Parent Advisory Council Meeting
Swanson Center of Effort Conference Hall

7:45 – 8:20 A.M.  Coffee and Light Breakfast

8:20- 8:30 A.M.  Welcome from External Affairs

Campus Updates: Dr. Keith Humphrey, Vice President of Student Affairs

- **24-Hour UU Space:** University Union will offer 24-hour student spaces.
- **Finals Study Spaces:** Expanding spaces during final exams.
- **PATHS Update:** Out-of-class curriculum for soft skills through Cal Poly Now app.
- **Quarter to Semester (Fall 2026):** Transition for first-year students.
- **Year-Round Operations Initiative:** Increasing enrollment without new facilities.
- **New Residence Hall:** 1,200 beds in Cerro Vista by Fall 2026.
- **Faculty Housing:** Seeking new faculty with off-term expectations.
- **Interfaith Center Fundraising:** Aiming for better representation of California's demographics.
- **Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI):** A goal to become an HSI within 2 years.
- Improved Retention and Graduation Rates.

9:30-9:45 A.M.  Break/Assign Breakout Groups

9:50 – 10:00 A.M.  External Relations Updates: Espinoza, Senior Director, Kanani Makekau, Assistant Director

- **Local Connections:** Introduced local connections. Approximately 30 students and 50 guides have enrolled.
- **Parent and Supporter Volunteer Corps:** This new initiative has been introduced.
- **Fall Commencement Cancellation:** Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer, and next Fall graduates are advised to request the
Spring commencement instead due to the cancellation of the Fall ceremony.

- **Mustang Family Weekend**: A successful event with 400 more registrants than the previous year, totaling 2,367 families with an average of 3.3 people per family. Over 80 sessions from across the campus were offered.

- **Food Pantry**: Exponential need in the food pantry, with more visits last Fall than in the past three years combined. Concerns about the pantry's accessibility being marketed to all students, and the goal is inclusive marketing to ensure everyone has access. There's also an outreach effort to donate items to the food pantry.

- **Mustangs for Recovery**: Videos related to Mustangs for Recovery were shared as part of the update.

10:00-10:45 A.M. Office of the Dean of Students, Cal Poly Cares, Professional Development Fund: Dr. Joy Pedersen, Dean of Students

- **Dean of Students Role**: Dr. Joy Pedersen discussed the role of the Dean of Students (DOS) and mentioned that the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSSR) handles conduct. Less than 5% of students are sent to OSSR each year.

- **Mental Health and Conduct**: Dr. Pedersen highlighted the intersection of mental health and disruptive classroom behaviors, emphasizing the importance of connecting students with mental health resources before addressing conduct issues.

- **Residence Hall Vandalism**: There has been an unprecedented increase in vandalism in residence halls, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Efforts have been made to better support Resident Advisors (RA) through training and check-ins, and RAs are encouraged to document disruptive behaviors.

- **Academic Integrity and AI**: Faculty opinions on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in academic integrity were discussed. There's a question about how to change attitudes in academia to embrace AI, along with a call for feedback for departments and career services.

- **CARE Team**: The CARE Team's role in assisting students in crisis, accidents, financial difficulties, and academic issues was explained. The team receives referrals from various campus areas and parents and reaches out to students in need. The Cal Poly CARES Emergency Grant, which receives 30-
40 applications per week, is focused on addressing basic needs, including housing and food insecurities.

- **New Programs in DOS**: Dr. Pedersen introduced new programs in the Office of the Dean of Students, including the Guardian Scholars Program for foster youth, the Students with Dependents Program, and the Off-Campus Housing Program. The latter aims to help students with housing affordability and competitiveness.

- **Relations with SLO Community Members**: The positive relationship between Cal Poly students and the San Luis Obispo (SLO) community was highlighted, with a focus on community service, and shopping.

- **Alcohol-Related Medical Situations**: Discussion of medical situations involving alcohol, with data indicating that the first six weeks are comparable to the previous year.

