

## College of Liberal Arts

# BRIEF

*A look back at winter 2017*



Barbara Kingsley-Wilson presented the California Journalism and Media Affiliates' 2017 Journalism Educator of the Year (4-Year Division) award to Paul Bittick during the California College Media Association Awards Banquet on March 4 in San Francisco. Photo by Joe Wirt/CNPA Services Inc.

### PAUL BITTICK RECOGNIZED AS JOURNALISM EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The California Journalism and Media Affiliates named Paul Bittick, Cal Poly's Mustang Media Group general manager, as the 2017 Journalism Educator of the Year in the 4-Year University Division. The award recognizes leadership and support that goes beyond the journalism program and has an impact across campus, community and local or regional associations. Only one educator from all California campus media associations earns this prestigious honor each year. "This award for Paul is most noteworthy because: (1) there's only one given out each year in the whole state and (2) the recipient is selected by their peers," said Mary Glick, Journalism Department Chair and previous Educator of the Year award recipient. Barbara Kingsley-Wilson, the 2016 honoree, presented Bittick with the award at the California College Media Association Awards Banquet on March 4 in San Francisco.



CSU Research Competition delegates from CLA from left to right: Katelyn Tomasello, Emily Matthews and Sayaka Tsugai

### THREE CLA STUDENTS TO REPRESENT CAL POLY AT CSU RESEARCH COMPETITION

Three students from the College of Liberal Arts will represent Cal Poly at the 31st Annual CSU Research Competition on April 28-29. Only ten students from each CSU campus are selected to compete in the competition. 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. The three CLA students are Katelyn Tomasello (Music and Psychology, '16); and fourth-year political science students Sayaka Tsugai and Emily Matthews. All three delegates' projects are related to their areas of study. Finalists will make oral presentations before a panel of judges from major corporations, foundations, public agencies, and colleges and universities. Cash prizes will be awarded for the most outstanding presentations.

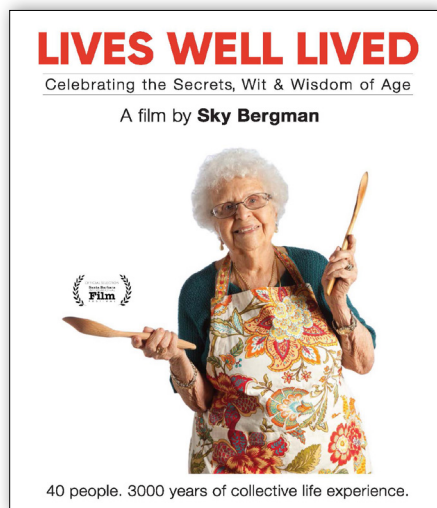
# The College of Liberal Arts



Student award-winners — top row, left to right: Zack Spanier, Hannah Avdalovic, Olivia Proffit and Celina Oseguera; bottom row, left to right: Naba Ahmed, Gurpreet Bhoot and Cara Jean Benson. Photo by Matthew Lalanne.

## MUSTANG MEDIA GROUP WINS MORE THAN 20 AWARDS AT NATIONAL COLLEGE MEDIA CONVENTION

Mustang Media Group, the Cal Poly Journalism Department's student-run news organization, earned 22 awards — including nine first-place awards — from the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) and the California College Media Association (CCMA) at the Midwinter National College Media Convention March 2-5 in San Francisco. First-place winners included Ayrton Ostly for Best Sports Story, Brendan Matsuyama for Best Infographic, Ellen Fabini for Best Online Advertisement and for Best Color Advertisement, Erica Patstone for Best Advertising Campaign, Jordan Triplett for Best Black & White Advertisement, and Maggie Hitchings and Nikki Petkopolous for Best Online Campaign. Mustang Media Group also took home three first-place awards for Best Advertising Special Section, Best Overall Newspaper Design and Best Use of Social Media. Other awards given to Mustang Media Group included Erica Patstone for third place in Best Sales Promotion, Cara Benson for second place in Best News Video, Peter Gonzalez for third place in Best Podcast, Brendan Abrams for third place in Best Headline Portfolio, Matt Lalanne for Best Sports Photo, and Will Peischel for third place in Best Feature Story. Mustang News staff was also awarded second place for Best Multimedia presentation, an honorable mention for Best Photo Series and third place for Best Newspaper Website. In the ACP Best of Show competition, Mustang News placed first for Best Multimedia Package, second for Best Newspaper Four-year Weekly and fifth for Best Website (Large School).



## BERGMAN'S FILM FINDS SUCCESS AT SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Professor of Photography and Video, Sky Bergman's film "Lives Well Lived" was screened at the 32nd Santa Barbara International Film Festival in February. Her documentary celebrates the wit, wisdom, and experiences of 40 people aged 75 to more than 100 years old. The film was mentioned in the Washington Times, The Santa Barbara Independent, Noozhawk.com and on KEYT News. KEYT's Oscar Flores said, "If there's one film you really need to watch at this year's SBIFF, this is it! Trust me when I say, you will leave that theater inspired." The film was so popular, the festival added a third screening.

