



CAL POLY

Retired Faculty & Staff Newsletter

Fall 2019 Edition

President: Dr. Joe Grimes

Newsletter Editor: Barbara Ciesielski

LETTER FROM CAL POLY PRESIDENT JEFFREY D. ARMSTRONG

Every fall it is exciting for me to see the new and returning students arrive on campus, as their quality meets or exceeds that of previous classes. Because of this, it is my pleasure to be able to address you through your newsletter because of what you have done in the past and continue to do to contribute to the level of success of our students and the university. It is because of your efforts and involvement that Cal Poly continues to be a renowned, world-class university. I am very much aware and appreciative of all you have done and are doing through teaching, advising, mentoring, and donating to the campus. Your generosity and support help Cal Poly continue its excellence while growing to be even better.

I want to thank you on behalf of the students, faculty, and staff for your individual, generous, continuing support of the campus. I want to especially thank you on behalf of our students for your generous Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarships, which enable them to not only learn by doing, but to learn by your example of commitment and caring. Each year the scholarship recipients seem to exceed expectations with their success and their exemplary presentations at the June Jubilee.

It is my pleasure to be able to express our appreciation for your efforts through the June Jubilee and the support of your other activities. It was a pleasure and privilege to be able to interact with so many of you at this year's June Jubilee and provide an opportunity for you to be with your colleagues.

It is my hope that the general university and retired faculty and staff activities supported by Cal Poly provide additional opportunities for you to interact with one another, and also to remain current on all things at Cal Poly. Although my wish for you is that you are enjoying your retirement and well-deserved "time off," I also look forward to your continued involvement and ongoing participation in campus events. As always, your insight and shared wisdom and talents not only help us with current efforts and challenges, but also make us better able to accomplish future goals.

Thank you again for your continued commitment and for always remaining Cal Poly Proud and supportive of the Learn by Doing model that we support and execute.

Go Mustangs!

Jeff Armstrong
President



A film by Sky Bergman



LIVES WELL LIVED

Celebrating the Secrets, Wit and Wisdom of Age

40 people.
3000 years of
collective life
experience.



CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED, AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY

100% FRESH ON ROTTEN TOMATOES

[f](#) [ig](#) [tw](#) **Lives Well Lived | lives-well-lived.com**

LIVES WELL LIVED BY SKY BERGMAN

By Joe Grimes

On **Wednesday, November 6, 2019**, we will be meeting for a luncheon and program featuring our renowned Cal Poly Professor of Photography and Video and independent filmmaker, Sky Bergman. Sky will discuss her work with her nationally recognized film, *Lives Well Lived* and her plans for the future. The following is the URL for her website that has a trailer for her film <https://www.lives-well-lived.com/>

DATE: Wednesday, November 6, 2019
WHERE: Performing Arts Center Pavilion Room (Building 6)
TIME: 11:30 a.m.
COST: \$20.00/person

Reservations are required. Please RSVP to Gail Simmons at 805-462-9148 or gsimmons@calpoly.edu by October 30, 2019.

Parking: Several reserved parking spots will be available at the Performing Arts Center parking structure (Parking Lot G5). These spots should be used by those challenged to walk a great distance from the parking lot to the PAC lobby.

Lives Well Lived is a feature documentary film by Sky Bergman that celebrates the incredible wit and wisdom of adults 75 to 100 years old who are living their lives to the fullest. Encompassing over **3000** years of experience, forty people share their secrets and insights to living a meaningful life. Their intimate memories and inspiring personal histories will make you laugh, perhaps cry, but mostly inspire you.

RSVP TO VISIT THE GETTY CENTER OCT. 17 IN LOS ANGELES

By Joe Grimes



Retired faculty and staff are invited to visit The Getty Center <https://www.getty.edu/visit/center/> on Thursday, Oct. 17. Spend the day with fellow retirees while enjoying the amenities of The Getty Center, which is known for its architecture, gardens, and view overlooking Los Angeles. Permanent and temporary exhibits, including a temporary Notre Dame Cathedral exhibit, will be on display when we are there. All sites are accessible to those with disabilities. Wheelchairs are provided at no cost by The Getty Center.

Attendees will leave from the Performing Arts Center (PAC) in San Luis Obispo at 6 a.m. and from the former K-Mart parking lot in Arroyo Grande at 6:25 a.m. and leave the Getty Center at 2 p.m. The cost is \$40 per person and \$50 after Sept. 15. Receipt of your check reserves your spot. The bus trip and snacks on the bus are included in the price.

