Clubs and Organizations
Mission and Goals

MISSION
The Dean of Students Office, Clubs & Organizations contributes to the Learn by Doing model, as well as student development and retention by providing opportunities for involvement, leadership, and empowerment through a wide variety of clubs and organizations. These experiences nurture campus pride and student success to advance an inclusive and diverse community.

GOALS

• Provide training for recognized student organization leaders and advisors.

• Provide resources for organization leaders to oversee the leadership and management of their organizations.

• Provide oversight for the development of advising organizations of the potential risks involved in their activities and taking proactive steps to minimize accidental injury and loss.

• Create a safe and fun environment for club sports athletes to compete at a multitude of skill levels and represent Cal Poly at competitions across the nation.

• Review and revise club policies and practices to ensure alignment with CSU Executive Orders and Cal Poly policies.
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Welcome

This is a year to celebrate accomplishments! Here are a few. The clubs and organizations team and marketing student assistants built a new, consolidated Clubs & Organizations website that possesses an easy-to-navigate, abundant resource for club leaders and seekers alike. We also revised several club practices and policies to align with CSU and Cal Poly guidelines. A brand new in-person club training equipped club leaders, addressing vital questions like how do I build an officer team and what are some common leadership mistakes?

This was also a record-breaking year; Cal Poly recognized more student organizations than ever, with 402 chartered organizations. This level of participation is a testament to the desire of the Cal Poly student body to create new co-curricular opportunities to grow and connect with one another.
**Training**

CSU Executive Orders require campuses provide orientation for advisors and officers. During the academic year 2017-2018, 402 student organizations completed the online training requirement to become Recognized Student Organizations; specifically, 351 RSOs and 51 Independent Student Organizations (ISOs).

As a result of the training, participants were able to demonstrate an understanding of guidelines such as Cal Poly’s Campus Administrative Policies concerning discrimination, alcohol use/abuse, and courses of action after a survivor has reported a sexual assault. Officers and advisors also demonstrated a knowledge of club operation procedures such as purchasing reimbursements, ASI funding applications, and the E-Plan process (software necessary for schedule a club event).

A new event this year, Club Charter Celebration, took place on October 18, 2017. This in-person training provided officers with information on how to build a leadership team, collaborate with other clubs and run a meeting. Although the training event was not required, 174 students attended. During the last component of the presentation, a panel of the prior year’s student leaders answered both prepared questions and questions from the audience.
Website & Communications

Prior to and during the summer of 2017, the website information for clubs and organizations was in disarray. Some information was posted on the ASI website, while other club information could be found on two separate Dean of Students web pages. Each of the three web presences competed with one another in Google search ranks. There was also scant resources on how to run a club, contact information, and hours of operation. Pages were difficult to navigate.

The new site, clubs.calpoly.edu, was completed in early fall 2017. It provided resources for three audiences in one place: those looking for a club, those who needed resources to run a club, and those who wanted to start a new club. It also brought together information under the stewardship of the Dean of Students Office and information relating to ASI Club Services under one domain. Other consultations to make this a robust website included working with Risk Management, ASI Event Management, Facilities, and Downtown SLO.

In addition, the Dean of Students Office secured the rights to the email address, clubs@calpoly.edu, which has already become a heavily used resource.
New Student Organizations

During the 2017-2018 academic year, the amount of petitions for recognition of new clubs has soared to numbers never seen before at Cal Poly. The amount of requests have gone from a handful per year (perhaps 3-5) to 30 for this academic year.

