Students Use Graphic Communication Skills to Promote COVID-19 Safety Measures

As the coronavirus pandemic progressed during the spring quarter, Facilities Operations Executive Director Jude Fledderman started thinking about posting signs on campus to help people safely navigate Cal Poly in the age of COVID-19. Meanwhile, University Graphic Systems, the Graphic Communication Department’s student-run printing and design operation, was brainstorming how to keep their business running during the pandemic. “I knew Facilities was looking to get these signs printed quickly and we have the equipment and capacity to produce them,” said Colleen Twomey, chair of the Graphic Communication Department. “It was serendipitous.” Since July, the students who primarily operate UGS have been making the signs, which show people how to get around campus buildings while maintaining social distance, among other things. The student managers on the UGS team, who were mostly trained on their duties via Zoom during the spring quarter, knew this year would be different. But the sign project hammered home the new normal of adapting a business to serve customers in pandemic conditions. Read more at https://www.calpoly.edu/news.

Applications Accepted Oct. 1-21 for Early Exit Program

As a mitigation strategy to offset the university’s budget deficit and to potentially minimize future cuts, Cal Poly is implementing an Early Exit Program (EEP) and accepting applications from Oct. 1-21. Employees must separate on or before Dec. 30, 2020. The EEP provides the opportunity for employees who are CalPERS-retirement eligible with five years of service at Cal Poly to voluntarily resign and collect a severance package from the university. Employees may, but are not required to, retire upon separation. Human Resources will host a virtual Zoom information session followed by Q&A from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7. To participate, go to https://calpoly.zoom.us/j/91608310072. More information about the EEP is available at https://afd.calpoly.edu/hr/employee-resources/early-exit/. This is a one-time, non-precedent setting program.

Open Enrollment Open Through Oct. 16

Open Enrollment, employees' annual opportunity to review and update their current benefits for the upcoming year, is now open through Oct. 16. Employees can enroll, change or cancel CalPERS health, dental, vision, FlexCash, Dependent Care Reimbursement (DCRA), Health Care Reimbursement (HCRA) or voluntary benefits plans. You must enroll or re-enroll in HCRA and DCRA during open enrollment to participate in 2021. The effective date for all changes made during the Open Enrollment period is Jan. 1, 2021. Note: For plan year 2021, United Health Care HMO will only contract with CCPN and will no longer be contracted with Physician’s Choice medical network. Blue Shield Trio HMO is a new low-cost plan that will be contracted with Physician’s Choice. Visit https://afd.calpoly.edu/hr/benefits/open-enrollment for 2021 rates, plan information and more. Alternatively, visit the Human Resources Virtual Front Desk at https://calpoly.zoom.us/j/96985302171, or call HR Employee Support Services at ext. 6-2236 to chat with a HR representative.

CalPERS To Host Virtual Workshops on Retirement

California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) will virtually present two sessions of its Planning Your Retirement workshop to help employees within one to five years of retirement learn how to plan for retirement and the process of retiring. The workshop will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, and Friday Oct. 9. Visit https://afd.calpoly.edu/hr/benefits/docs/calpers-regISTRATION-flyer.pdf for more information on how to enroll. Click here for detailed information on how to enroll. Questions? Visit the Human Resources Virtual Front Desk at https://calpoly.zoom.us/j/96985302171, or call HR Employee Support Services at ext. 6-2236 to chat with a HR representative.
Eight Cal Poly Development Officers Earn Blackbaud Prime Officer Award
In 2017 Blackbaud, a University Development and Alumni Engagement fundraising partner, introduced its Prime Officer award. This annual award recognizes the top gift officers in the Blackbaud Fundraiser Performance Management Community and is a result of analysis of the fiscal year 2020 activities of over 2,506 gift officers. Prime Officers outperform their peers in both visits (top quartile) and number of proposals submitted at or above $25,000 (top 2 quartiles). Eight Cal Poly college and unit-based development officers have achieved fiscal year 2020 Prime Officer status and are among the top 13% of all Blackbaud Fundraiser Performance Management gift officers based on the above metrics. Congratulations to:
— Allyson Dela Cruz, director of development, CAFES.
— Elise Erb, associate director of development, CENG.
— Russ Kabaker, assistant dean of advancement and external relations, CAFES.
— Cory Karpin, director of development, Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
— Timothy Northrop, senior director of development, CAFES.
— Ashley Offerman, senior associate athletic director for development, Cal Poly Athletics.
— Jessica Otten, senior director of development, CAED.
— Jenna Tognazzini, associate athletic director for development, Cal Poly Athletics.

The Cost of a Revolution: An Evening with Patrisse Cullors and the Family of George Floyd
ASI Events and the Black Academic Excellence Center present “The Cost of a Revolution: An Evening with Patrisse Cullors and the Family of George Floyd." Join the virtual event at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, for a keynote speech from Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors and a moderated discussion with Angela Harrelson and Selwyn Jones, George Floyd’s aunt and uncle. Participants are invited to submit questions at http://bit.ly/TheCostofAREvolutionQuestions for Patrisse Cullors, Angela Harrelson, and Selwyn Jones prior to the event. Participants must be current students, faculty or staff members with a valid @calpoly.edu email address to join the Zoom webinar at calpoly.zoom.us/j/98030684929. Anyone with questions or needing more information can visit https://www.asi.calpoly.edu/events/the-cost-of-a-revolution/ or contact ASI Programs Coordinator Missi Allison-Bullock at mbullock@calpoly.edu.

Cal Poly Preschool Learning Lab Reopens
The Psychology and Child Development Department’s Preschool Learning Lab — which is open to the entire campus community — has reopened and is accepting applications for children ages 3-5 years old to attend 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Children of faculty and staff receive priority. The program focuses on inquiry-based learning experiences that encourage each child’s natural interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The lab offers a low teacher-child ratio, while providing a high-quality preschool atmosphere that supports the developmental needs of the whole child in a warm, nurturing, play-based environment. For more information, visit https://preschoollearninglab.calpoly.edu/ or contact Director Patty Clarkson at preschoollabadmin@calpoly.edu.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month: Healing from the Inside Out
Join Safer in learning and healing together. For Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month this year, Safer is highlighting the "triple pandemic" of domestic violence, institutional racism and COVID-19. Safer will offer education on these intersections, reflection prompts, a webinar on trauma-informed virtual environments, and opportunities to get involved through pledges and community art engagement. Follow the outreach campaign all month on Instagram at @calpolysafer.

Certified Kosher Food Available at Grand Ave Market
Campus Dining is increasing certified kosher food offerings throughout the university, starting at Grand Ave Market and soon expanding to Campus and Village markets. Dining management and chefs worked closely with local Rabbi Chaim Hilel of Chabad of SLO, who provided guidance during the planning process. Rabbi Hilel regularly works with many Jewish students on campus. Additional work included a focus group that was also held last year with a cohort of Jewish students to better understand their needs and desires for kosher food on campus. Initial offerings that are currently available at Grand Ave Market include sandwiches, salads, wraps and side dishes. The glatt kosher meals are provided by Emuna. Campus Dining is pleased to offer a wide variety of kosher foods and meet the needs of the student population.