A meal is not included, but guests can buy lunch at a formal restaurant, large café, small café and coffee carts at The Getty Center. You are encouraged to reserve early, as the first 30 people will be eligible for

a free 45-minute tour of The Getty Center. The 30-person limit is a rule of The Getty Center. The space on the bus is limited to 56 attendees. RSVP to Gail Simmons at 805-462-9148 or gsimmons@calpoly.edu. She will provide you with the address to send the payment to when you RSVP. Attendees may also let Gail know if they want to be picked up at the PAC or in Arroyo Grande.

CAL POLY'S STRAWBERRY CENTER

By Bill Kellogg

On May 15, the spring meeting of the Retired Faculty and Staff Club received a presentation and tour of the Cal Poly Strawberry Center. Our presenter for the day was Dr. Peter W. Shearer, the Strawberry Center's entomologist. Dr. Shearer began his role at the Strawberry Center on September 28, 2018 where he addresses arthropod issues facing the California strawberry industry. Dr. Shearer brought experience to the Strawberry Center from an illustrious career as a tree fruit entomologist at Rutgers University, Oregon State University and Washington State University. Dr. Shearer is an established authority on spotted wing Drosophila and the brown marmorated stink bug and has worked extensively on many arthropod pests attacking tree fruit crops.

Through the presentation, members learned that California produces 88% of the nation's strawberries, providing almost a year-round supply on approximately 34,000 acres along the California coast. In 2017 (most recent statistics on record), California's farms and ranches received over \$50 billion in cash receipts for their output. California's agricultural abundance includes more than 400 commodities. Over a third of the country's vegetables and two-thirds of the country's fruits and nuts are grown in California. California is the leading US state for cash farm receipts. The top producing commodities for 2017 included: Dairy Products, Milk — \$6.76 billion, Grapes — \$5.8 billion, Almonds — \$5.6 billion, and Strawberries — \$3.1 billion.

The Cal Poly Strawberry Center was established in 2014 as a partnership between Cal Poly and the California Strawberry Commission. This one-of-a-kind center is rooted in the hands-on learning approach that defines Cal Poly. The center focuses on applied research that integrates both teaching and learning experiences for Cal Poly undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and California strawberry farmers. The Strawberry Center has access to 10 acres of prime farmland on campus for purposes of field research and demonstration, including certified organic land, all within walking distance of the main campus.

Students receive on-the-job training in laboratory and field-based research methods, and industry farming practices. Many summer internships are available each year with a variety of strawberry-centered companies such as Driscoll's, Naturipe, Smucker's, the California Strawberry Commission, and Reiter Affiliated Companies.

The Cal Poly Strawberry Center's key strengths are:

- The only organization in the U.S. dedicated solely to strawberry research and education
- Uniquely positioned on California's central coast at the geographic center for 90% of U.S. strawberry production
- Funded through a unique partnership between Cal Poly and the California Strawberry Commission
- Access to a broad range of faculty in all agricultural sciences

- Access to California's top undergraduate students
- Access to the strawberry industry as a resource for education and training of Cal Poly students and technical expertise on strawberry production and its issues

During the luncheon presentation, members were treated to a "blind taste test" of two varieties of Cal Poly strawberries (Sweet Anne and Albion). Albion won the taste test of those participating and voting. Members and guests were escorted to the strawberry research growing grounds for a tour and for further questions/answers. All in all, this was a great luncheon and program

EXCITING ACTIVITIES AT CAL POLY

By Joe Grimes

Each college has outstanding things happening. The following are highlights for each one:

College of Engineering: A new assembly-line lab in the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department will help students learn some of the basics of workflow measurement. The lab, complete with workstations, barcode sensors and a conveyor belt, was designed and built by IME students Todd Altshuler and Brandon White, working with faculty members Ginna Callow and Karen Bangs.

<https://engineering.calpoly.edu/go-flow>

College of Liberal Arts: Cal Poly's College of Liberal Arts (CLA) is among the most diverse and selective in the California State University system, housing 15 departments in the humanities, social sciences, communications, and performing arts. The college is a leader in Cal Poly's mission to offer a truly *comprehensive* polytechnic education, providing nearly one-third of the university's instruction.

<https://cla.calpoly.edu/about>

Orfalea College of Business: Cal Poly Business Administration Degree Ranked No. 8 in the Nation for ROI. For years, the quality and value of a Cal Poly education has made national headlines. Often, national rankings highlight the affordability of a Cal Poly degree, the strength of our Learn by Doing approach, and each degree's high return on investment (ROI).

