

College of Liberal Arts

BRIEF

A look back at winter 2019



New Dean of the Cal Poly College of Liberal Arts, Philip J. Williams, Ph.D.

CAL POLY NAMES PHILIP WILLIAMS AS DEAN OF COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Philip J. Williams, Ph.D., professor of political science and director of the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida, has been named as the new dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Williams succeeds Interim Dean Kathryn Rummell, longtime chair of the English Department, who has led the college since August after the retirement of Dean Doug Epperson. Williams earned his master's degree in Latin American Studies and doctorate in politics from the University of Oxford. He is a native of California and received his bachelor's degree in political science from UCLA.



Jay Bettergarcia

JAY BETTERGARCIA RECEIVES \$500,000 COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT GRANT

Jay Bettergarcia received a \$500,000 grant from the County of San Luis Obispo Mental Health Services Act to support the SLO ACCEPTance Project, an LGBTQ+ mental health training program in San Luis Obispo County. The SLO ACCEPTance Project aims to provide academically-informed, in-depth LGBTQ mental health training for mental health professionals. Through innovative and comprehensive LGBTQ provider training, SLO ACCEPTance Project will create a team of approximately 50 Mental Health Professionals, including both Master- and Doctoral-level therapists. The goal is to develop a diverse team of peers with lived experience and MHP from various agencies (including schools, private practice, etc.) and from various geographic areas across the county, particularly areas that are most underserved.

The College of Liberal Arts



Kyle Branch (left) and fellow team members

ART AND DESIGN SENIOR PLACES SECOND IN WALT DISNEY IMAGINATIONS DESIGN COMPETITION

Art and design senior Kyle Branch's team placed second in Walt Disney Imagineering's 28th Imaginations Design Competition. The design competition invites students to showcase their ideas for themed Disney attractions. This year's competition prompted teams to create an experience exploring a natural or ancient wonder of the world. Branch's team designed an experiential resort called Port Pharos, which was based on the historical lighthouse of Alexandria in Egypt.



Ryan Vannucci

LIBERAL ARTS AND ENGINEERING STUDIES SENIOR RYAN VANNUCCI WINS TWO AVA DIGITAL AWARDS

The California Cybersecurity Institute was honored in the AVA Digital Awards for their informative videos made by liberal arts and engineering studies senior Ryan Vannucci. The Cybersecurity Institute is a private-public partnership that collaborates with many departments within the state of California to inform the public on cybersecurity and technology use. Vannucci earned a Gold Award for his video on Oblong Technology for Student Use and a second award for producing a video of the annual High School State Cybersecurity Championship hosted by the CCI. AVA Digital Awards is an international competition that recognizes excellence by creative professionals responsible for the planning, concept, direction, design and production of digital communication.

TWO CLA FACULTY RECEIVE TERRANCE HARRIS EXCELLENCE IN MENTORSHIP AWARD

The Journalism Department's Kirk Sturm and Marta Block, a lecturer in the Psychology and Child Development Department, each received the Terrance Harris Excellence in Mentorship Award. The Excellence in Mentorship award recognizes Cal Poly staff, faculty and friends that have made an impact on a current Poly Rep.

*dashboard
at a glance*

WINTER 2019



5
FACULTY AWARDS
& GRANTS

6
STUDENT
AWARDS



The student team designed packaging for a healthy snack subscription box called "Harvest."

GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS PLACE SECOND IN NATIONAL PACKAGING COMPETITION

A team of Cal Poly graphic design and industrial technology and packaging students placed second in the national Paperboard Packaging Council's (PPC) Annual Carton Competition. This year's theme asked students to create a subscription box design relating to food, fitness or cosmetics. Cal Poly's team, consisting of Amanda Truong, Mitchel Salles, Audrey Gerughty and Andrew Fulton, created a design for a healthy snack subscription box called "Harvest." The team had the opportunity to travel to Chicago, Illinois and Atlanta, Georgia in October for conferences and award ceremonies with the Poly Packaging Club.



CLA STUDENT TO REPRESENT CAL POLY AT CSU RESEARCH COMPETITION

Anthropology and geography student Torrey Sanseverino will represent Cal Poly at the 33rd Annual CSU Research Competition April 26-27 at CSU Fullerton. Only ten students from each CSU campus are selected to compete. The competition is held to promote excellence in undergraduate and graduate scholarly research and creative activity by recognizing outstanding student accomplishments throughout the 23 campuses of the California State University system.



