

CLA demolition prompts break-ins

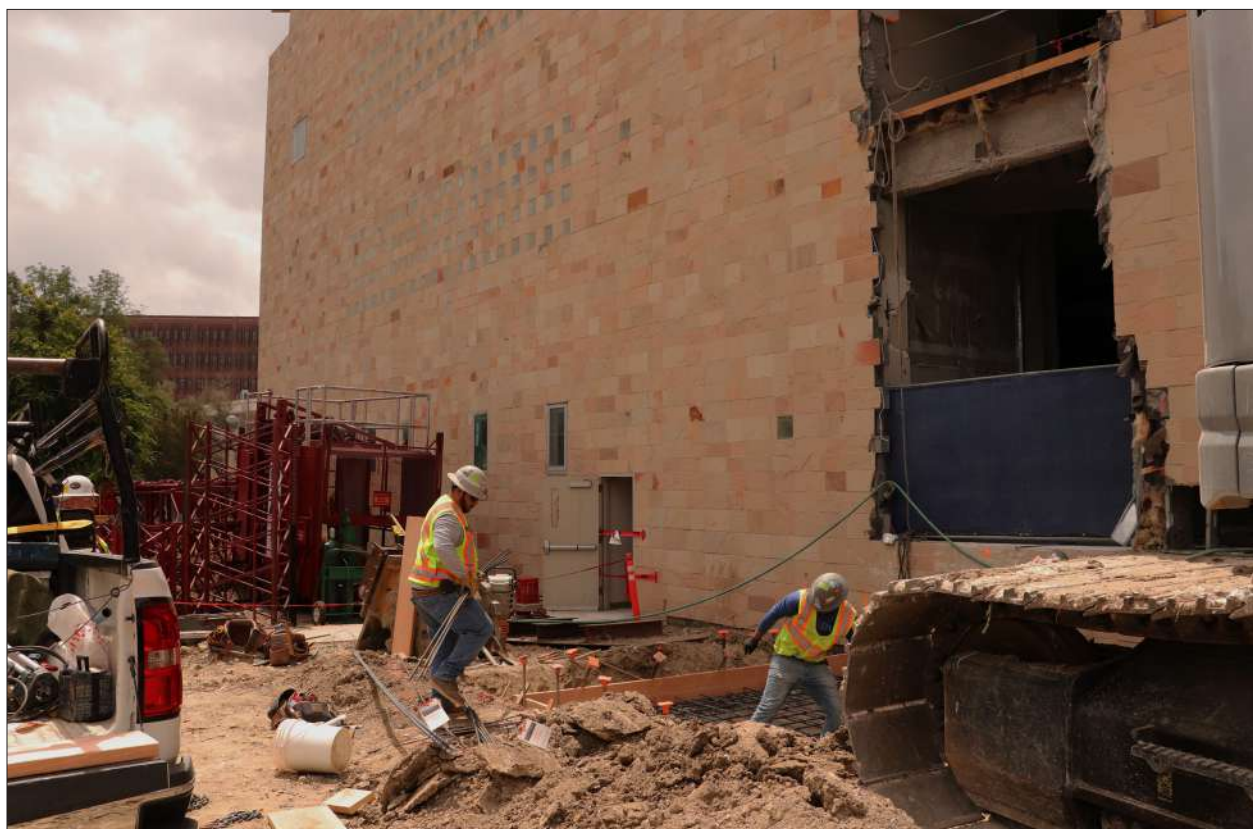
By **SILAS HOOD**
Staff Writer

The demolition of the CLA tower on the Cal Poly Pomona campus allured many students to explore, photograph and vandalize the soon to be fallen structure.

