

COTCHETT EDUCATION BUILDING

School of Education

GRADUATE RESEARCH

SYMPOSIUM

2026



CAL POLY
School of Education



WELCOME

Welcome to the School of Education's 5th Annual Graduate Research Symposium.

Prepare to participate in the "Learn by Doing" approach.

Students in our four master's degree programs: Curriculum and Instruction (C&I), Special Education (SPED), Higher Education Counseling and Students Affairs (HECSA), and Educational Leadership and Administration (ELAP) learn about and engage in research during their program, and the symposium is an opportunity for them to share their research authentically.

Researchers worldwide use research conferences, meetings, or symposiums as one of the forums to share research, exchange ideas, and create community. This symposium follows that tradition. Today you will see in-person and virtual poster presentations. In a poster session, researchers share their methods and results in a visual format and are available for viewers to ask questions one-on-one.

If you are new to this format (or even if you're not), jump in and participate: engage with the presenters; ask questions; share your thoughts. This is your opportunity to engage in the time-honored process of knowledge creation and community building.

We are very excited to have you join the annual Graduate Research Symposium. Thank you for your participation.

All the very best,
Megan Guise
Director of the SOE

Keynote Speaker

JACOB CAMPBELL



Dr. Jacob Campbell (he/him) recently earned a Ph.D. in Educational Studies from The Ohio State University with a focus on Higher Education and Student Affairs. In his dissertation, Jacob explored how Institutional Research professionals make sense of multiracial data (e.g., Two or More Races), identifying key barriers to and opportunities for multiracial-inclusive, data-informed decision-making in higher education contexts. Broadly, Jacob's research interests include multiraciality, monoracism, and the quantification of race in higher education.

Jacob serves as a lecturer in Cal Poly's Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs program, from which he earned his M.S. in 2023. He also teaches undergraduate classes in the Women's, Gender, and Queer Studies department and recently started a full-time role as a Research Analyst supporting equity initiatives in Student Affairs at Cal Poly, including Cal Poly Scholars, Educational Opportunity Program, and TRIO Achievers. A product of the CSU system, Jacob is a former Sally Casanova Scholar and current Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program fellow.

Schedule of Events

12:00 - 12:30 pm	Formal Opening with Keynote Speaker Located in the Business Silo
12:45 - 1:20 pm	Session A Presenters on page 5
1:20 - 1:25 pm	Break
1:25 - 2:00 pm	Session B Presenters on page 6
2:00 - 2:05 pm	Break
2:05 - 2:40 pm	Session C Presenters on page 7
2:45 - 3:00 pm	Closing in Breezeway

Refreshments and a light lunch will be available for guests and participants.

Cotchett Education, Building 2

For location, please refer to the maps on pages 8-10.



CAL POLY
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SESSION A

12:45 - 1:20 pm

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Area	Name	Study
1	Abbelynn Sanchez	Impact of Differentiated Math Activity Menus on Math Understanding
3	Shay Allen	When Words Wound: A Mixed-Method Study of Racial Slurs in High School
4	Ariana Sariñana	A Content Analysis of 22 CSU Websites: College Student Access to Outdoor Recreation via Intentional Programming
6	Gianna Gutierrez	The Impact of Institutional Programs on Returning / Readmitted Students' Retention and Success in This Digital Age of Academia
7	Danielle Narzisi	Using Awe to Leverage Student Engagement in Science Learning
8	Amanda Hill	Using AI Tutoring to Promote Accuracy and Assignment Completion for High School Students with Disabilities
9	Katie Guzman	California Teacher Shortage: High School Agriculture Education
10	Fatima Ramirez-Perez	Early Learning Exposure for English Language Learner's Phonological and Linguistic Development
11	Shayna Davis	Impact of SEL Learning Unit on Middle School Students' Sense of Connectedness
12	Meagan Helm	Exploring the Social-Emotional Effects of Tracking in Middle School ELA
127	Alyssa Wogahn	Lessons in Leadership: Long-Standing Teachers on Leadership and Identity
127	Gabrielle Mahfood	Dramatic Play and Vocabulary Usage in Transitional Kindergarten
127	Lauren Urmson	Developing 6th Grade Language Skills Through Explicitly Taught Vocabulary Strategies