<https://www.cob.calpoly.edu/newsevents/payscale-rankings-2018/>

College of Science and Mathematics: Students study the history of the Earth's crust in Greenland, smash sub-atomic particles in Switzerland, or adapt video games for paralyzed players in San Luis Obispo. https://cosam.calpoly.edu/content/centers_institutes

College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences: Cal Poly Spring 2019 Great Grads. Six Outstanding Graduates Look Back on Struggles and Accomplishments and Forward to Their Futures

<https://cafes.calpoly.edu/cal-poly-spring-2019-great-grads>.

College of Architecture and Environmental Design: Cal Poly Architecture Students Wrap Up Vision for Rebuilding in Paradise. Students participated in a six-month-long project to envision how the fire-ravaged town of Paradise, California, could be rebuilt.

https://calpolynews.calpoly.edu/news_releases/2019/may/architecture-paradise

ACROSS THE CAMPUS

Vision 2022: The Future of Cal Poly: Vision 2022 is about continuous improvement at Cal Poly. The four guiding principles say who we are and guide us as we move forward. In a Learn by Doing environment, we continuously innovate to maximize the success of our students. <https://president.calpoly.edu/vision-2022-future-cal-poly>

Campus Capital Campaign: The Power of Doing. The Power of Doing is more than a campaign. It's both a promise made long ago and a pledge to a future far from now. <https://giving.calpoly.edu/campaign-priorities>

The Disability Resource Center: An Achievement in Academic Equity. Cal Poly's Disability Resource Center is an achievement in collaboration, communication, education, and accessibility. Most importantly, it's making a difference for students in need. <https://giving.calpoly.edu/story/the-disability-resource-center-achievement-in-academic-equity>

JUNE JUBILEE

By Joe Grimes

This year's June Jubilee was held on June 2, 2019 with approximately 200 in attendance. The Jubilee was hosted by the president, and he and Vice President Ewing provided remarks that included the announcement of the reduction of the minimum for endowments by current and retired faculty and staff to \$12,500. Our student scholarship awardee, Madeleine Ciano, gave an excellent presentation. Save the date for our next June Jubilee planned to be held on June 7, 2020.

RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

By Laura Dimmitt

The June Jubilee saw the introduction of Madeleine Ciano, the 2018-19 Retired Faculty and Staff Centennial Scholarship recipient, and the 19th awardee of our scholarship. Confident and personable, Madeleine spoke of her background, involvement in the community, interests, her future goals and reasons for formulating them. One of the highlights of the Jubilee luncheon, Madeleine was well received by all in attendance. We look forward to the introduction of the 2019-20 RFS Centennial Scholarship recipient at the next June Jubilee on Sunday, June 7, 2020.

The RFS Centennial Scholarship Endowment fair market value for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, is \$153,694.82. Please consider donating to our endowment by using the form included in the newsletter. One may also donate online. It is a perfect opportunity to secure lifetime dues and/or honor or memorialize someone special. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and believing in the future leaders of tomorrow.

For those who are interested in creating a personal endowment at the revised minimum level for retirees and current faculty and staff, please refer to President Joe Grimes' article in this newsletter.

UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT OPPORTUNITY

By Joe Grimes

It is a pleasure to announce that the minimum level of an endowment has been lowered to \$12,500 for current and retired faculty and staff of Cal Poly (CRFSCP). The future of Learn by Doing is in our hands with the Power of Doing Campaign. Because of our faculty and staff, Cal Poly has evolved to be one of the most prestigious universities in the country. An endowment would be an excellent mechanism for providing support that will help Cal Poly to continue ongoing quality of education into the future. As the president of the Retired Faculty and Staff Club, I am pleased to support and promote this method of assisting Cal Poly to become an even better education experience for our students. It has been my pleasure and that of other current and retired faculty and staff members to have created endowments that are already supporting improvements in the learning experience of our students.

The following are guidelines for an endowment by CRFSCP that are awaiting final approval.

1. The minimum contribution must be \$12,500. This must come entirely from CRFSCP. Participants are encouraged to seek and include additional outside support.
2. The endowment may be funded over a five-year period.
3. A single endowment may be created by multiple CRFSCP members.
4. The endowment creators may determine a legal name and use of the endowment.

The endowment is one method for supporting the university and you are encouraged to donate in other ways such as your talent to university activities, promoting the university with future students, and other opportunities for financial giving. I fully support the following university quote, "Your support will help power the Learn by Doing legacy forward for generations to come." During the forty-six years I have been at Poly, its quality growth has been exponential, and I don't believe there was a better place for me to spend this time. I look forward to and support continuous growth into the future.