It is fair to speculate that a larger resident population on campus and higher enrollment numbers would pave the way for a student population to express a desire for greater variety in the kinds of pursuits available to students. Regardless of the reason, the number of the newly chartered clubs demonstrates the desire of Cal Poly students to get involved.
NEW CLUBS

- Advanced Structures Design and Manufacturing Lab
- Adventure Club
- Advertising & Marketing Team, Cal Poly
- American Sign Language
- Association of Christians in Architecture, Cal Poly
- Capstone Cultural Ambassadors
- Cardistry and Magic
- Design for America
- Ecstatic Dance and Mindfullness Club
- Environmental Outreach and Education
- eSports
- Foam Action Sports Club
- Hippies for Hope
- Human-Animal Bond
- Lambda Pi Eta
- NORML
- Phi Alpha Theta
- Planned Parenthood Generation Action
- Poly Friends
- PolyPaints!
- Powerlifting
- Russian Students Association
- Spoon University
- Students for Environmental Action
- Students Loving Interesting Media & Entertainment
- Swipe Out Hunger
- Turning Point USA at Cal Poly
- Voyagers Dragonboat
- Wrestling
- Yu-Gi-Oh

NEW CLUB SPORTS

The Club Sports Council voted to invite three additional clubs to join the council, bringing the total number of teams to 29 with over 1,400 student athletes in the Club Sports program. Those clubs are:

- Bowling
- Golf
- Swimming
Club Events

The 2017-2018 academic year also saw a profound number of event requests.

RSOs can request a reservation for an event, either on or off campus, by filling out an E-Plan. Requests that are approved by a club advisor and president are processed in Cal Poly’s scheduling system, 25Live. From July 1, 2017, to June 29, 2018, the following amount of RSO requests were processed in 25Live:

- **5,848** EVENT REQUESTS
- **13,769** RECURRING EVENT REQUESTS

Many events had to be evaluated for risk. From July 1, 2017, to June 29, 2018, 1,551 instances had to be evaluated for risk by the Assistant Director, Clubs and Organizations or by the Coordinator, Club Sports for club events or club sports events, respectively. Many requests necessitated a personal meeting with the student organizer(s) and Dean of Students staff to determine the scope of the event and to assess risk. Other requests necessitated that additional campus partners be involved, such as Risk Management, Facilities, Environmental Health & Safety, UPD, etc. In this case, a Dean of Students staff member scheduled a group meeting to discuss the event.
EVENTS OF NOTE

There were countless club events which had far reaching impacts on the campus and the community. Here are a few highlights.

**TEDx San Luis Obispo, October, 28, 2017**

The club, TEDx San Luis Obispo inspired 1,200 community members in the Performing Arts Center to be catalysts for change. With a variety of dynamic speakers, including Todd Huston, Sarah Crowell, and Mayor Heidi Harmon, it was an event worthy of TED’s reputation for delivering compelling presentations.

**Veritas Forum, January 23-24, 2018**

The annual Veritas Forum brings together 1,200 students and faculty to discuss life’s biggest questions. Topics this year included, “What Does it Mean to be Human?” and, “Are Human Beings Special?”

**Chi O Casino Philanthropy Event, February 10, 2018**

This charity fund raiser event welcomed over 900 participants and raised over $40,000 for Make-a-Wish. Unfortunately, although no alcohol was served at the event, a small number of guests appeared to be intoxicated and one was taken to the hospital. To take steps to ensure that this remains a safe and sober event, student leaders from Chi Omega Fraternity, the Assistant Director, Club Sports and ASI Event Management met to create an action plan for next year which would include a security service to deter unsafe and disruptive behavior.
Poly Royal Truck & Tractor Pull, April 14, 2018

This mainstay of Cal Poly tradition required additional insurance due to changes in liability requirements. The Assistant Director, Club Sports set up a meeting with Tractor Pull and Risk Management to find a solution.

Design Village, April 20-21, 2018

True to Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing motto, over 500 competitors, designed, built, and inhabited shelters overnight in Poly Canyon. The Design Village Conference experienced greater freedom in parking and use of Cal Poly resources by moving the conference date one weekend later, to the weekend after Open House.