SESSION B

1:25 - 2:00 pm

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Area	Name	Study
1	Jaime Avila Esparza	ELD-Integrated History: Latino Contributions in World War II
3	Katrine Bryan	Is Homework Working for All?
4	Julia Broms	Guided Discovery: Supporting Primary Source Analysis
5	Katya Malinauskas	Promoting Academic Engagement through Self-Management for Students with ADHD in General Education Classrooms
6	Ella Weinert	The Effects of AI-Tutor Supported Independent Practice Compared to Independent Practice Without AI: A Single Case Research Study
7	Fernanda Garcia (Lopez)	Effects of Translanguaging Strategies in Writing
8	Daisy Ordaz	Supporting the Reading Engagement of Middle School Mixteco Students Through Culturally Relevant Texts
9	Alyssa Kjelsberg	The Impact of Technology-Supported Reading Interventions on Fourth Grade Students' Fluency and Comprehension
10	Jeniffer Palma-Guzman	Before Transferring to the Four-Year University: The Set Up
11	Maria Zepeda	Connecting Sixth Grade Students to Culturally Responsive Teaching and Culturally Relevant Lessons
12	Fatima Aguilar Salceda	From Head Start to College
127	Sarah Levin	Learning to Regulate through SEL: The Impact in a Fifth-Grade Classroom
127	Marissa Maloney	Improving Departmental Support for Incoming Transfer Students
127	Haley Fierros	Thinking Maps for Vocabulary and Oral Language Development in Multilingual Learners