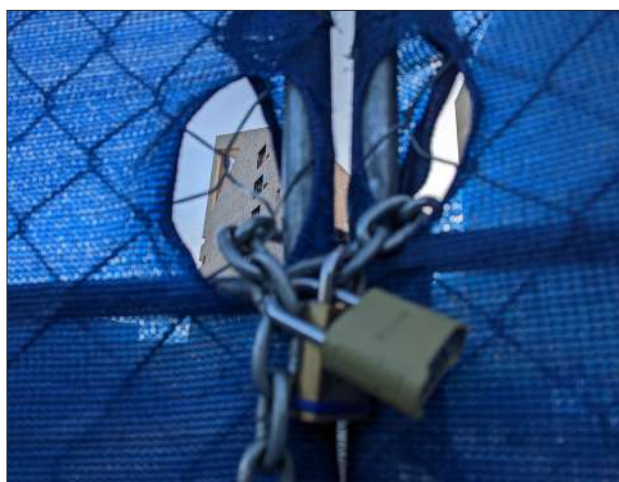
While CPP faculty and staff understand the attraction to go inside the construction site, the CLA tower is an active demolition site with numerous safety concerns from unguarded rooftops, loose debris and many other dangers.

“There’s pictures from inside the building on Reddit, I mean it’s exciting I can see, but I’m glad they didn’t get hurt, I really am,” said Bruyn Bevans, senior project manager of Facilities Planning, Design and Construction. “Coming into the building, trespassing, at night because there aren’t lights ... my concern is for their own safety. They could get hurt, cut themselves ... I mean we will find them the next day, I get that, but it may be too late to save their life and that’s what I am more concerned about.”

The site is monitored by private security contracted by C.W. Driver out of CPP’s budget, and due to the progressive break-ins, UPD has also joined in preventing students from trespassing. “We increased the number of security guards and we collaborated with UPD who is putting extra patrols in the area,” said Aaron Klemm, senior associate vice president



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CLA building is closed to the public.

for Facilities Planning and Management. “That also means there is less money for us to design the outdoor gathering space that will replace the building.”

The worksite is a restricted area under the management of C.W. Driver, the Construction Manager at Risk. Once

the fencing went up, they became the primary caretaker of the area and those without permission into the site are trespassing which comes with consequences administered by CPP’s Office of Student Conduct and Integrity.

The Director of Student Conduct and Integrity,

Jonathan Pettigrew, shared what the process is like for students facing allegations.

“We do an evaluation on a case-by-case basis because we are taking a holistic approach to our process ... to make the best decision we can to again hold the student accountable and of course

support the student,” said Pettigrew. “Consequences start on one end of the spectrum, the lower hand could be a warning, then a worst-case scenario could be suspension or expulsion from the university ... In the middle of that we have a range of sanctions.”

Pettigrew also

shared how part of the determination for student consequences factors in related infractions, something the department has incurred.

“We have had cases in general that have dealt with trespassing and unauthorized presence in university buildings and things of that nature ... we have and are currently addressing allegations regarding those scenarios,” said Pettigrew.

With the trespassing, there have been reports of vandalism within the tower and while it will eventually be demolished, unplanned damages pose risks and setbacks to the contractors already on a tight schedule.

“They have to use equipment to be able to get this (flooring) up because of all the broken glass, it just makes their job that much harder,” said Bevans.

Trespassing, photographing and vandalizing the CLA tower increased with the reality of the tower’s removal from the campus. Authorities caution that the safety risks of these actions are serious and the university does not want anything to potentially happen for the sake of the students and of the school.

“The damage is one thing, it’s going to happen, its if they get hurt. The university will (also) be blamed because they got hurt on a site they weren’t even supposed to be on,” said Bevans.

