Parent Advisory Council Meeting
Poly Canyon Village, Aliso 171-007 Conference Room

11:45 – 12:15 P.M. President Armstrong Greets and Speaks with Guests during Lunch

12:20 - 12:25 P.M. Welcome from External Affairs: Kanani Makekau and Stanley Leung

12:25 – 1:00 PM Campus Updates: Dr. Keith Humphrey, Vice President of Student Affairs

- **Admissions**: Cal Poly saw 79,000 applications this year. Admitted 123 local first-time freshman exempt from living on campus but can fill in housing vacancies starting in Winter Quarter. Cal Poly is aiming for smart growth without compromising small class sizes and experiential learning. Aims to stay below 18% out-of-state student body, in line with UC legislative cap.

- **Housing**: Conceptual design has been created for 4,000+ new beds on campus in over 9 buildings, each 8-9 stories tall, behind the Red Bricks dorms. New housing will be semi-suite style, and costs will be minimized by opening one building each year starting in 2026. Red Bricks renovation project will begin after first new building opens.

- **FAFSA Changes**: Commitment date has been pushed to May 15th due to FAFSA delays. The situation will continue to be monitored to reduce impacts on low-income, first-generation student enrollment.

- **Hispanic-Serving Institution (HIS)**: Objective is to make the student body more reflective of California demographics. Designation is given to colleges with 25% self-reported Hispanic student body. Status will be an attractor for students, faculty, and federal dollars. To work towards designation, Cal Poly identifies partner high schools with over 70% free or reduced lunch in recruitment efforts.

- **Year-Round Operations**: New model where students are admitted for Summer Quarter, with the condition they will take one other term off. Model will enable more students to study abroad, complete internships, and receive a Cal Poly degree. Current plan is to begin in Summer 2025.
- **Quarter to Semester Conversion:** On track to be on semesters in 2 years. Students will begin receiving advice from academic advisors to ease the transition, including taking extra classes, completing summer courses, etc.

- **Construction Updates:** Library renovation project is halfway complete. New Student Affairs building planned for early 2027 will serve as a second student union on campus with increased room reservation capacity.

- **Mustang Family Weekend 2024:** November 1-3.

- **Two-Year Housing Requirement:** No current capacity to add more colleges to the requirement. Requirement has yielded positive results – the most recent first-year retention was at an all-time high of 96%.

- **Community Relationships:** Working with the city on infrastructure projects. Recent all-time lows of arrests, citations, and noise complaints.

- **St. Patrick’s Day Consequences:** Many people responsible for vandalism have been identified. Referrals to other universities have been made if we identified their students as responsible. Once semester conversion takes place, students will no longer be in session during St. Patrick’s Day weekend.

1:05 - 1:35 P.M. Dr. Leslie Nelson, Faculty Representative

- **Introduction:** Associate Professor in the Communications Department. Education at University of Nebraska-Lincoln (B.A.) and University of Missouri (M.A. & Ph.D.) Sixth year teaching at Cal Poly.

- **Research-Related Experiences and Opportunities:**
  - Teacher-Scholar Mini Grant Program: Faculty can apply up to $11,000 to work on research – allows to stand by teacher-scholar model and get students involved in research.
  - BEACoN Research Mentoring Program: Administered by Office of University Diversity and Inclusion. Offers research experiences for underrepresented students. Grants funds to students and stipends to faculty members. Requires 10 hours/week commitment.
  - Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP): Paid program open to all students. Provides training in research methods with hands-on experience.
  - CSU LSAMP: Supports underrepresented engineering students with funding for advising, textbooks, and competitions.
Engage Program: Partner with community colleges to diversify STEM programs for transferring students.

**University-Level Initiatives and Goals:**

- **Year-Round Operations:** Initiative focused on high-impact practices. Off-campus students should be studying abroad or doing internships. Anonymous donor has pledged $300k/year to help low-income students afford these opportunities.

- **Hispanic-Serving Institution:** Cluster hires allow for hiring faculty around a common topic, such as Becoming a Hispanic-Serving Institution.’ Goal is to hire faculty with diverse backgrounds or experience working with diverse students.

**Leslie’s Faculty Achievements:** Awarded CLA Early Career Teaching Achievement Award, received Western States’ Distinguished Teaching Award, published 17 articles in 5 years, & 3x recipient of Terrance Hill Mentorship Award.

1:40 – 2:00 P.M.  
Aaron Fernandes, ASI University Union Advisory Board, Chair

**ASI Overview:** Student-run organization employing 650+ students and ~100 staff members. Responsible for running the Recreation Center, University Union, the Forum, Sports Fields, and Cal Poly P.

**Student Government:**

- **ASI Executive Cabinet:** Responsible for carrying out ASI President’s agenda. Flagship Events include Diverse Student Network, Storm the Dorms (increase voter registration in the forms), and Buck the Stigma (mental health awareness).