*dashboard  
at a glance*

WINTER 2017



6  
FACULTY AWARDS  
& GRANTS

33  
STUDENT  
AWARDS





TAGA winning team members from left to right: Peter Schlosser (Advisor), Alan Nguyen, Mayra Mejia, Jacqueline Luis, Amanda Ornelas, Molly McCarthy and Jasper Lim. Photo courtesy of TAGA.

## CAL POLY TEAM WINS GRAND PRIZE AT ANNUAL GRAPHIC ARTS CONFERENCE

A team of students from Cal Poly's Graphic Communication Department won the Grand Prize Award, the Kipphan Cup, for the first time in a decade at the Technical Association of Graphic Arts (TAGA) Annual Technical Conference held March 19-22 in Houston. The winning Cal Poly TAGA team was led by team president Mayra Mejia, vice president and treasurer Jacqui Luis, production team coordinator Amanda Ornelas, design team coordinator Jasper Lim, digital team coordinator Alan Nguyen, marketing team coordinator Molly McCarthy and team advisor Peter Schlosser. "The quality of these student publications is truly impressive," said Schlosser, an assistant professor in the Graphic Communication Department. "It's clear that students from all teams put a considerable amount of time and energy into their work, and we are thrilled and proud that Cal Poly was recognized with the Kipphan Cup." In order to compete, each student chapter submits a high-quality journal to showcase its technical papers. While some teams had to outsource portions, Cal Poly students completed 100 percent of their journal in-house. "Our team burst into tears of joy and amazement when our names were called to come up on stage," Mejia said.



Leah Horner

## JOURNALISM ALUMNA WINS NPPF YODER AWARD

Recent alumna Leah Horner (Journalism, '17) was awarded the 2017 Gordon Yoder Award for video photojournalists presented by the National Press Photographers Foundation (NPPF). Funded by television news pioneer and former NPPF board member G. Gordon Yoder, the award includes a \$1,000 grant to attend the NPPF News Video Workshop in Oklahoma. The week-long workshop builds fundamental skills needed to tell strong, clear and compelling video news stories.

## CAL POLY DEBATE TEAM IS SEMI-FINALIST AT 10TH ANNUAL PAN-PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIP

The Cal Poly Debate Team placed as finalists at the Steeltown Invitational Jan. 28-29 hosted by Los Medanos College, earning a bid to compete at the 10th Annual Pan-Pacific Championships Feb. 24-26 in Hawai'i. Cal Poly placed as semi-finalists after competing against teams from Asia, Polynesia, Canada and the United States.

10  
FACULTY  
PUBLICATIONS



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# The College of Liberal Arts



Bill and Cheryl Swanson

## DONATION HELPS UPGRADE STUDENT-RUN TELEVISION STUDIO TO HIGH DEFINITION

Thanks to a \$100,000 donation to the Journalism Department from Bill and Cheryl Swanson, Cal Poly's student-run television studio was outfitted with the latest cameras, switchers and other equipment, allowing the students to broadcast in high definition. The total cost of the renovations is \$125,000. The new, remodeled state-of-the-art facility was ready for students to use April 3.

"We chose to make this donation because we believe in Learn by Doing, and Cal Poly students deserve the best," said Bill Swanson, chairman of Cal Poly's Foundation Board and retired chairman and chief executive officer (CEO) of Raytheon Company.

Bill Swanson learned of the need for an upgraded studio at last year's Evening of Green and Gold, Cal Poly's donor recognition event. When he stopped by the Mustang News booth, graduating journalism senior Leah Horner explained the potential benefits for students. Bill Swanson invited Horner to make a presentation at the upcoming Foundation Board meeting. After the presentation, Bill and Cheryl Swanson offered to fund the studio upgrade.

"This is monumental for so many students," Horner said. "High Definition is industry standard. When we shoot in standard [definition], we are decades behind the industry. But now with HD, we'll be learning on exactly the same equipment any TV station across the country is working with." A formal dedication of the new facility, named the Bill and Cheryl Swanson Broadcast Studio, will take place Friday, May 5.



Upgraded television studio taken by the Journalism Department's new Matterport Pro 3D Camera.

