Dear Cal Poly Parents:

We hope your student’s winter term is off to a successful start. The feature for this edition of your e-newsletter is housing. Although it may seem early, now is the time to begin planning for fall term, particularly for students who wish to live on campus in Cal Poly’s newest residential community. Off-campus housing information is included for students interested in living in San Luis Obispo or the neighboring communities. This e-newsletter also introduces to you a free mediation resource for students and community members to help them deal with housing disputes or other conflicts.

We also want you to be aware of a new text messaging service Cal Poly is offering, which will enable your students to receive timely information by text message or e-mail about a campus emergency. Your students must sign up for this service; please encourage them to do this through the Cal Poly portal. As always, please don’t hesitate to contact the Parent Helpline at 805-756-6700, or one of our Parent Advisory Council members listed on our Contact A Parent Web page if you have questions or need assistance.

CAMPUS LIVING AT POLY CANYON VILLAGE

Cal Poly’s University Housing is pleased to announce the eagerly awaited opening of a new state-of-the-art student housing complex, Poly Canyon Village. The fall 2008 opening of Poly Canyon Village brings students the very best campus living experience—one that includes a learning center and retail, dining and recreation, including a swimming pool and hiking trails.

Located at the northeast corner of campus, Poly Canyon Village consists of nine four- and five-story buildings with 618 furnished units, most of which are private, four-bedroom apartments.

In February, an online lottery will be held to give current Cal Poly freshman living on and off-campus an opportunity to apply for housing for fall 2008 at Poly Canyon Village Apartments. Freshmen currently living off-campus will be required to attend one of the mandatory Residential Life meetings to support their transition to on-campus housing and to be eligible for the initial lottery process.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE POLY CANYON VILLAGE LOTTERY

This is only a summary. Please view the Poly Canyon Village Web site for updates and answers to frequently asked questions.

January 23-31: Freshmen students currently living off campus who wish to live on campus in Poly Canyon Village for the 2008-09 academic year attend one mandatory informational meeting in order to be applicants in the lottery. View Meeting Information.

February 5-18: Current Cal Poly freshman apply to the Poly Canyon Village Apartment lottery.

You’re invited to join us for coffee and conversation and to meet your Cal Poly neighbors. Established in 2003, the coffees series is hosted by various local parents each academic year. We look forward to meeting you at an upcoming coffee!

Monday, March 10
Home of Lisa George
7 pm – 9 pm
Novato, CA

Monday, May 5
Home of Sita Ananth and Michael Clausen
7 pm – 9 pm
American Canyon, CA

SONOMA, NAPA, MARIN, AND MENDOCINO COUNTY PARENTS

View Details and Respond Here.
February 26: Poly Canyon Village lottery results are posted on the Cal Poly Portal.

February 26 - March 7: Students who are successful in the Poly Canyon Village lottery access the Housing application through the Cal Poly portal and sign the Poly Canyon Village Apartment Student Housing License Agreement. Students send the first installment (or mark "by Financial Aid" as method of payment) and the completed license agreement to the State Cashier's Office, Administration Building, Room 131E no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, March 7. If the license agreement and payment are not received by the due date and time, the student forfeits his/her space.

February 26 - March 10: Students who were not successful in the lottery place their names on an interest list by their lottery position. A payment/deposit is not required to be placed on the interest list.

March 14: Current on-campus residents who did not enter the lottery or interest list process and continuing students living on and off-campus can request to have their name be placed on the interest list by calling the Poly Canyon Village Administrative Office at 805.756.9300 or e-mailing a request to University Housing. A payment/deposit is not required to be placed on the interest list.

Cal Poly Housing and Residential Life has a new name – University Housing. For more information about housing at Cal Poly, visit the University Housing Web site or call 805.756.1226.

OFF-CAMPUS LIVING

For students who choose to live off-campus or are not successful in the Poly Canyon Village Apartment lottery, University Housing will host an Off-Campus Housing Fair Wednesday, April 9 from 11 am – 2 pm in the University Union Plaza to introduce them to off-campus housing resources. In addition, Cal Poly's Guide for Living Off-Campus, available at the University Housing office, provides students with helpful tips related to roommates, lease and rental agreements tenant responsibilities and moving. For rental listings, see:

- www.housing.calpoly.edu Click on "Off-campus – Search Rentals."
- www.asi.calpoly.edu Click on "Classifieds."
- www.slo-off-campushousing.com
- www.slo.craigslist.org
- Local Newspapers - The Tribune and New Times

FREE CONFLICT RESOLUTION SERVICES
Available to Students Living in San Luis Obispo

We all experience conflict from time to time. Handling it effectively is challenging, particularly when problems have time to escalate. Many people don’t consider intervention; but, the assistance of a skilled mediator can help relieve an uncomfortable situation.

SLO Solutions provides free conflict resolution resources to students and local residents, addressing matters in a forum that encourages communication, creative problem solving and win-win solutions. The
Cal Poly recently activated a new notification system that enables the university to send text messages to students, faculty and staff in the event of a campus emergency or a situation affecting the campus community.

The new system, powered by e2Campus, enables university officials to send instant alerts directly to registered subscribers’ e-mail accounts and mobile phones via SMS text messages. Subscribers can also receive alerts via RSS, wireless PDA, My Yahoo, My AOL, and personalized iGoogle home pages.

“The alerts go right to users’ cell phones the minute the news happens,” explains Larry Kelley, Vice President for Administration and Finance. “It’s a convenient system for everyone because it reaches people whether they are on or off campus.”

University Police Chief Bill Watton is urging the entire campus community to register. “Cal Poly’s new emergency notification is an excellent system, but it only works if people sign up for the service,” he said.

Students may sign up for the service through the “Main” tab on the Cal Poly portal. Once there, they should click on the link for the Emergency Notification System and follow the instructions. There are no fees for enrolling in the service; however, individual cell-carriers may charge for text messages received.