Reach Silas Hood at managing@thepolypost.com

Honors class maps out campus accessibility issues

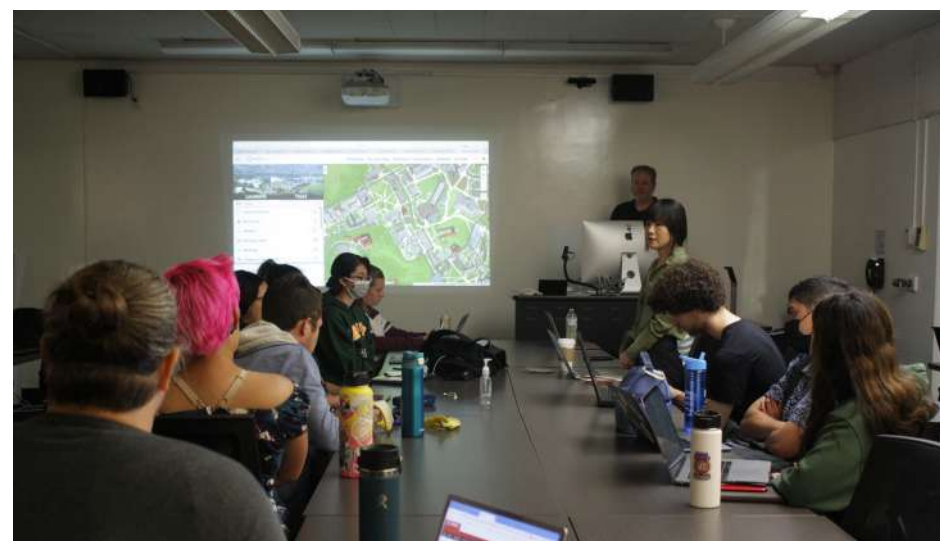
By **ANA SALGADO**
Staff Writer

On May 3, an honors class of 12 students, partnered with staff from the Disability Resource Center and Information Technology & Institutional Planning, gathered to share an excel sheet file that indicated accessible recommended paths of travel for individuals with mobility impairments.

Hyeryung Hwang, an assistant professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary General Education, has partnered with DRC staff and IT to access helpful resources for a class project she

originally assigned to honor students in IGE 1020H. The project began in late February and is now more collaborative. Hwang and the students discovered that unlike some other California State University campuses, Cal Poly Pomona did not have an accessibility campus map for the disabled.

In order to fulfill the unit of Higher Education and Community Engagement, Hwang’s students were asked to travel around campus to find any possible issues to accessibility entrances or elevators in difficult-to-locate campus buildings. Hwang reminded



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Students from IGE meet with DRC and IT to consider current campus map to address accessibility issues.

students that they would need to note important information about buildings that needed elevators, power doors

and ease of accessible paths as they canvassed campus collecting data.

It was found that buildings 26, 29, 31 and 32,

which make up University Plaza, did not have power doors or accessible travel paths.

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ASI approves textbook and food justice resolutions

By **KAITLYN OLIVEROS**
Staff Writer

ASI Board of Directors held its final virtual meeting of the semester on May 5, voting yes on the textbook and food justice resolutions.

Both resolutions were approved with a unanimous vote of 8-0 with a blanket motion set forth by the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences, seconded by the Greek Council.

Drafting these solutions often starts with a recommendation by a

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State senator names President Coley Woman of the Year

By MEGAN FREEMAN
Staff Writer

On April 16, Cal Poly Pomona’s President, Soraya M. Coley, received the Woman of the Year award for 2022 at the “Women’s Leadership Luncheon” hosted by the Women’s Caucus and Leyva. This event was organized by California State Sen. Connie Leyva’s office.

Leyva, D-Chino, honored Coley this award for her advocacy of Cal Poly Pomona students and the greater Inland Empire.

Leyva and Coley have been working together for many years and have great respect and admiration for one another.

“Since President Coley arrived at Cal Poly Pomona, she has certainly been an unrelenting and passionate advocate for students, staff, faculty and the community,” Leyva said in a statement on her website. “My office has worked closely with her and the polytechnic university throughout her tenure, and we have built a strong relationship that I know has served the Cal Poly Pomona community and my entire Senate district and region well during all these years.”

The two women have supported each other at their various events, with Coley being a keynote speaker and host at Leyva’s Young Women Leadership Conference in 2015. Coley is a regular attendee of these conferences. There is also an annual “Career Day with Connie” event hosted at various elementary schools. Which is regularly attended by CPP community and Coley.

Coley could not be reached for an interview prior to deadline, so she provided a statement.

“It really is an honor, especially coming from someone like Senator Leyva, who has been such a passionate advocate for women and women’s issues in California,” said Coley in a statement. “But in truth, I see this acknowledgment not so much as what I’ve



COURTESY OF RAISA MAJID



COURTESY OF RAISA MAJID



COURTESY OF RAISA MAJID

Top: Attendees of the 2022 Women’s Leadership Luncheon; Bottom-left: Coley with Raissa Majid; Bottom-right: Coley and Sen. Leyva.

accomplished, but what has been made possible by the countless women

resilience in the face of racism and prejudice. And I think of the many

honor for Coley, who credits previous women for contributing to the

than President Soraya Coley to recognize as Woman of the Year for

“I see this acknowledgment not so much as what I’ve accomplished, but what has been made possible by the countless women who came before me. As an educator and scholar, my journey could not have been possible without their sacrifices and commitment.”