## CAL POLY MOCK TRIAL TEAM EARNS BID TO COMPETE AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Cal Poly's mock trial team earned a bid to compete at the National Championship Tournament (NCT) in Los Angeles April 21-23. This is the first time Cal Poly has earned a spot in the prestigious national tournament since Mock Trial started at Cal Poly in 2006. Cal Poly's A Team finished in the top six teams in their Opening Round Championship Series (ORCS) in Fresno in March. Team members are Deeksha Kohli, Chloe Loomer, Zackery Michaelson, Jesse Quiroz, Rod Rahimi and Garrett Rutherford. Elizabeth Lowham, chair of the Political Science Department, said "I could not be prouder of our team and their awesome work!" The NCT is the final round of the American Mock Trial Association's annual national tournament structure. Only 48 teams advanced to compete in the NCT.



Cal Poly Mock Trial A Team members from left to right: Garrett Rutherford, Jesse Quiroz, Rod Rahimi, Deeksha Kohli, Zackery Michaelson and Chloe Loomer. Photo by Mock Trial Coach Justin Cooley.





*Jennifer Teramoto Pedrotti, CLA Associate Dean for Diversity and Curriculum*

### **JENNIFER TERAMOTO PEDROTTI NAMED CLA ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DIVERSITY AND CURRICULUM**

Jennifer Teramoto Pedrotti is now the Associate Dean for Diversity and Curriculum, a newly created position within the College of Liberal Arts. The CLA sees diversity as central to its mission and is committed to fostering an inclusive environment within the college and university. In this new role, Pedrotti oversees CLA's efforts to create an environment that is socially just, equitable, respectful and inclusive. A few of her responsibilities include curriculum planning, creating diversity resources for faculty, and overseeing a student diversity committee and a faculty diversity committee. Pedrotti is also a professor in the Psychology and Child Development Department.



*Cal Poly students visited state lawmakers in Sacramento.*

### **CAL POLY STUDENTS HONORED BY LAWMAKERS AT STATE CAPITOL**

Twenty Cal Poly students, including three from the College of Liberal Arts, were recognized for their awards and other accomplishments by state lawmakers on the floors of the state Assembly and Senate in Sacramento on Monday, Feb. 13. "I am so pleased to share with our state leaders the can-do Learn by Doing ethos that this group of dedicated and talented students exemplify," said university President Jeffrey D. Armstrong, who accompanied the students to both legislative chambers. "These fine young men and women from all six of our colleges will be future leaders in their respective fields." The students from the College of Liberal Arts are journalism majors Naba Ahmed and Cameron Bones and graphic communication major Lindsay Mitchell.



*Thomas Davies in rehearsal.*

### **THOMAS DAVIES TO CONDUCT FINAL CONCERT AT CAL POLY JUNE 11**

After 34 years as director of choral and vocal studies, Thomas Davies, "Dr. Tom," will conduct his final concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 11, in Harman Hall of the Performing Arts Center. The concert will include important milestones in Davies' tenure. Participants in the program will include current students, alumni and faculty. Included on the program will be the 2017 PolyPhonics Tour Choir, the Cal Poly Early Music Ensemble and the Cal Poly Combined Choirs.

# The College of Liberal Arts



*Ethics Bowl team members left to right: Ruby Allen, Richard Shea, Zackary Dakawich, Derek Diemer and Ryan McGuire*

## PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT SENDS TEAM TO NATIONAL COMPETITION

For the first time in the program's history, the Philosophy Department sent a team of five students to the national championship to compete in the intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, a philosophy competition for colleges and universities with the best analytical and argumentative teams in the country. The Ethics Bowl was held Feb. 26 in Dallas, Texas. The team members are fourth-year Richard Shea, third-year Derek Diemer, third-year Ruby Allen, fourth-year Zackary Dakawich and third-year Ryan McGuire. The two coaches for the Cal Poly team are philosophy professors David Zoller and Ryan Jenkins. The team earned their trip to Dallas after finishing in second place at the regional philosophy competition at Chico State on Dec. 3. The Cal Poly team defeated Indiana University in the first round, tied Lynchburg College in the second round, but ultimately lost in the third round to Youngstown State University. "The team that beat us in the third round was in the finals both this year and last year, so we were up against the best of the best and we held our own," said Diemer.

## WORLD LANGUAGE CREDENTIAL OFFERED BEGINNING FALL 2017

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures announced the new World Language Credential (single subject). This credential allows graduates to teach one or more world languages at the K-12 level in California public schools. This is an excellent opportunity for seniors and recent graduates from any major with competency in one or more languages to explore education as a career pathway. Contact Silvia Marijua at [smarijua@calpoly.edu](mailto:smarijua@calpoly.edu) if you or a student you know would like to participate in the program starting fall 2017.

## CAL POLY HISTORY PROFESSORS AND MASTERS STUDENT AWARDED FELLOWSHIPS

Sarah Bridger, an associate professor in history, received a 2017 American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) fellowship and a fellowship at the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library for her research, *Science in the Seventies: Battling for the Soul of a Profession, from the Vietnam War to Star Wars*. Associate Professor Kathleen Murphy won a research fellowship at the Huntington Library for summer 2017 for her book project, *Slaving Science: Natural Knowledge and the British Slave Trade, 1660-1807*. History M.A. student Crystal Smith was awarded the Eugene Cota-Robles fellowship at UC Santa Cruz.