College Republicans Club Event, April 26, 2018

The Cal Poly College Republicans and Turning Point, USA partnered to host an event with three panelists talking about fake news: Austen Fletcher, Carl Benjamin, and Milo Yiannopoulos. Because of the anticipated controversy of the event, campus partners such as the Dean of Students Office, the Vice President for Student Affairs, Risk Management, UPD, and Facilities took steps to maintain a safe and secure event. Very few individuals arrived to protest the event.

Student project from annual Design Village
Clubs and organizations play a huge role in collaborating with New Student and Transition Program events WOW and Open House.

RSOs participated in the WOW 2017 Campus Showcase on Sunday, September 17.

Organizations partnered with New Student & Transition Programs to provide programming events during WOW.

Clubs signed up to participate in Campus Showcase on Saturday, April 13 for Open House (74 of those organizations chose to demonstrate and did not attend).
Club Sports Programs & Events

Club Sports offers programming which allows student athletes to grow and contribute both on and off the field.

The Polython Competition is a year-long competition among all Club Sports designed to encourage student athletes to excel. Points were awarded to teams in four areas: academic success, athletic achievement, community service, and campus outreach.

New this year, the Small Business Practices Conference equipped student-athletes with skills necessary for club sports leadership over three days in October, February, and May. Sessions focused on leadership, fundraising, and marketing and promotion; training was facilitated by representatives from the Center for Leadership, University Advancement, and Orfalea College of Business, respectively. 48 students attended.
CLUB SPORTS FUNDRAISER EVENTS

The second annual Battle for the Golden Wrench Dodgeball Tournament was a fundraising event open to the campus community. 16 teams participated, raising $1,200 for the Club Sports program.

The Magic of Elliott Hunter showcased a night of illusion and slight of hand by Cal Poly student and Club Sports member, Elliott Hunter. This paid admission event welcomed 215 adults and children and raised $2,021 for Club Sports programming.

CLUB SPORTS TOURNAMENTS HOSTED AT CAL POLY

Cal Poly hosted several home competitions and tournaments including:

The NIRSA Region VI Men’s and Women’s Soccer Championships, October 27-29, 2017 20 teams from across the West Coast competed with 12 men’s teams and 8 women’s teams.

Cal Poly Men’s Lacrosse vs. Grand Canyon University in Spanos Stadium, February 24, 2018 Club Sports partnered with Athletics and Student Affairs Development to host this event with nearly 1,000 spectators.

MLK Day Women’s Volleyball Tournament, January 13-14, 2018 Teams from 12 different universities converged at Cal Poly for this competition.

Western Women’s Lacrosse League (WWLL) Regional Tournament, April 13-15, 2018 8 teams competed on campus for the qualifying tournament for Nationals.

Men’s and Women’s Ultimate Frisbee Regional Tournament, April 27-29, 2018 32 teams competed at Cal Poly for the regional championship.
Staff Development

- NIRSA Regional Conference, San Diego: attended by Phil Ruskin
- Principles of Supervision Workshops presented by Cal Poly Human Resources: attended by Chip Neuenschwander
- Collaboration Management Training, presented by Collaboration Business Consulting: attended by Chip Neuenschwander & Phil Ruskin
- Elements of Mediation Training, presented by Wilshire Creative Mediation, San Luis Obispo: attended by Chip Neuenschwander & Phil Ruskin
- Advanced Mediation Training, presented by Wilshire Creative Mediation, San Luis Obispo: attended by Chip Neuenschwander

Chip Neuenschwander presented trainings for the Cal Poly community on the following topics:

- “Boundaries: Setting Limits without Guilt” This presentation on setting boundaries was delivered during the Student Affairs Winter Recharge 2018
- “Be Our Guest” This well-received presentation on how to serve our community and respond to concerns was delivered to UPD staff Health Center staff and PULSE student volunteers
- “Present Like a Pro” An engaging presentation on the essentials of presenting with clarity and energy for PULSE student volunteers
**Student Assistants**

Clubs and Organizations employed:

3 part time student assistants assisting with clubs and organizations correspondence and publication needs.