- **Cal Poly Professional Development Fund**: PAC (Parent's Advisory Council) was mentioned as managing the fund, which fulfills financial needs for professional development opportunities. The challenge of selecting which students can receive support was addressed, with 61% of PAC members participating financially.

10:45-11:45 A.M.  Lunch and Kennedy Transformation Project Presentation

11:00-11:40 A.M.  Adriana Popescu, Library Dean Lunch Presentation

- **Construction**: The Kennedy Transformation Project began in Summer 2023, with a target open date set for Fall 2025.

- **Objectives**: The project's objectives include connecting and enriching the space, showcasing and celebrating its significance, strengthening the "Learn by Doing" philosophy, and optimizing building performance.

- **Transformation**: Notable transformations for the building include a new staircase that frees up space, major changes on the first floor, installation of new air conditioning (AC), LED lighting, new carpeting, and fresh paint. Importantly, there are no plans to remove walls on upper floors.

- **Floor Functionality**: The first and second floors are set to be the most active, with the noise level gradually decreasing as one moves up the building. Both the first and second floors will be open 24 hours, but the second floor will maintain a quiet atmosphere during the 24-hour period.

- **Courtyard Updates**: The project includes updates to the building's courtyard and a solar-ready roof. Additionally, each floor will feature all-gender and ADA-compliant restrooms.
• **Additional Seating and Resources**: Approximately 300 study seats and 67 classroom seats will be added.

• **Temporary Spaces**: Temporary study spaces will be provided in the University Union (UU) and via temporary structures in parking lots. Sierra Madre will have a study space occupancy app to help students gauge busy times.

• **Library Lockers and Printing Resources**: Students will be able to pick up materials near Dexter using library lockers, and printing resources will be available in the UU, Cal Poly Print and Copy, and University Graphic Systems.

**11:50 A.M. -12:10 P.M.**

**Bylaw Review**

• **5 Pillars**: The discussion revolved around the five pillars, namely:
  1. Parental and Supporter Engagement
  2. Student Success and Wellbeing
  3. Community Building and Networking
  4. Advocacy and Outreach
  5. Philanthropy and Fundraising.

• **Membership**: The meeting addressed various membership categories, including Parents and Supporters, ASI Student Representative, Faculty Representative, Council Officers, and Emeritus Membership.

• **Membership Responsibilities**: Members are expected to have a clear understanding of the current university goals, provide feedback, recommend and promote goals and objectives for Parent and Family programs. They are also encouraged to attend fall and spring meetings, volunteer for at least one SLO Days session, offer resources throughout the academic year, assist in identifying and cultivating relationships within the University, answer questions for parent/supporter inquiries, redirect questions as necessary, and actively participate in PAC Philanthropic campaigns.

• **Committees**: The meeting included discussions about committees, particularly the Philanthropy and Community committees, where members were encouraged to choose a committee when joining PAC.

**12:15-12:40 P.M.**

**Students Affairs Strategic Plan: Dr. Kevin Grant, Senior Director of Assessment and Research**

• **Introduction to WITH Us**: The meeting began with an introduction to the Bystander Intervention Program known as "WITH Us."

• **Strategic Plan Updates**: After the previous strategic plan, it was decided to have a shorter timeframe of 3 years (instead of
5) with fewer initiatives. The emphasis was on strategy over tactics and acknowledging that the plan doesn't account for pandemics.

- **Feedback Sessions**: Nearly 20 different feedback sessions took place, including 12 among staff, 5 with students, and 2 research partnerships with classes.
- **Student Engagement Inventory**: Topics discussed included the type/status, purpose, occurrence/frequency, and audience of events, as well as tracking and divisional learning outcomes.
- **Ecosystem Shifts**: The strategic plan also considered ecosystem shifts, year-round operations/summer start, the transition from quarters to semesters, and recommendations from campus/CSU reports.
- **Campus Growth and Diversification**: Enrollment at CSU decreased by about 7% this year. The partnership with Allan Hancock College, which allows students in Santa Maria to earn Cal Poly degrees without coming to campus, was highlighted. The plan also focused on mapping out support and costs for these students.
- **State Initiatives**: There was mention of state initiatives to bring four-year degrees to local community colleges, including the "Promise Project."
- **PATHS**: The "Get started PATH" and "First-year student success PATH" were discussed, including their recommendations and involvement.
- **Early Alert System**: The plan emphasized the importance of stepping in and intervening before issues become too serious, facilitated by the "Student Care Network."
- **Data Intelligence**: Utilizing data for better decision-making and intervention.
- **Big Ideas**: Elevating the sense of belonging through intentional student engagement, with a focus on addressing two main reasons students did not re-enroll: a lack of sense of belonging and mental health struggles.
- **Wraparound Student Care Network**: To advance student support and envision the campus of tomorrow.