-Soraya M. Coley
University President

who came before me. As an educator and scholar, my journey could not have been possible without their sacrifices and commitment. I think of my mother, grandmother and teachers who instilled in me self-worth and

trailblazers that created the path before me in higher education. I owe them everything.”

Senators select a woman of the year in their district to honor during Women’s History Month. The award has been an

award.

“Whenever my office calls upon President Coley to partner on one of our many projects and efforts, she is always there,” continued Leyva’s statement. “I can think of no more deserving person

2022.”

As a more intimate event with 34 attendees, the event held a Q&A with Coley at the end moderated by CPP student and ASI Secretary of External Affairs Raissa Majid.

“It was a wonderful experience (moderating the event),” said Majid. “Beforehand, I got to talk with a lot of the women who were invited to the event, so it was a great experience to talk to them and hear about their experience and their specific experiences with how they entered their careers as women and the challenges they faced.”

In her current role with ASI, Majid deals with civic engagement and governmental issues, such as dealing with the student body and presidential events. Majid also shared her experience of being in a position of power as a woman.

“I, so far, within ASI student government, haven’t felt anything in being in an area that men more dominated,” said Majid. “I believe last semester and earlier this semester we had our cabinet in ASI government was mostly made up of women, so it was really interesting. There was no pushback, and everyone got along really well, but that’s not to say that’s not something we face daily.”

Majid felt that being able to talk to Leyva and Coley about their careers and how they achieved their success is inspiring and resonates with her. She thought that the event was to honor all the women there.

In a statement, Coley wrote: “Any honor I may receive is a reflection of the amazing work happening at Cal Poly Pomona. The commitment and dedication of our students, faculty and staff crystalize in a unique institution that provides transformative opportunities and launches students into a lifetime of success. And underlying our progress is our fundamental collective commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and keeping the doors of opportunity open wide.”

Reach Megan Freeman at
managing@thepolypost.com

Academic Senate urges reappointing ombudsperson

By CECILIA LEYVA
Staff Writer

Despite a monthslong effort by Cal Poly Pomona’s Academic Senate urging University President Soraya Coley to appoint someone to fill the position of university ombudsperson, the Office of the President has yet to commit to hiring someone, leaving the position vacant since 2020.

The Office of the University Ombuds was a third-party resource that provided students, faculty and staff confidential and impartial resolutions to problems or concerns. However, after the retirement of former ombudsperson, Lavada Austin, Coley released a statement explaining her decision to leave the position vacant. She noted other resources found in divisions and offices such as Student Affairs, Faculty Affairs and Employee Labor Relations in lieu of an ombuds office.

Since December 2021, the Academic Senate sought to pass a

resolution urging Coley to fill the vacant position. Cynthia Peters, senior communications specialist for Cal Poly Pomona, reiterated the campus’ alternative resources and the creation of new resources to substitute the ombuds office.

“The university is taking the time to re-envision the best way to offer a broader range of assistance,” said Peters. “A lot of resources are being put into Student Affairs. They are creating a one-stop care center that would include some of the ombuds functions.”

The Academic Senate’s resolution, however, does not regard those resources as adequately neutral of the university in the same way the ombuds office once was. The resolution also notes that the lack of an ombuds office can have a particularly adverse effect on underrepresented groups on campus.

“These resources are inadequate as they cannot provide a safe, neutral, confidential, and independent resource for the aforementioned



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Building 1 which housed the Ombuds office has been vacant since 2020.

aggrieved parties without fear of retribution, creating a liability for the university,” reads the resolution.

Nicholas Von Glahn, vice chair of the Academic Senate, could not be scheduled for an interview prior to deadline.

Of the 23 California State University campuses, only 11 currently house an ombuds office.

Keith Freeseemann, the ombudsperson for Cal State Long Beach, for the past eight years, stressed the significance the position holds for campus life.

