

President's Weekly Video February 3, 2014

Good afternoon, everyone!

Since our announcement last week that we will retire at the end of this calendar year, Betty and I have been overwhelmed by warm responses. We would like to thank you all for your kind notes and messages. It has been our great honor and pleasure to work alongside you.

And the work must continue. As we heard in Chancellor Timothy White's state of the CSU address, the need has never been greater to prepare the next generation of leaders. The workforce needs more trained graduates, and our underrepresented students need more opportunity. Meeting those needs is just a small part of what we do at Cal Poly Pomona.

If you walk through the College of Business Administration's classroom building, you will come across the Dr. Cheryl Wyrick Breakout Room. It is a wonderful place where students can study, work on team projects and enjoy a quiet yet focused atmosphere. And there's a great view of the surrounding grounds as well.

We can thank the room's namesake, Cheryl Wyrick, associate dean of the College of Business Administration, for a generous donation that made the room possible. She has long supported programs on campus, including Renaissance Scholars and the College of Business Administration's expansion.

Cheryl is one of many members of our campus community whose generosity is making a difference at Cal Poly Pomona. In this year of the Faculty/Staff Campaign, I encourage you to consider making a gift. To see Cheryl's story, check

out the Polycentric home page. From there you can also see why some of our colleagues have made supporting the university a part of their lives.

Have you ever wanted to join the winning team of the Cal Poly Rose Float program? Well, here's your chance. You can submit a float concept for the 2015 parade. If you want to see your idea make its way down Colorado Boulevard on the big day, submit your concept, or multiple concepts, by Friday, February 7th, at 5 p.m. to the Rose Float Office in Building 26.

The theme of the 2015 parade is INSPIRING STORIES, which pays tribute to people who elevate the human spirit, sacrifice unselfishly, give immeasurably, or overcome obstacles. If your concept is selected, you have the choice of being rewarded \$500 cash or two Rose Bowl Tickets!

Last week, about 800 people attended the Kellogg Distinguished Lecture featuring Rigoberta Menchu Tum. The Noble Peace Prize-winner captivated the campus with her presentation on Ending Racism and Hate.

There are some wonderful events for the campus to enjoy this week.

Students are also encouraged to attend P.M. Pizza with the Presidents tonight at 6 p.m. in the Bronco Student Center's Ursa Major Suite. Students can ask campus leadership questions they need answered, while enjoying a free dinner.

Visit the university calendar from the home page to learn about more events.

The men's and women's basketball teams just scored big wins over Cal State San Bernardino, putting both in first place in the conference. They are clearly ready

for Homecoming and I hope you are as well. The Festivities begin on Friday and continue through Saturday, so it's time to put on your game face! (transition to video at: <http://youtu.be/L14kA-l1QY>)