored as an Outstanding Staff Employee of the year in 2012. He has been a true inspiration to the Campus Health and Wellbeing staff, and his contributions are integral to the department’s success and growth. He will be deeply missed. To celebrate his well-deserved retirement, the department is hosting a farewell party at 5 p.m. Friday, June 1, on the lawn in front of the Health Center. Join us to thank Dr. Harris and wish him the best.

Mark Goble, Information Technology Consultant in Campus Health and Wellbeing, will retire on May 23 after 10 years of service. Goble’s contributions have greatly enhanced student success behind the scenes throughout these years. He has dedicated his Cal Poly career to become the resident expert in the Health Center technology applications. He also spearheaded the implementation of a computerized radiology system and supported the technology and reporting of the impactful Graduate Status Report in Career Services. He will be greatly missed by all who had the honor to get to know him.

Jo Ernest, personnel analyst for the College of Engineering, will retire July 2 after nearly 30 years of service. Ernest began her career at Cal Poly in 1988 with the Cal Poly Foundation in the Grants Development office. Since then she has worked in the Cooperative Education Program; Career Services; Architecture Department; the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences; and Academic Personnel. While in Academic Personnel, she was asked to help with a reorganization, and began working in the Employment Equity and Faculty Recruitment Office, where she was responsible for faculty visas, faculty recruitment, and budget for the three areas under the umbrella of Academic Personnel. She finally found her true campus home when she began working in the College of Engineering Dean’s Office in 2006 as the personnel analyst. Ernest received the CENG Outstanding Staff award in 2010. She is looking forward to spending more time with her family, traveling and pursuing her hobby of photography. There will be a reception to celebrate Ernest from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, from 3-5 p.m. in the courtyard of the Engineering Building (No. 13).