“Our goal as an ombuds

is to talk through and reframe issues, help people think about their options and the alternatives available to them,” said Freeseemann. “There is a variety of things people come into the office for.”

Because of the neutral and informal nature of the position, Freeseemann details the numerous concerns he can assist with.

“Some students will come to me about issues related to a conflict with a professor, academic integrity, policy concerns or just looking

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Grad events celebrate students’ culture, identity

By LESLY VELASCO GUERRA
Sports Editor

As commencement season approaches, the Office of Student Equity, Diversity and Inclusion celebrates their annual Cultural and Identity Graduation Celebrations, held from May 7 through May 15.

Seven different celebrations are included: Undocu Graduation Bronco Dreamers, Womxn of Distinction, Lavender Graduation, Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Graduation, Pan-African Graduation, Native American Graduation and Raza Graduation. The celebrations are open to any graduating CPP student and organized by the cultural and identity centers on campus.

Wendy Cordova, interim senior coordinator for Cultural Centers, explained the purpose of these celebrations are to unify a community and represent each other in both the cultural and identity celebrations

and the university wide commencements ceremony.

“We host these ceremonies for our students to honor achievements, both academic success and personal,” said Cordova. “These personal milestones where we also incorporate cultural and identity practices into the celebrations.”

Each celebration is catered to the specific culture or identity. Raza celebration often hosts Aztec dancers or African drumming is performed at the Pan-African Graduation. Additionally, Cordova explained that each celebration offers their participants a heritage or visibility stole, a pin or item that represent the community they are part of.

“It’s a way that we make sure that our students’ identity is at the forefront of their milestones,” explained Cordova. “We know that for our students these celebrations and these

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Mental health activist invited to White House forum

By **SHANNON HERNANDEZ**
Staff Writer

Cal Poly Pomona communication student Zane Landin was invited to participate in a White House forum as part of his activism work with Active Minds, a nonprofit organization. Active Minds, along with 17 other nonprofits, will be joining MTV's Mental Health Action Youth Forum in May where they are gathering mental health activists to participate in creating campaigns to promote mental health discussions.

Landin's life experiences directed him toward a path to making changes in society. He's passionate about raising awareness for disabilities and mental health and does so using storytelling to drive change — specifically by using his own mental health experiences to normalize speaking about mental health in society.

While being an activist for mental health and disabilities, Landin worked with Active Minds to promote mental health among youth.

"The application process was simple and after I submitted it, I actually forgot about it," recalled Landin. "In February I decided to check my spam and found an email saying that I was a semifinalist. After completing the next form, I received an email that same week saying that I was selected. I freaked out. I just couldn't believe it."

The two-day forum will feature 18 nonprofits and young mental health activists that were invited to present their campaigns through storytelling to inspire individuals to become involved in mental health.

Landin mentioned the questions for the application were easy. They primarily asked about why mental health is an important topic of discussion and how storytelling is important. He reiterated that telling stories about mental health on the news and

in the media can help struggling individuals feel confident in talking about it.

Impostor syndrome is the inability to believe that one's success is deserved. According to Landin, it was an initial feeling that Landin experienced when he received the invitation to the White House.

As he overcame the feeling of disbelief, he was excited to tell family and friends about this opportunity.

Mental health is very important to Landin as he experienced symptoms from a young age where he constantly felt anger and depression. He described that he's always been around mental conditions, so seeing a psychiatrist and discussing mental health has always felt normal for him.

"I'm an advocate because I've been seeing this my whole life. Being exposed to environments where I have seen people being told they are wrong for feeling the way they do or seeing people not having psychologists to help them is frustrating," said Landin.

Landin strongly believes that starting a conversation can open many doors in the community. No matter how dark the topic of conversation may be, a ripple effect is the outcome that Landin is looking for to get individuals to share their story without worry of judgment.

Landin felt that he always questioned whether the work he was doing was meaningful. Feeling validation with his invitation to the White House, he knows he is doing something right.

"Sometimes it's hard to be an activist because you may also go through hardships. There have been times where I also question whether it is worth it, but I'm going to the White House soon so I know it's worth it and that I can keep doing this and do something bigger than I ever imagined," said Landin.

There was a recent announcement that Selena Gomez along with



Mental health advocate and storyteller Zane Landin relaxes at Coachella.

