Cal Poly processed a total of 26,113 applications during the Fall 2003 application cycle – the most Fall applications processed in the past sixteen years. Undergraduate applications numbered 24,893, an increase of 887 over Fall 2002; 9,384 new undergraduate applicants were selected and 3,771 enrolled.

First-time freshmen applying for admission numbered 20,827 (83.7% of the total undergraduate applicant pool) and represented 75.0% of the new undergraduates who enrolled.

Cal Poly received 2,717 early decision applications for Fall 2003, 513 students were selected, and 415 (80.9%) enrolled.

The University enrolled 18,303 students (headcount) for Fall 2003, an intentional decrease of 150 students from Fall 2002 due to budget reductions. Undergraduate enrollment was 17,257 students, down 0.8% from Fall 2002.

Undergraduate continuing and returning students fell short of the projected enrollment by about 90 students, with 13,540 students enrolling.

New students first enrolled for Fall 2003 exceeded target, comprising 22.7% of the total enrollment with 3,771 new undergraduates (2,828 new freshmen, 803 new transfers, 54 students seeking a second baccalaureate, and 86 other new undergraduates*) and 377 new post-baccalaureate students.

New post-baccalaureate enrollment was 50 students over target. Slightly more continuing post-baccalaureates returned than were expected. Total post-baccalaureate enrollment was 1,046 students.

Fall 2003 saw another increase in the overall average units taken per student to 14.09 (14.28 for undergraduates and 11.03 for post-baccalaureates).

*Other undergraduate students include transitory students and those returning to a new major.
In Fall 2003, 81 Cal Poly students studied in 14 countries as part of the California State University system’s International Programs. The students’ courses of study represented a variety of disciplines, and most participated in intensive language study at their host university.

As part of the National Student Exchange program, the only nationwide domestic student exchange program, 24 Cal Poly students studied at other universities across the U.S. Cal Poly is hosting 22 NSE students during 2003-04.

Several Cal Poly colleges and departments hold individual exchange agreements with universities worldwide. This Fall, 25 students participated in exchanges to five countries: Australia, France, Germany, Mexico, and Sweden. Other opportunities exist to study in Brazil, Canada, Denmark, India, Kenya, Norway, Switzerland, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

Cal Poly sent one professor and 31 students to the London Study Program during Fall quarter 2003. Three Cal Poly faculty and 35 students participated in the program during Spring 2003.

Also during Spring quarter, 16 Cal Poly students and three faculty participated in the Cal Poly at Sea Program, a collaboration between Cal Poly and the California Maritime Academy.

Other Study Abroad opportunities include the Thai Study Program (29 students and two Cal Poly professors participated in Spring 2003), the Japan Study Program (14 students and one Cal Poly professor participated in Spring 2003), and the Valladolid Fall Studies Program in Spain (30 students and one Cal Poly professor participated in Fall 2003).

During the 2002-03 academic year approximately 57% of all enrolled Cal Poly students received some type of traditional financial assistance, such as scholarships, loans, grants, and work-study.

The amount of financial aid awards varied little from 2002-03 with disbursements processed by the Cal Poly Financial Aid Office reaching over $70 million (compared to $27 million in 1990-91 and $65 million in 2001-02).

During the 2002-03 academic year, federal, state, and state university grants accounted for 26% of the financial aid dollars distributed. Scholarships accounted for 11%; loans, 62%; and federal work study, about 1%.

### Housing

As of October 1, 2003, 3,547 students (19% of the total enrollment) lived on campus: 1,971 men (56%) and 1,576 women (44%). The remaining students lived off campus, with the majority residing in the city of San Luis Obispo.

On-campus housing includes Cerro Vista, apartments which opened in Fall 2003, accommodating 800 more students.
The average age of all Cal Poly students enrolled in Fall 2003 was 21.5 years. Undergraduates averaged 21.0 years, compared to 24.0 years for all undergraduates enrolled in the CSU system (based on last available data, Fall 2002). There were 8,173 females (44.7%) and 10,130 males (55.3%) enrolled for Fall 2003. Undergraduate gender diversity at a campus-wide level has shown a gradual increase. In Fall 2003, the percentages were 44.2% female and 55.8% male, compared to 42.6% female and 57.4% male in Fall 1990. Post-baccalaureate enrollment, traditionally more female, has shown a steady decrease in female enrollment over the last few years. In Fall 2003, 51.8% of the campus-wide graduate population was female, down from 56.2% in Fall 2000.
Undergraduate’s Geographic Origin

In Fall 2003, Cal Poly undergraduate students came from every county in California, 47 other states and U.S. territories, and 45 foreign countries. Nevertheless, 94% are California residents. The 18% of undergraduate students who are local area residents include students from Santa Barbara County (4%), Monterey County (2%) and San Luis Obispo County (12%).

Fields of Study

Cal Poly offers 63 bachelor’s degrees, 23 master’s degrees, 8 credential programs, 63 minors, and 2 certificate programs. Majors that graduated the most students in 2002-03 were:

Bachelor’s Degrees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Business</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Engineering</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Technology</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Science</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinesiology</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Undergraduate’s Geographic Origin

Fields of Study

The following data is derived from a comprehensive cohort study developed by Institutional Planning and Analysis. To date, the study follows the retention of students first enrolling in the Summer and Fall of 1990 through Fall 2002.

Six year graduation rates for first-time freshmen are available for the 1990 through 1997 freshmen cohorts. (The six-year observation interval is the rate most often used by federal and other reporting bodies.)

For more detailed information, see the IP&A publication PolyTrends on “Retention and Graduation of Full-time Undergraduates” or the “Retention and Graduation Reports” at http://www.ipa.calpoly.edu.

Retention & Persistence to Graduation

The following data is derived from a comprehensive cohort study developed by Institutional Planning and Analysis. To date, the study follows the retention of students first enrolling in the Summer and Fall of 1990 through Fall 2002.

Six year graduation rates for first-time freshmen are available for the 1990 through 1997 freshmen cohorts. (The six-year observation interval is the rate most often used by federal and other reporting bodies.)

For more detailed information, see the IP&A publication PolyTrends on “Retention and Graduation of Full-time Undergraduates” or the “Retention and Graduation Reports” at http://www.ipa.calpoly.edu.

Degrees Conferred

Cal Poly first awarded bachelor’s degrees in 1942-43. Total bachelor’s degrees awarded through the 2002-03 reporting year number 108,841.

Cal Poly awarded 3,491 degrees in 2002-03.

Bachelor’s Degrees                  3,167
Master’s Degrees                        324
Credential Recommendations      311