12:45-1:10 P.M. Career Services: Dr. Amie Hammond, Executive Director

- **Mission**: Career Services' mission is to help students achieve a lifetime of meaningful career success by engaging with Cal Poly's vibrant network.
- **Values**: Key values include connections, personal and professional growth, innovation, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I).
• **Fall Career Fair**: The Fall Career Fair was attended by 5,000 students and featured 250 companies. Employer services aim to connect employers with Cal Poly talent.

• **MustangJOBS**: A platform where students can find on-campus jobs, work-study opportunities, internships, and part-time/full-time employment. Efforts are made to ensure students know it's not just for on-campus employment.

• **Information Sessions**: Information sessions and on-campus interviews are available, with a dozen private interview rooms. More virtual interviews have been introduced post-pandemic.

• **Career Fairs**: Cal Poly hosts Fall, Winter, and Spring Career Fairs, along with specialized fairs in areas like packaging, graphic communications, and computing.

• **Employer Office Hours**: Employers can seek guidance on using career services.

• **Career Education**: This includes career counseling services, with one counselor for each academic college. A focus on first-year students, scheduled appointments, and drop-in hours is emphasized, along with programming like workshops and panels.

• **Industry Spotlight Program**: A program designed to spotlight various industries.

• **Cal Poly Career Connection**: A platform connecting current students with alumni.

• **Curriculum**: Curriculum related to career development is available through Canvas. Career counselors visit classes, on-demand resources are provided, and a virtual mock interview platform is accessible. Students are also surveyed to suggest majors and careers.

• **2022-23 Highlights**: Notable achievements include extensive partnerships with faculty, admission, and alumni to reach students, engagement of over 16,000 students (2/3 of the student body), leading innovation in graduate outcomes (91% positive outcomes in 2021-22), and a strong focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

• **DEI Initiatives**: Career Services has established a DEI Committee, Diversity Liaison Teams, and Professional Development events focused on student and employer diversity networking. DEI is infused into programs, and there’s a Diversity Funding Committee. Additionally, a Professional Clothing Closet is open year-round for students who lack access to professional clothing.

• **Student Success Center**: This new center, set to open in Fall 2027, will include Career Services and Diversity Centers.
There are tiered sponsorship levels and naming opportunities, with fundraising efforts underway.

- **Additional Initiatives**: Career Services is focusing on government jobs, utilizing AI for ethical career exploration and job searches, scaling services, hiring two associate directors, and integrating PATHS with career services.

1:15- 1:45 P.M.  Open Forum: Winter Webinar Series Discussion

- **Off-Campus Housing**: The discussion began with an overview of off-campus housing and where to find information.
- **Academic Advising**: Topics discussed include grade forgiveness, the Mustang Success Center, quarter-semester conversion learning workshops, bridge classes, changing majors, tutoring sessions, and supplemental workshops.
- **DRC (Disability Resource Center)**: Mention was made of the DRC and the services they offer, including accessibility to the library, which is open 24 hours.
- **Dean of Students (DOS) & Campus Health and Wellbeing**: This section addressed the adaptability of mental health in the context of DOS and CHW.
- **Financial Aid/Student Accounts**: Cover how to register for classes and ensure students get enough units. Challenges related to block enrollment were also addressed.

1:45- 2:00 PM  PAC Member Recognition and Closing

- Stacey Napolitano, Former PAC Chair 2022-2023