*Sarah Bridger*



*Kathleen Murphy*





*Unite Cal Poly logo designed by Graphic Communications student Sheila Ahi*

### **HUNDREDS ATTEND UNITE CAL POLY EVENT**

More than one thousand Cal Poly students, faculty and staff attended Unite Cal Poly, the university's inaugural Celebration of Inclusivity and Diversity on Jan. 31. Unite Cal Poly featured critically-acclaimed socio-political comedian W. Kamau Bell and alternative-soul musician Allen Stone. Graphic communication student Sheila Ahi was the artist behind the event graphics. "For the logo, I wanted to incorporate a circle to represent unity, which the event was all about, and by using warmer Cal Poly colors in the display, it was not only eye-catching, but welcoming." Unite Cal Poly was the keynote event of "Inclusion Starts with Me" week, Jan. 26 – Feb. 2. "The campaign, #InclusionStartsWithMe, began in the fall as a reminder to all in the campus community that they have to do their part to make sure they are aware of others, that they are accepting and embracing of differences and that they strive to reach out to each other," said Denise Isom, Ethnic Studies Department chair and then interim associate director of the Office of University Diversity and Inclusivity.



*Mustang Band at 2017 Chinese New Year Parade*

### **MUSTANG BAND AWARDED FIRST PLACE IN CHINESE NEW YEAR PARADE FOR FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW**

The Cal Poly Mustang Band participated for the fourth consecutive year in the Southwest Airlines Chinese New Year Parade on Saturday, Feb. 11, in San Francisco. Once again, the group placed first in the Adult Marching Band category. The group performed for 1.5 million attendees along the parade route and was featured at the start of the KTSU live broadcast. Prior to the parade, the band joined the UC Davis Band in a public concert at the Ferry Building on the Embarcadero.

### **MUSIC ALUMNA WINS FIRST PLACE IN GERDA LISSNER FOUNDATION COMPETITION**

Mezzo soprano Corrie Stallings (Music, '09) won a first-place prize and \$10,000 in the Gerda Lissner Foundation International Vocal Competition. The foundation, in Association with the Liederkrantz Foundation, holds an Annual International Vocal Competition in New York City. It is open to men and women 21 to 35 years old, regardless of nationality. As part of her award, Stallings will be singing in Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall on April 30. The Gerda Lissner Foundation was created by Mrs. Lissner, a Metropolitan Opera subscriber for 77 years, to provide young opera singers with the financial support they need to pursue their craft and excel in the world of opera.

## Upcoming Events



### CLA SPEAKS: WHAT IS VIRTUAL LIFE?

Jeff Pruchnic will discuss the cultural implications of the vast expansion over the last few decades of “virtual worlds,” computer-generated environments that simulate elements of the natural world for work and leisure. The talk will be from 10-11:30 a.m. Monday, May 1, in the Business Building (No. 3), Room 112.



### ‘TEACH ON’ SERIES

Due to overwhelmingly positive response from the winter Teach-In, the Office of University Diversity and Inclusivity announced the first ever “Teach On!” series, every Thursday through June 1 from 11 a.m. to noon in Erhart Agriculture (Bldg. 10), Room 222. Several CLA faculty are presenters.



### ‘STUPID F\*\*KING BIRD’

The Theatre and Dance Department will present Aaron Posner’s “Stupid F\*\*king Bird” at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, May 11-13 and 18-20, in the Spanos Theatre. In this modern adaptation of Chekhov’s “The Seagull,” an aspiring young director yearns to break free from the shadow of his actress mother, while his young muse pines for the love of a renowned novelist. “Stupid F\*\*king Bird” pits old versus young and then versus now, in search of a life of happiness amongst a world of disappointment.



### MUSIC ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

For a complete list of spring Music Department Ensemble performances, visit [www.music.calpoly.edu/calendar/](http://www.music.calpoly.edu/calendar/)



### ART GALLERY: 2017 JURIED STUDENT EXHIBITION

The University Art Gallery will present a vetted showcase of work created in the Art and Design Department through Friday, May 19. Jurors for the exhibit are Emma Saperstein, gallery coordinator at the Harold J. Miossi Gallery at Cuesta College, and Hillary Amborn, founder and creative director of the graphic design firm Seachange Studio in San Luis Obispo. The University Art Gallery, located on the ground floor of the Dexter Building (No. 34), is free and open to the public from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



### CAL POLY ARTS EVENTS

For a complete list of spring Cal Poly Arts events, visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org)

*Please visit [cla.calpoly.edu/events](http://cla.calpoly.edu/events) for more CLA events.*