If you would like to start an endowment or have questions about them, please contact Allie Burnett alburnet@calpoly.edu or 805-756-2925.

RETIREES SHOULD CONTINUE TO DISPLAY EMERITUS PARKING PLACARDS

By Joe Grimes

Cal Poly will phase in a license plate recognition system in place of parking permits with full implementation beginning this fall. Retirees with emeritus should continue to display placards until otherwise notified. It is important to keep your vehicle license plate information up to date. Update your information by logging into the Cal Poly Portal. Click on the "Money Matters" tab, scroll down and click on "online parking services" link, and then click on the vehicles at the top of the page. To add a vehicle, click "add vehicle" and enter your vehicle information. To delete a vehicle, select the vehicle listed and then click "delete." Vehicles with outstanding citations will not be removed until all citations are paid or appealed. Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) will provide Open Labs to assist with account updates. Open Lab information can be found online. Go to parking.calpoly.edu, click on the banner at the top of the page for "License Plate Recognition" and view the section titled "How can I verify that the license number I have on record is correct?" Questions? Contact TAPS at ext. 6-6654.

RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF CLUB SHARES UPDATE WEBSITE PROBLEM

By Joe Grimes

The software used to develop the Retired Faculty and Staff Club website is out of date and no one has the knowledge required to update it. The outdated website is still available at <http://cpretirees.org/>. The club is exploring options for the future and will get it operational as soon as possible. We have three people planning and developing a resolution. In the meantime, the club will keep members updated through emails, newsletters and Cal Poly Report submissions. The club apologizes for any inconvenience that this might cause. Anyone with questions can contact club President Joe Grimes at jgrimes@calpoly.edu or 805-540-0678.

ORDERING CSU-RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF ASSOCIATION POCKET CALENDARS

By Joe Grimes

CSU-RFSC will be publishing pocket calendars this year and sending them to those who request them. As a member, you may contact Melanie Mamakos at the email address csuerfsa@csun.edu and she will place you on the "opt in" list.

BECOME A MEMBER!

By Kathy Mastako

If you're receiving this newsletter and haven't yet joined Cal Poly's Retired Faculty and Staff Club, now is the time to do so. The dues are minimal—just \$10 a year. Or, you can save yourself the hassle of annual dues and help fund a scholarship for a deserving student at the same time. More about that option in a bit.

The club works on your behalf to offer opportunities to volunteer your talents, socialize, make new friends, connect with old friends, gather together to learn what's new at Cal Poly and elsewhere (like our trip to the Getty Center in October), and support your University in its "Learn by Doing" endeavors. You spent all or part of your working career as part of the Cal Poly community; the club helps ensure your connection to this community—and Cal Poly's connection to you—continues in this newest chapter of your life.

Your annual \$10 dues help to offset club expenses. But if you're feeling philanthropic or just prefer a one-time membership fee, we encourage you to consider the club's "lifetime membership" option. Many of our members have made this choice in lieu of once-a-year dues. One hundred percent of the lifetime membership fee goes into an endowment the club has established to fund student scholarships. Members have the pleasure of meeting and hearing from the club's Centennial Fund scholarship recipients at the University's annual June Jubilee, which pays tribute to retired faculty and staff. To become a member of the Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Club, just complete and mail the form at the end of this newsletter. Welcome, in advance, to club membership!

We also encourage you to join the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association (CSU-ERFSA), a statewide organization devoted to addressing the concerns and protecting the rights of all retired California State University faculty and staff, especially pension and health care benefits. Dues are nominal, ranging from \$5 to \$10 a month depending on your monthly retirement benefit. And, a portion of your dues to CSU-ERFSA gets returned to Cal Poly's retired faculty and staff club, which helps to fund our club's activities. To learn more about CSU-ERFSA, click here: <https://www.csuerfsa.org/> To apply for CSU-ERFSA membership, click here: <https://www.csuerfsa.org/images/pdfs/application-2b.pdf>

FRIENDS NOTED IN PASSING

By Barbara Ciesielski

Patsy "Pat" Belveal (Accounting and Budget Office) passed away January 2, 2019, after a long illness.

Diane Sims Ellis (City and Regional Planning and Mechanical Engineering) passed away February 2, 2019. She began working for Cal Poly in the early 1980s and retired in 2000. While working at Cal Poly Diane earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees and graduated along with her daughter in 1990. Her co-workers remember her for her cheerful disposition, quick wit and sense of humor.

