

Monday's Message – April 9, 2012

Hello everyone!

If you watched last week's video, you know that we packed a lot of news and information in those nine minutes. But we failed to celebrate a great effort by our civil engineers, so today they get star billing.

Our [student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers](#) took first place in the Pacific Southwest Conference and competition. Hosted by our own civil engineering department, the event included 1,000-plus civil engineering students from 18 universities in Central and Southern California, southern Nevada, Arizona and Hawaii.

The Broncos placed first in four categories and second in two. They topped Arizona State, the University of Arizona, UCLA, UC Irvine, Hawaii and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo among many others. The concrete canoe team will move on to the ASCE national competition at the University of Nevada in Reno on June 14-16, just one week after commencement. I apologize for not mentioning this great achievement last week. The entire department deserves special kudos for hosting an excellent conference.

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Speaking of student clubs, congratulations to the American Marketing Association, which just returned from the 34th International Collegiate Conference with a number of awards including outstanding fundraising and outstanding communications. Cal Poly Pomona is home to one of the top 25 AMA chapters in the country. Congratulations!

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Cal Poly Pomona's Model United Nations team has received the Distinguished Delegation award at the National Model UN Conference in New York, representing the Republic of Cyprus. This marks the 15th consecutive year that the team has received recognition at the national conference. The Model UN is the largest student-administered conference in the United States, attracting about 400 colleges and universities from the U.S. and some 60 from overseas, with a total of about 3-4000 students.

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The Kellogg Distinguished Public Lecture Series continues next Thursday, April 19, when Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist [Isabel Wilkerson](#) will discuss her New York Times bestseller. The event begins at 7 p.m. in the University Theatre. It is free and open to the public.

Her book, "The Warmth of Other Suns," brings to life the great migration of roughly 6 million African Americans from the South to the north and western United States in search of a better life.

Wilkerson interviewed more than 1,200 people and unearthed archival research. Her book focuses on the lives of three individuals and also compares this epic migration to the migration of other peoples in history.

The Kellogg lecture series, funded by the Kellogg Legacy Project Endowment, aims to bring in speakers that relate to one of the university's core values. Advanced registration is required, so visit the link on your screen. <http://www.csupomona.edu/~kellogglectures/>

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Congratulations to mathematics Professor Randall Swift, who has been chosen as the 2011-12 winner of the Ralph W. Ames Distinguished Research Award in the College of Science.

Dr. Swift has an outstanding record of scholarly work in mathematics. He has published widely and prolifically as the author of more than 80 journal articles, three research monographs and three textbooks. In addition, he has served as the principal investigator or co-PI on numerous federal and state grants totaling in excess of \$2.76 million dollars.

Randall will be formally recognized at the College of Science commencement on Sunday, June 10.

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And how about our Society of Automotive Engineers in the College of Engineering? They have been selected as the Outstanding Collegiate Branch Award by SAE International. It's only appropriate that our own Cliff Stover was selected as the Outstanding Faculty Advisor by the same organization. Both awards will be presented in Detroit at the 2012 SAE World Congress on April 25. Cliff is the advisor for several competitive student projects, including SAE Formula and SAE Baja teams. Congratulations on this much-deserved recognition.

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Internationally acclaimed architect Tadao Ando was named the recipient of the 2012 Neutra Medal for Professional Excellence by the Department of Architecture. The Neutra Medal recognizes contribution from individuals to the environmental design profession. Mr. Ando joins a renowned list of professionals to earn this prestigious award, including Renzo Piano, Kisho Kurokawa, Herman Hertzberger, Moshe Safdie, Raymond Kappe, Raphael Soriano, and, most recently, Thom Mayne.

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This year has been a tough one for Betty and me. After the passing of my mother we recently lost what had become an icon at Cal Poly Pomona, Piglet, the first dog, has moved on to be with Mom. After 17 years, we will miss her greatly. When you see me around campus, many of you ask me about Piglet, so I thought that I needed to inform you. I know that many of you share our loss and we thank you for that.

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I am going to close with a reminder – lots of unique events this week that make the university experience so extraordinary.

This Wednesday, [Angela Davis](#) will lecture from 2 to 4 p.m. in Ursa Major about her research as well as social activism, sharing her experiences on effectively organizing and speaking out. The campus community is invited, but you must pick up your tickets at the Office of Student Life & Cultural Centers in the Historic Stables. Be sure to bring your Bronco ID.

Thursday brings the 20th anniversary of our annual [Unity Luncheon](#), featuring keynote speaker and President Emeritus Bob Suzuki. It all starts at 11:30 a.m. in Ursa Major. If you still need to register, visit the site on your screen.

<https://register.dsa.csupomona.edu/2012unityluncheon>

On Friday in the BSC, we have two amazing opportunities. The morning will feature the inaugural [PolyTeach](#) event, designed to explore our growing use of technology to enhance learning opportunities for our students. Then at 3 p.m., the economics department will host Nobel Prize-winning economist [Paul Krugman](#). The New York Times columnist is one of the nation's preeminent scholars.

And finally, the [Bronco baseball team](#) is home this weekend with a four-game series against Cal State Stanislaus. Starting on Friday, there are only six regular season home games remaining. Cal Poly Pomona is competing for one of the final spots in the CCAA Baseball Tournament, so let's get out and support our team. For more information, visit Bronco Athletics.

<http://www.broncoathletics.com>.

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And that wraps up my message for today. Thanks for watching, and I'll see you next Monday.