

## Monday's Message – April 2, 2012

Greetings everyone! Welcome to April and the second week of spring quarter...

As you might guess, I love to celebrate and share great news. Last week we achieved something that many thought was impossible. On Wednesday, the Comprehensive Campaign reached the \$100 million dollar mark.

Hitting this point during a distressing economic era truly speaks to all your work, as well as the passion of our friends and alumni who recognize our role in educating tomorrow's leaders.

The campaign laid out four goals: to strengthen the university's ability to provide hands-on learning opportunities, to prepare students for the changing demands of workplace, to increase research and scholarship opportunities, and to ensure that a quality college education remains within reach for underrepresented communities.

The fruits of the campaign are evident throughout campus, starting with the recipients of more than \$5 million in scholarships this past academic year alone. Last fall, the Kellogg Legacy Project Endowment awarded nearly \$1.6 million dollars in grants to 25 unique campus programs. The Lyle Center is now home to two large solar panels donated by Amonix, making this the first carbon neutral facility in the CSU. And the Collins College is in the planning stages of a \$10 million dollar building project.

To me, one of the most impressive features of the campaign is that we now have more than 5,200 first-time donors. Through this, we have raised the intellectual capital of the university and supported scholarships. This is a success story that will play out for decades.

But we are not home yet. This is a \$150 million dollar campaign. There are a number of major proposals on the desks of philanthropists across the country and we continue to prove why a gift to Cal Poly Pomona is an investment in the future of California.

I want to thank our teams in University Advancement who have led us in this remarkable achievement. There are certainly more milestones ahead.

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Last September during my Fall Conference address, I spoke about the future of higher education. I posed the question as to whether we are prepared to teach and offer services built around the expectations of current and future students.

As part of that discussion, we will be hosting a unique event on Friday, April 13, built around the changing dynamic of teaching and learning. **PolyTeach** will explore our growing use of technology to enhance learning through interactive workshops and thought-provoking speakers. Some of the topics include using technology to help people learn in different

situations, unique ways the campus community is using technology and drawbacks in bringing technology into pedagogy.

The two keynote speakers include Charles Dziuban, the director of the Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness at the University of Central Florida, and Candace Thille, director of the Open Learning Initiative at Carnegie Mellon University.

The event runs from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Bronco Student Center. I encourage all members of our academic community to attend. Please register at the website on your screen:

<http://bit.ly/polyteach12>

That Friday is going to be a remarkable day. After PolyTeach, I hope you can return to the BSC at 3 p.m. when we host Nobel Prize economist Paul Krugman. The New York Times columnist has taught at Yale, MIT and Stanford. He is the author or editor of 20 books and more than 200 papers in professional journals and edited volumes. The economics department and the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences are the hosts for this extraordinary speaker.

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As long as we're talking about speakers, activist, author and academic, Ms. Angela Davis, will speak on Wednesday, April 11 about her research on prisons and incarceration as a strategy for addressing social problems. She will also discuss social activism and share her experiences with student leaders about effectively organizing and speaking out.

The lecture will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. in Ursa Major, and will be followed by a Q&A and book signing. It is free to members of the campus community and \$10 for off-campus visitors. Tickets are available at the Office of Student Life & Cultural Centers. Students, faculty and staff must pick up a ticket in person by showing their Bronco ID.

The event is sponsored by the Office of Student Life & Cultural Centers, ASI, the Hugh O. La Bounty Endowed Chair of Interdisciplinary Applied Knowledge, and is funded in part by a grant from Target.

For detailed ticket information, visit the site on your screen:

<http://dsa.csupomona.edu/osl/angeladavis.asp>

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For the next part of my video address, I need to step into a different space...

Pretty cool, huh? Welcome to cyber stadium, a place where Cal Poly Pomona's cyber defense team competes. These talented students will be making a return trip to the national championships after winning the regional competition for the fourth consecutive year.

The eight-member squad, coached by lecturer and alumnus Brandon Brown, defeated nine other schools to win the event last month. The regional competition pitted each team against a

group of hackers that tried to disrupt operations and spy on activities. Teams earned points for their technical skills as well as for their presentations. The Broncos placed first overall in defense and service provider points, and second in business problem solutions. The national competition is scheduled for April 20-22 in San Antonio, Texas.

Over the past few years, industry leaders have consistently spoken about the importance of cyber security. Through ongoing partnerships, we have been able to elevate the resources available for our faculty and students, including the space I am in now.

One of those partnerships has resulted in a \$350,000 dollar gift for the Center for Information Assurance in the College of Business Administration. The gift comes from Southern California Edison in collaboration with World Wide Technology and Cisco. It will be used to bring this new virtual stadium online, dramatically scale-up the cyber defense competition space, and expand corporate training programs as well as partnerships with the LA Unified School District.

I want to thank alumna Mahvash Yazdi, Edison's senior vice president for business integration and Chief Information Officer, for her support and efforts in bringing this gift to Cal Poly Pomona.

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OK! Congratulations to Andrew Voss in biological sciences. He has received a \$435,000 new research grant award from the National Institutes of Health. The grant will support research on the mechanism of muscle function in mammals. It will have implications for exercise-related muscle fatigue and the effects of muscle disuse. Dr. Voss teaches human physiology and he has a very active research program that includes both undergraduate and graduate students.

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The First Friday of April is coming up, so the BSC has another series of events for our students. The theme this month is Urban Showcase. A lot of activities are planned, including a guest speaker on the history of hip hop as well as live music until midnight. Visit ASI for more details.

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The Department of Geography & Anthropology and the Anthropological Society will present a documentary film forum on U.S.-Cuba relations this Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. in Ursa Major A. The university community and the public are invited to attend.

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A few more things before I close: First, I want to congratulate senior center Megan Ford of our women's basketball team. Last week she became the 32<sup>nd</sup> Cal Poly Pomona athlete to be named to the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball All-America team. Megan led the Broncos to a 19-9 record and the program's 23rd appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

The university's emergency preparedness committee is hosting an emergency preparedness fair on Tuesday, April 10. It will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Los Olivos and the residential suites.

There will be a variety of opportunities to learn of the ways you can keep your colleagues and family safe.

And finally, next week will be the 20th anniversary of our annual Unity Luncheon. I am honored to share that our keynote speaker will be President Emeritus Bob Suzuki. It's only appropriate, considering that the Unity Luncheon, as well as the cultural centers, were founded under his leadership. The theme this year is Framing Your Identity and the event will be in Ursa Major on Thursday, April 12. To register, visit the site on your screen.

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

That was a lot of news to share, an outcome of missing a couple of weeks. But I do hope you like what we're delivering. I will see you next Monday.