- **ASI Board of Directors:** Elected student representatives. The upcoming election has 7 Presidential and 47 Board Candidates. Initiatives include City Council meeting presences (Safety Enhancement Zones), Academic Senate Policy Changes (mental health class absences and A+ grades), and Flex Your Right (placed first in CSUs for highest voter registration).

- **University Union Advisory Board:** Projects include 24-hour UU space, pickleball courts at Upper Sports Complex, Space Activity at UU and Rec Center, Cal Poly light-up letters in the UU Plaza, Rec Center pool deck renovations, UU Exterior seating, Rose Float display in San Luis Lounge, Craft Center renovation, free professional headshots, and $9.5 million contribution to new Student Affairs building.
• **ASI Compensation:** ASI Student Government members will receive compensation (stipend under $400) and professional development workshops.

2:15 - 2:45 P.M. Concrete Canoe Project: Sarah Sakakihara, Student Project Manager, and Brooke Harris, Construction Captain

• **Concrete Canoe Club:** Mimics industry engineering through building and racing concrete canoes.
• **This Year’s Theme:** Incognita.
• **Competitors are Judged On:** Project proposal, presentation, final canoe, and races.
• **Achievements:** 7x national champions – most decorated Concrete Canoe Club in the nation.

2:45 – 3:00 P.M. Professional Development Fund Update: Kanani Makekau

• **Recipients and Awards:** 16 recipients to date. $2,500 award maximum.
• **Proposals:** Kanani read a proposal example to the group.
• **Award Requirements:** There must be a financial need to receive the award. Financial Aid is the biggest indicator of need, and there are students who apply to the fund but do not meet the need qualification. The fund currently has $18,000 remaining.
• **Scholarships:** Conversation surrounding available scholarships – can be viewed through the ‘Cal Poly Scholarships’ option on the left-hand side of student portal.

3:00 - 3:30 P.M. University Development: Christine Mott Hutchinson, Senior Director of Development for Strategic Initiatives & Laura Clark, Director of Parent Philanthropy

• **Who Gives to Cal Poly:** 52% Alumni, 6% Parents, 5% Friends, 1% Faculty/Staff, 25% Foundations, 12% Corporations.
• **Where Donors Give:** CAFES 21%, CAED 4%, CENG 30%, CLA 2%, BCSM 6%, OCOB 4%, Athletics 26%, Student Affairs 4%, University-Wide 5%.
• **Types of Giving:** Grants, corporate, planning giving, annual fund, phone bank, crowdfunding, Poly Gives, Major Gifts ($25k +).
• **Working Together for Student Success:** Making Cal Poly more affordable and accessible for students in California by collaborating with the Parent Advisory Council, Parent Philanthropy, and Strategic Initiatives.
• **Parent Advisory Council Diversity:** Conversation regarding getting some parents of first-generations students on the PAC.
• **Increasing Awareness of the Professional Development Fund**: Encouraged PAC members to have talking points/story prepared about the Professional Development Fund. If parents know someone interested in giving, refer them to Laura and Christine. Major gifts of $25k can be spread over 5 years through a pledge.

• **Major Gift Perks**: If a donor gives $25k+ in one year, they become part of the Parent Philanthropy Circle – a group who gets a different level of attention from the university.


3:30 - 4:00 P.M  
Luis Guzman: First Recipient of the Cal Poly Professional Development Fund

• **Background**: Born in Mexico City, immigrated to the United States at 5 years old, and lived in Fresno, CA. As a first-generation student, Luis had to work 5x harder than some peer who only focused on their academics. Majors in Computer Science with a Minor in Entrepreneurship.

• **Cal Poly Experience**: Admitted to Cal Poly in 2020. Due to COVID-19, Luis was able to stay home his freshman year, saving $15k which would have been dedicated to housing.

• **Building His Own Business**: Luis gained experience in events through his uncle who rented our party equipment. During his first year at Cal Poly, Luis began his own business renting out mechanical bulls. This business, with the help of financial aid, allowed Luis to fund his education without debt.

• **Passion for Entrepreneurship**: Luis’ first entrepreneurship professor was also Hispanic, which he viewed as a sign he was in the right place. He came up with an idea to create a universal event planning app. He pitched this idea and got into Cal Poly’s Summer Accelerator, receiving $10k and a space to build his business through a 12-week program.

• **Use of Professional Development Fund**: The fund helped Luis through the Summer Accelerator program.

• **Moving Forward**: Luis has narrowed his business idea to help Hispanics plan their next quinceañera.

4:00- 4:45 P.M.  
Committee Breakout Groups and Share Outs

• **Community Committee**: Expand lunch and learn program, more marketing for lunch and learns, do quarterly spotlight on student-made products (meats, cheeses, flowers, etc.), host PAC sponsored event at Fall Reception to recruit members.
• **Philanthropy Committee:** Consideration of whether the Professional Development Fund should be shifted from need-based to intent-based. Request to better understand the application and selection process so they can create the ‘story’ and promote it. Requested redacted application data.

4:45 - 5:00 PM PAC Member Recognition and Closing
- Joss Mass
- Hatha Parrish
- Asif Subedar
- Mily Dahlke