3 part time student assistants assisting club sports: Marketing Coordinator, Travel Coordinator, and Scheduling Assistant.

30 Event Staff (E-Staff) students to provide event supervision and support at home games for club sports. E-Staff may sign up for available shifts as they are available. Shifts average 5-10 hours per weekend competition.
**Fiscal Information**

From July 1, 2017, to June 29, 2018, student organizations have submitted 4,734 Club Payment Request Forms (PRFs). This is the method by which club members are reimbursed for club expenses. Each PRF must be signed by a club officer and advisor and is processed and verified by ASI Club Services. Each PRF must be reviewed and signed by the Assistant Director, Clubs & Organizations.

Additional information such as ASI Funding distributions for Clubs and Club Sports can be found in the ASI Annual Report.
**Changes in Policies & Procedures**

- Campus Administrative Policy (CAP) 620 is under review and will be routed to appropriate authorities with a predicted release of Fall 2018.
- In July 2018, Cal Poly will no longer designate student organizations as Independent Student Organizations (ISOs).
- All organizations chartering for 2018-2019 will be required to submit their bylaws.
- All organizations renewing their charter for 2018-2019 will be required to submit a roster or a roster exception request form.
- All organizations, which are affiliated with an organization with 501 (c)(3) status that requires them to bank off campus, must contact their affiliate organization for an IRS 990 tax form and submit with their charter.
- Presidents, treasurers, and advisors of all organizations must take the online training in order to charter.
- Presidents, treasurers, and advisors must be listed on and sign their charter.
- All RSOs notify Cal Poly of off-campus events by submitting an E-Plan. Social Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) organizations will provide information about off-campus events to Fraternity and Sorority Life staff.
Awards

**CLUB EVENT OF THE YEAR**

**Dance Marathon**

In two years, this event has raised over $100,000 for the local Children’s Miracle Network Hospital.

**Club Sport of the Year**

**Sailing**

Sailing has grown from a small recreational group into a large competitive team with the Women’s Team ranking 4th in the west coast region, men’s team 4th, and co-ed team 5th.

**CLUB SPORTS ATHLETE OF THE YEAR (F, W, S)**

**Colin Empey (Fall)**

Colin was instrumental in helping the Men’s Club Soccer team achieve a bid to the National Tournament to finish second in the country.

**Kevin Jervis (Winter)**

Kevin has won every single triathlon race he has competed in this year and supports his team by serving as race director.

**Julia Sargent (Spring)**

Julia is the captain and president of the Women’s Lacrosse team, has garnered multiple awards, and is the team leader in points for goals and assists.

**CLUB ADVISOR OF THE YEAR**

**Peter Schlosser, advisor for the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts (TAGA)**

Peter dedicated multiple evenings and weekends to assist students with the production of their technical journal and create prototype designs which helped them win awards in both production and design at the annual TAGA conference.

**CLUB SPORT COACH OF THE YEAR**

Devon’s inspiration and knowledge of the game has led to a number three national ranking, a first place qualification position for the Regional Tournament.

**CLUB OF THE YEAR**

**The Cal Poly Accounting Club**

CPAC is dedicated to making a positive impact by facilitating career fairs, networking socials, and community service efforts; in September 2017, they raised $5,000 for Jack’s Helping Hand.
Priorities for the Next Two Years

- Expand support tools for university staff and club officers, including a club management dashboard and communication tools.

- Improve design and user experience of online training for club officers, and offer additional in-person training opportunities.

- Provide leadership development opportunities to club officers and members.

- Provide support to fledgling underrepresented student organizations attempting to charter and within their first year as an organization.

- Create structure to connect alumni with current Cal Poly clubs, organizations and affinity groups on campus.

- Expand fundraising opportunities to support Club Sports.

- Work with Safer and other campus partners to provide club members with resources for a safe co-curricular experience.

- Continue to engage in professional development opportunities that enhance knowledge of student development best practices, cultural understanding, power and privilege.