Nishan Rafi Havandjian (Journalism) died July 23, 2019. He taught at Cal Poly from 1981-2010 also serving as the Journalism Department Head. He traveled nationally and internationally throughout his career at Cal Poly working short stints as a reporter in various locations. After retirement Nishan accepted a professor position at Qatar University. He was able to travel all over the Middle East to do research for his first book published in 2016.

Dale Lackore (Cal Poly Foundation) passed away June 20, 2019. As a teenager he began working at Cal Poly as a cook and during his over 40 years of employment rose to become Assistant Director of Purchasing. He also owned and operated Dutch Made Dairy Home Delivery, one of the last home milk delivery businesses in the county.

James R. Landreth (Administration and Finance) died on June 13, 2019. His college years were interrupted by his service in the U. S. Army during the Korean War. He served in various positions at both Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo retiring as Vice President of Business Affairs at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He was active in professional, public service, and fraternal organizations at the local, state and national levels.

Kathryn "Kay" Patterson (Purchasing) passed away on April 28, 2019. During World War II, Kay worked the swing shift at the Twin City Ordinance plant operating a machine that inserted primer caps into tracer bullets. Kay moved to San Luis Obispo after the war and began working at Cal Poly, first as a part-time record keeper and then as a full-time Procurement Officer.

Silas Pompa (Facilities Management and Development) died on April 6, 2019 in Houston, Texas. He worked at Cal Poly for ten years and retired as the Director of Business and Customer Services for the Facilities Department.

Dorothy “Dottie” Stechman (Library) died on April 24, 2019. Dorothy loved interacting with college students in the campus library.

Edward Stoffel (Mechanical Engineering) passed away June 4, 2019. Ed oversaw Cal Poly’s Mechanical Engineering Fluid Lab for 30 years. After 32 years of teaching thermodynamics and fluid mechanics, he retired from Cal Poly.

Don White (Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering) passed away March 21, 2019. He worked many years in industry as a systems engineer and manager before accepting a position at Cal Poly as a professor. He later served as department chair. Don was instrumental in creating an industry partnership to enhance the educational objectives of the Engineering Management Program. He had a passion for teaching and loved interacting with the students and faculty.

Jack Wilson (Mechanical Engineering) passed away on May 1, 2019. He enjoyed teaching students and felt fortunate to have the opportunity to interact with young men and women in the university setting.

FROM THE EDITOR

If you have a short article, remembrance of a significant person, or event from your time at Cal Poly, submit the article and I will include it in our next newsletter. Please email your article to: bciesielski@msn.com or you can mail it to me at: 1221 San Carlos Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

DUES AND NEWS FORM

Annual dues for 2020 are due January 1, 2020. To pay dues for 2020, enclose your \$10 check payable to Cal Poly RF&SC and the form below and mail to **Gail Simmons, 4615 San Vicente Ave., Atascadero, CA 93422**. Dues for the year are from January 1 through December 31.

For a Life Membership, make your \$250 check payable to the Cal Poly Foundation. The entire \$250 will be added to the Retired Faculty and Staff Centennial Scholarship endowment. If you have questions about your dues, please call Gail Simmons at (805) 462-9148. Please print clearly and mention the department or unit from which you retired.

If you have any membership questions, please contact Gail Simmons at 805-462-9148 or gsimmons@calpoly.edu.

DUES AND NEWS FORM

Name _____ Spouse's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Check here if you do not have email and need to have the newsletter mailed to you.

Year you began at Cal Poly _____ Position/Department _____

Faculty _____ Staff _____ Year retired _____ Today's Date _____

Please share some of what you are doing in retirement.

Mail the above form and check to: **Gail Simmons, 4615 San Vicente Ave., Atascadero, CA 93422**

Please help us update our files by providing your current contact information

CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City/State

Zip Code

Email Address: _____

Year Retired from Cal Poly: _____

Dept./College: _____

Please detach and return to:

Jenny Gann

University Development

Attn: Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Centennial Scholarship Donation Form

Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Club Centennial Scholarship

Please accept my donation to the Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarship Fund. Remember a \$250 donation enables you to become a life member of the Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Club. You may also wish to make a donation in honor of someone or in memory of someone.

Enclosed is my contribution of (check one):

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$_____

Name/s _____

Street _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Code _____

Donation in Honor of

Donation in Memory of

Make check payable to Cal Poly Corporation and mail to
Eileen Amaral, University Advancement Programs, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF CLUB OFFICERS:

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