SESSION C

2:05 - 2:40 pm

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

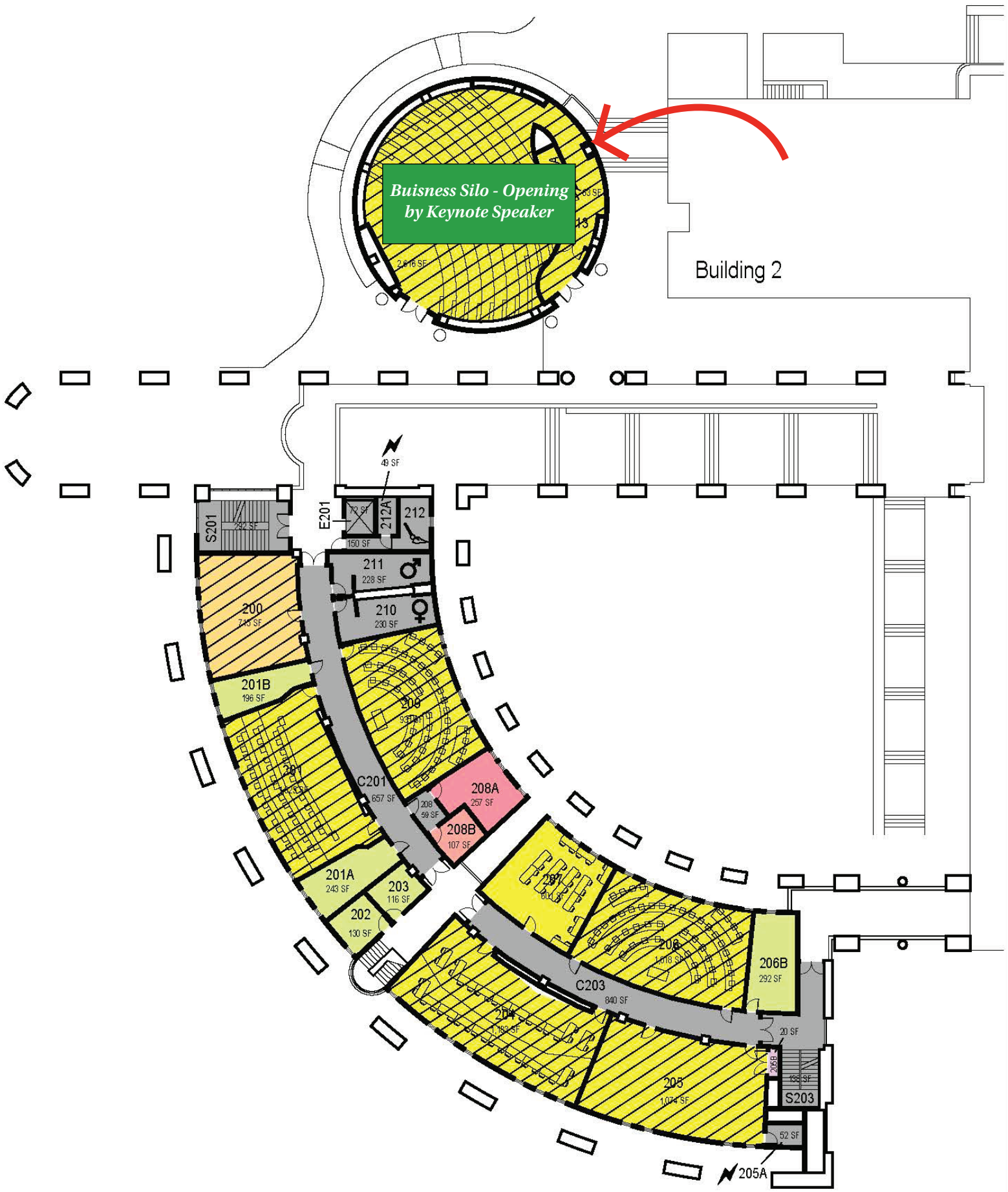
Area	Name	Study
1	Alyssa Gies	The Connection Between Personality and Teacher Job Satisfaction: The Moderating Role of Mindfulness
3	Sabrina Pratt	Wellbeing Support Needs for California Theater Educators Grades Sixth-Twelve
6	Gian-Carl Ebert	Using Social Stories to Promote Participation in Small-Group Instruction
8	Cara King	Why Polytechnic Liberal Arts? Enrollment Decisions and Institutional Brand Messaging
9	Maisue Thao	Roadrunner Hub Basic Needs Resource Center: Internal Program Review-Part 1: Qualitative Review
10	Elizabeth Paulus	From Professional Development to Classroom Practice: Supporting Executive Function in Junior High
11	Suzanne Uceda	Evaluating the Impact of Homework on Middle School Math
12	Morgan Sweeney	The Effects of a Teacher vs Student Race Track Game on Academic Engagement
127	Liseth Moreno Jimenez	Guided Play and Letter Sound Correspondence in Emergent Bilingual Students
127	Rob Robertson	504's Student Impact and Teacher Support

VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS

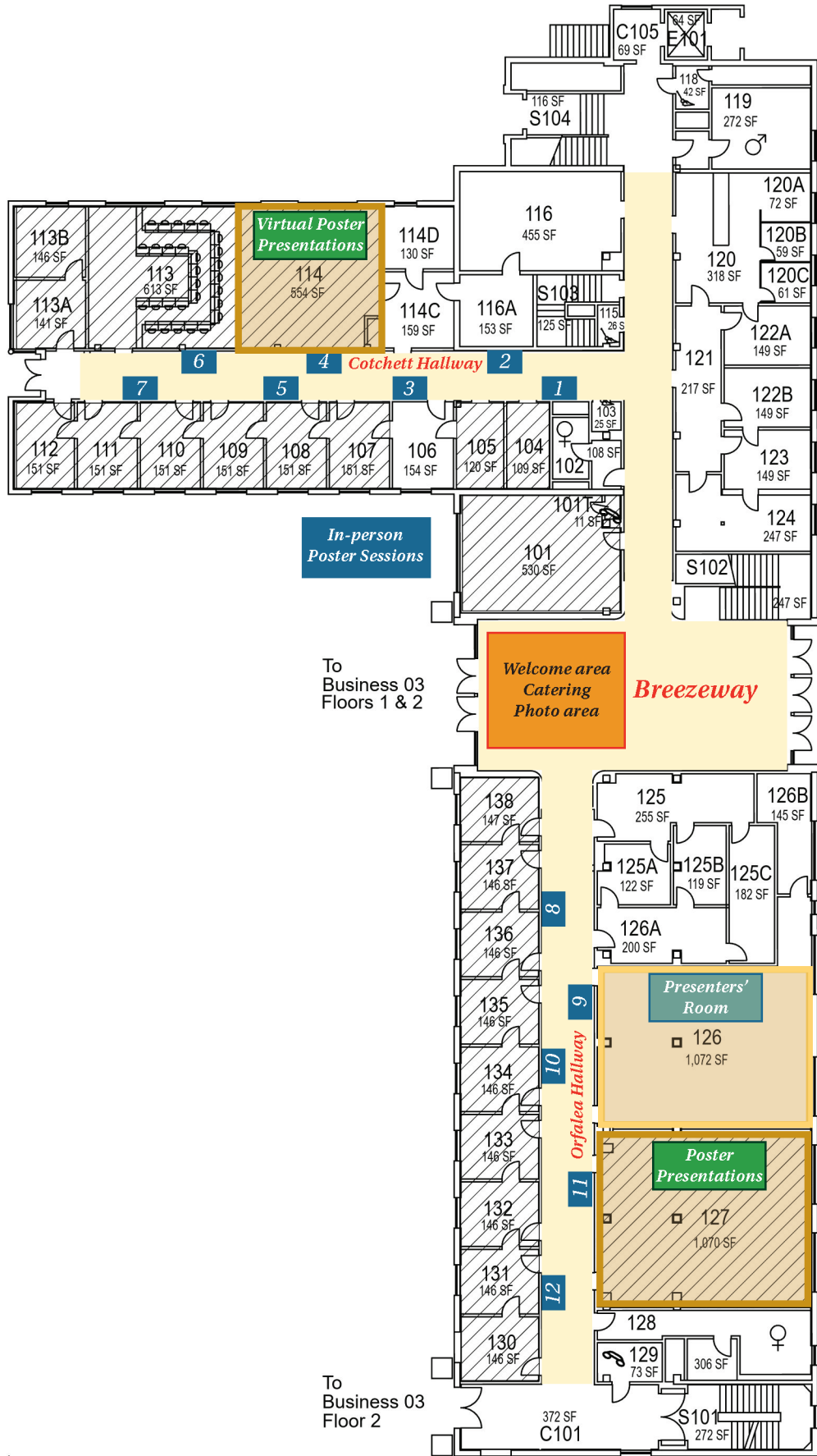
Session A 12:45 - 1:20 PM

Room	Name	Study
114	Makenna Reece	Improving Multisyllabic Word Reading with a Reading Intervention Cycle
114	Brooke Fledderman	Implementation of Environmental Sustainability Curriculum in Early Childhood Education
114	Lyba Hussain	The Effects of Fasting on Muslim College Students
114	Julia Munoz	Math Formulas: Student Perceptions on Formula Sheets vs Memorizing for Assessments

