



CAL POLY

# Agriview

Cal Poly College of Agriculture, San Luis Obispo Newsletter Vol 8 Issue 1

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## SOLID PEOPLE PURSUING A COMMON MISSION

**M**arch, as you know, brought a degree of fiscal certainty to State funding for the College of Agriculture. Thanks to voters, we expect the budget cut for the pending 2004-2005 academic year will remain as forecast – approximately 7%. However, it would be disingenuous to not let you know that this cut will be the third we will have taken in the eighteen months leading up to September, 2004. The first and second rollbacks totaled over 9%. By my best estimate, we will now begin the 2004-2005 academic year with the exact same dollars we began the 1989-1990 academic year.

Two questions must immediately come to mind. Are we disappointed? Yes. Are we disheartened? Absolutely not! The magic of “Learn by Doing” has never been and will never be expressed in the vagaries of one single source of support, but in the united muscle of the living capital made available day in and day out by our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. Let me tell you a little about their extraordinary recent achievements:

- Alum Allyn Rosetta, his family and business associates recently transferred \$3.3 million worth of real estate to us in honor of Edgar Hyer and Dan Chase.
- Agribusiness senior Michael Brughelli was selected Outstanding Student Employee of the Year by Cal Poly
- The Wine & Viticulture major was approved by the CSU Trustees and will begin this September.
- The Flower Judging Team won its national championship for the third year in a row. What makes that astounding is not the consecutive wins, but a contest rule that students can only compete once in their collegiate career. There are no “returning veterans.”

- The Horticulture Judging Team won their American Society of Horticultural Science competition also for the third year in a row.
- Cal Poly Dairy Science Professor Rafael Jimenez-Flores was named recipient of the 2003 Milk Industry Teaching Award.
- Dr. Jennifer Ryder Fox, head of the Horticulture and Crop Science Department, received The Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award from the federal EPA.
- The Dairy Cattle Judging Team won the North American Livestock Exposition Dairy Judging Contest following their win at the 35th All-American Dairy Cattle Collegiate Judging Contest.
- The Dairy Products Evaluation Team won its third championship in the past four years at the Collegiate Dairy Products Evaluation Contest.
- Agribusiness students won the Student Case Study Competition sponsored by the Food Distribution Research Society.
- Sherman Library and Gardens of Corona Del Mar has

- created two full scholarships – from fees and books to board and personal expenses – for two Environmental Horticultural Science students each year.
- The Centennial Campaign has broken well through its 12/31/04 goal of \$40,000,000.
- The Cal Poly Fund for Agriculture is on record pace for the ninth year in a row.
- We again received many



David J. Wehner, Ph. D.  
Dean of Agriculture

times more applications for admission than we could possible accommodate.

- Ninety-seven percent of our 2002 graduates were either fully employed or in graduate school within one year of graduation.

These are not the signs or accomplishments of a program withering away or stalling, but a mere glimpse at the power of solid people pursuing a common mission. I hope you do have an opportunity to visit us. The ancients always felt the eyes to be the truest of the senses. You will be so proud.

P.S. Without a doubt, you have noticed the new format for this AgriView. It will be the way we need to go in the foreseeable future in order to husband our resources. This format will allow us to keep you abreast of major activities here, but it will not permit us to go into the traditional level of detail we would like to present. I hope your visits to campus or to our various websites will help round out the picture.



**Above left:** L to R Bryan Henriott, Jon-Paul Williams, Jennifer Hart, and Cecilia Carreno. Jon-Paul was the number one individual judge in the country and Bryan was the second best judge.

**Image at right:** Michael is being congratulated by Agribusiness Department Chair Dr. Ken Scott.



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