Elizabeth Lowham (left) and Anika Leithner (right)

TWO POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY PART OF TEAM TO RECEIVE HEWLETT GRANT

Elizabeth Lowham and Anika Leithner are part of the Cal Poly team that secured a \$150,000 grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. The grant will allow a Cal Poly team to work with public and private entities to research and suggest policy options on cybersecurity while providing technical assistance to address a major cyberthreat. The gift was awarded based on a proposal that called for an interdisciplinary team that includes the CCI, the Cal Poly Digital Transformation Hub Powered by AWS (DxHub), the College of Engineering, and the Political Science Department.

15
FACULTY
PUBLICATIONS



89,722
CREDIT UNITS TAUGHT



\$1,020,952
PHILANTHROPIC
DOLLARS RAISED YTD

The College of Liberal Arts



Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, Ph.D.

CLA SPEAKS: #BLACKLIVES MATTER TO BLACK LIBERATION

For this year's CLA Speaks, widely-sought public speaker and writer Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, Ph.D., visited Cal Poly on Feb. 21 for a talk and Q&A about black politics, social movements, and racial inequality in the United States. Her most recent book "From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation," is a stirring and insightful analysis of the historical and contemporary ravages of racism and the persistence of structural inequalities such as mass incarceration and black unemployment. In this context, she argues that the new struggle against police violence holds the potential to reignite a broader push for black liberation. Faculty and staff participated in a winter 2019 book circle leading up to the event, and a book signing followed Taylor's talk.



INCLUSION STARTS WITH ME TEACH IN

The third Inclusion Starts with Me Teach In was held Thursday, Feb. 21, in collaboration with the College of Liberal Arts, the Office of University Diversity & Inclusion (OUDI), and Academic Affairs. The successful events boasted over 1,900 attendees, double the total in 2018. Students from almost every major on campus (64/66) participated in at least one Teach In workshop or lecture. In addition, participants included faculty from a variety of departments, and staff from the CCC, CTLT, Housing, Dean of Students, Financial Aid, Advising, Advancement, CP Scholars, Safer, ITS, Career Center, OUDI, CLA Dean's Office, COSAM Dean's Office, Academic Personnel, and the Library.



Miranda Daschian

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENT EARNS BIG WEST CONFERENCE ACCOLADES

Psychology major Miranda Daschian was selected as Cal Poly's overall 2019 Big West Scholar-Athlete of the Year, becoming one of 18 combined individuals from the conference's 2,500 student-athletes selected to be honored at the annual March banquet in Anaheim. Daschian also won the 2018 Big West individual cross country championship, earning the medalist plaque with a victorious 6-kilometer performance of 21 minutes, 23.1 seconds in Brea.



SIX CLA STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT STATE CAPITOL

Nineteen Cal Poly students, including six from the CLA, were recognized at the California state capitol in Sacramento for their awards and accomplishments. The six CLA students are Lauren Arendt, a journalism senior, who was part of the Mustang Media Group that received 15 national Pinnacle Awards at the 2018 College Media Business and Advertising Managers Annual Awards Ceremony; art and design major Kyle Branch, a member of a four-person, multi-university team earned second place in Walt Disney Imagineering's 2019 Imaginations Design Competition; Cody Capella, an art and design major, and a teammate tied for first at the 2018 National Collegiate Honors Council Publications Board Newsletter Contest; Jasmin Fashami, a political science major whose team won the 2018 California Secretary of State Ballot Bowl Competition that challenged college campuses across the Golden State to engage their students in the democratic process and register them to vote; Connor McCarthy, a journalism senior, was part of the Mustang Media Group that earned 11 awards at the College Media Association's 2017-18 Pinnacle Awards; and Brian Truong, a journalism junior well-versed in multimedia reporting, who earned an honorable mention at the 2017-18 Associated College Press Pacemaker Awards held last October in Louisville, Kentucky.

CAL POLY
Graphic Communication

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT REACHES ENDOWMENT FUNDRAISING GOAL

The Graphic Communication Department achieved its \$200,000 fundraising goal for the Quad/Graphics Eric Steinbach Memorial Graphic Communication Endowment thanks to a \$100,000 matching grant from Quad/Graphics. The matching contribution was presented by Quad/Graphics Chairman, President and CEO Joel Quadracci during Cal Poly's annual International Graphic Communication Week celebration held Jan. 23 at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo. The initial \$100,000 raised for the endowment came from family and friends of Eric Steinbach; Quad employees; Cal Poly alumni, faculty and staff; and corporations and investment funds. Proceeds from the Quad/Graphics Eric Steinbach Memorial Graphic Communication Endowment will be used for student scholarships and for graphic communication program development.