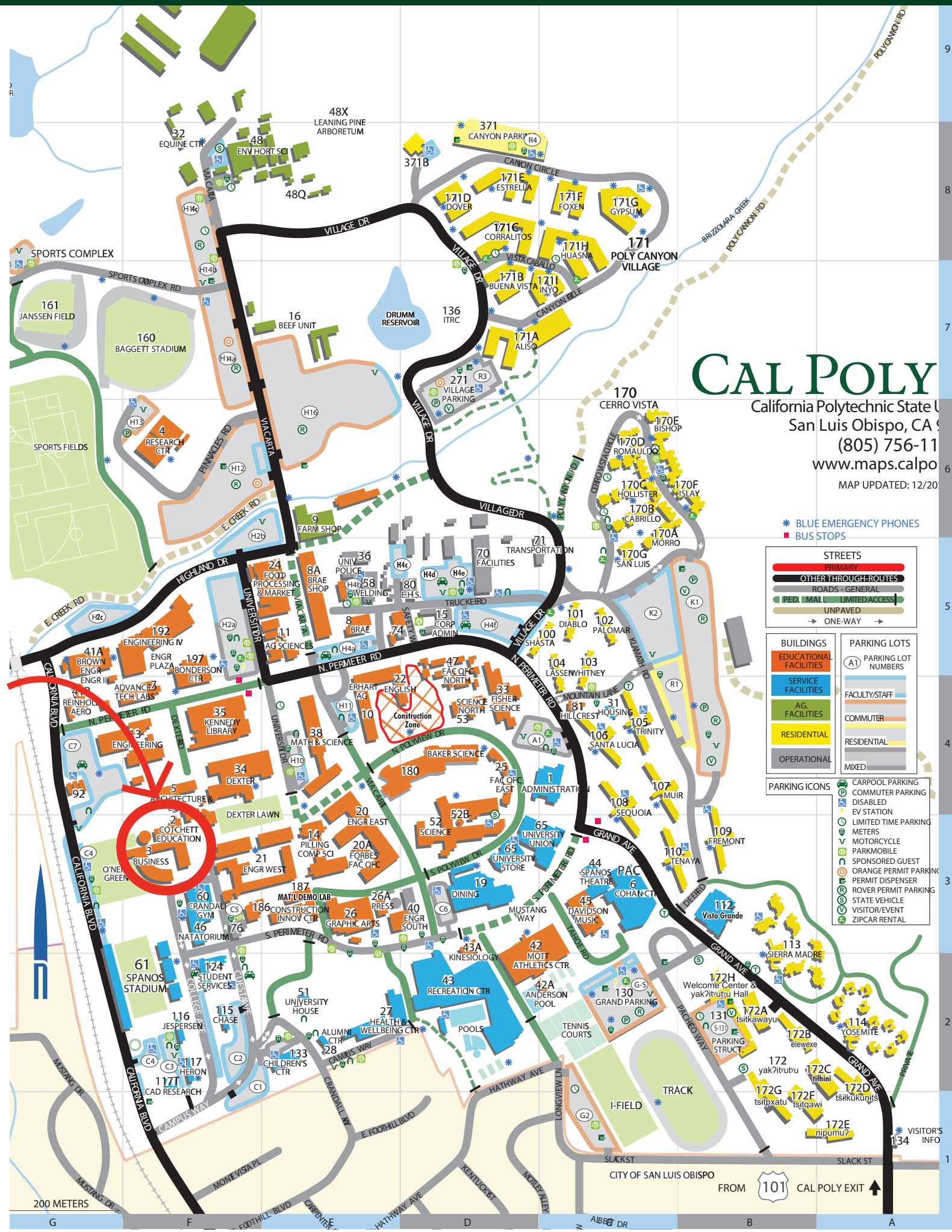
EVENT MAP



EVENT MAP



CAL POLY MAP



CAL POLY
 California Polytechnic State University
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
 (805) 756-1111
www.maps.calpoly.edu
 MAP UPDATED: 12/2018

* BLUE EMERGENCY PHONES
 ■ BUS STOPS

STREETS	
	PRIMARY
	OTHER THROUGH ROUTES
	ROADS - GENERAL
	PEDESTRIAN - LIMITED ACCESS
	UNPAVED
	ONE-WAY

BUILDINGS	
	EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES
	SERVICE FACILITIES
	AG. FACILITIES
	RESIDENTIAL
	OPERATIONAL

PARKING LOTS	
	PARKING LOT NUMBERS
	FACULTY/STAFF
	COMMUTER
	RESIDENTIAL
	MIXED

PARKING ICONS	
	CARPPOOL PARKING
	COMMUTER PARKING
	DISABLED
	EV STATION
	LIMITED TIME PARKING
	METERS
	MOTORCYCLE
	PARKMOBILE
	SPONSORED GUEST
	ORANGE PERMIT PARKING
	PERMIT DISPENSER
	ROVER PERMIT PARKING
	STATE VEHICLE
	VISITOR/EVENT
	ZIPCAR RENTAL