The College of Liberal Arts



POLY GIVES, CAL POLY'S DAY OF GIVING

The third annual Poly Gives Day, Cal Poly's day of giving, raised \$192,505 in just 30 hours. Poly Gives ran from March 6 at 6 p.m. to March 7 at 11:59 p.m. Of the 1,212 total gifts, 97 were to funds within the College of Liberal Arts (CLA). CLA finished Poly Gives in the No. 4 spot on the number of gifts leader board, behind Student Organizations, the College of Engineering and the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences. The amount raised for CLA was \$20,282.



MUSTANG MEDIA GROUP WINS 46 AWARDS

Mustang Media Group (MMG), the Cal Poly Journalism Department's student-run media organization, received national recognition from three of college media's most distinguished organizations — California College Media Association (CCMA), Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) and College Media Business and Advertising Managers (CMBAM). Every platform of MMG earned awards on behalf of the organization, and several students were recognized for their personal accomplishments. Cal Poly students returned from a joint CCMA/ACP/CMBAM national conference, Feb. 28 - March 3, at the Hyatt Regency, in La Jolla, CA, with 46 awards across multiple categories, including Best Website and Best Print Weekly Newspaper.



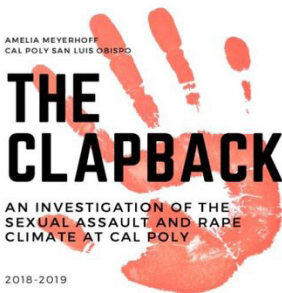
Dawn Neil

DAWN NEIL PART OF TEAM TO RECEIVE FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT

The Social Sciences Department's Dawn Neil and Aydin Nazmi in Food Science and Nutrition were awarded a CSU Basic Needs Small-Scale Faculty Research Grant to investigate campus programs related to student food insecurity.

CLA STUDENT COLLABORATING ON A COOKBOOK

Graphic communications major Carly Lamera is helping food science student Jimmy Wong create a cookbook, "Dench: Recipes and Stories from the College Pop-Up" after Wong's viral success running a restaurant out of his studio apartment.



Amelia Meyerhoff talked about her senior project research, "The Clapback" at the Change the Status Quo conference.

ENGLISH SENIOR SPEAKS ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT AT CHANGE THE STATUS QUO CONFERENCE

English senior Amelia Meyerhoff spoke at the Change the Status Quo conference about her research, experience and advocacy regarding sexual assault, including her senior project, "The Clapback," which will be published this spring.

POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT RECEIVES GRANT TO FUND COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

Johanna Cogen received a grant from the Baker and Koob Endowment to fund her senior project which examines the role of community gardens at homeless shelters. Cogen is starting a community garden at 40 Prado, the new homeless shelter in San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY JOURNALISM MAJOR SELECTED FOR NEW YORK TIMES STUDENT JOURNALISM INSTITUTE

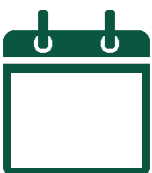
Journalism major Isabella Paoletto was selected to participate in the New York Times Student Journalism Institute May 18-June 2 in New York City. The Institute is offered once a year for students who are members of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists or the National Association of Black Journalists or students at a historically black college or university. During the Institute Paoletto will work alongside reporters at The New York Times to cover stories in New York City. All costs for Paoletto to attend the Institute are covered by The New York Times, including room and board, travel and transportation.

The College of Liberal Arts



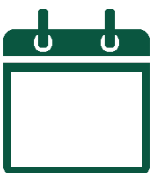
CLA Career Series

For a complete list of spring 2019 CLA Career Series events, visit cla.calpoly.edu/career-series



Music Performances

For a complete list of upcoming Music Department Ensemble performances, visit music.calpoly.edu/calendar



Theatre and Dance Performances

For a complete list of upcoming Theatre and Dance Department performances, visit theatredance.calpoly.edu/productions



Cal Poly Arts

For a complete list of upcoming Cal Poly Arts events, visit calpolyarts.org



University Art Gallery

For a complete list of upcoming art gallery exhibitions, visit artgallery.calpoly.edu



More Upcoming Events

For a complete list of upcoming CLA events, visit cla.calpoly.edu/events