COURTESY OF ZANE LANDIN

the Rare Impact Fund will be joining the upcoming conversations at the forum, to which Landin expressed his excitement and nerves as he is a fan of the singer and actress.

Landin grew up in Chino Hills, California. He attended Walnut High School and growing up, he would regularly see the CLA and thought it was a beautiful sight to see.

"I came to Cal Poly Pomona because of its infamous reputation, the strong record of diversity and inclusion, the affordability and mainly because it was close to where I was from," said Landin.

Landin explained that being at Cal Poly Pomona for six years has played a significant role in creating the relationships he has

made, as well as shaping his views of the world. Landin entered as a science and technology major and changed to communication at the start of his fourth year.

"Without Cal Poly, I wouldn't have found the world of communications," said Landin.

Landin worked with communication specialist Ashley Jones, who was one of the individuals who inspired him to pursue communication with an emphasis on public relations.

As a communication student, he wanted to combine storytelling with discussions surrounding mental health and disabilities to create a digital publication PositiveVibes Magazine,

where the community can be involved in making positive changes.

Landin has been busy with school and his current internship at NASA. He explained how he pictured working at NASA, doing technology-based things, not working with a communications team.

Landin said he discovered the internship at NASA two years ago and had his heart set on it but was not selected. He saw the position open again this year and applied, and was selected to join the team.

At NASA, he is a Public Engagement Intern where he does public engagements, outreach and communication work for exoplanets and astrophysics. Landin

explained that he also works on social media posts, and collaborates with scientists to work on posters and videos, and many more projects where assistance is needed.

In the future, he expressed that he would love to work at a technology company but, for now, he's just waiting to see what new direction he will take after graduation.

"I never thought I would be interning at NASA, let alone be invited as a guest to the White House. When I saw people on TV have cool once-in-a-lifetime experiences I always thought, 'When will that be me?' and now I am doing those things. I feel so humbled," said Landin.

Reach Shannon Hernandez at managing@thepolypost.com



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The Ombuds office previously was located in building 1.

OMBUDS: Office vacant for 2 years

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for resources," said Freeseemann.

However, sometimes the resources an ombudsperson can provide extends beyond the campus.

"There was one case an individual had a bug infestation problem in their apartment and the landlord wasn't cooperating, so they came to me looking for resources they didn't even know existed in the city," added Freeseemann.

Freeseemann describes the responsibility of an ombudsperson as more than just finding resources.

"There are sometimes a lot of policies behind someone's issue," said Freeseeman. "I can explain it to students to help them

understand the policy and represent their own rights and ideas. It's very rewarding to see someone continue to move forward and achieve their goals after having a new perspective."

As for Cal Poly Pomona, Peters maintains that university leadership is committed to providing adequate avenues for the campus community to have conflicts addressed. "President Coley is working with Provost Brown and Vice President Gonzales to create a working group to look at different models and determine what is needed and see if there is a better resource for conflict resolution," added Peters.

Reach Cecilia Leyva at managing@thepolypost.com

GRAD: Cultural events back in person after hiatus

Continued from Page 2

milestones are not just for themselves, it's about the family, the loved ones, the communities, the supports that have helped them push through and persevere to this great milestone of achieving their bachelors, their masters and, in some cases, their doctorates."

Aside from family and friends, faculty and staff are also invited to celebrate the student's success. Cordova explained that students in various ceremonies are able to nominate a faculty or staff member to the event. The Womxn's Resource Center, for example, awards a Women of Distinction Award to a faculty or staff member to celebrate achievement of women across campus.

Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Graduation will be seeing some changes from previous years. The graduation celebration was previously named Asian Pacific Islander Graduation but was changed to be more inclusive and honor Desi

Americans as well. Along with the name change, the color scheme is now blue, when it used to be red and yellow. Assistant coordinator for the Asian

Cordova stated that this year's celebration wasn't finalized to be in person until late December, leaving coordinators and their teams a limited time

"We know that for our students these celebrations and these milestones are not just for themselves, it's about the family, the loved ones, the communities, the supports that have helped them push through and persevere to this great milestone of achieving their bachelors, their masters and, in some cases, their doctorates."

-Wendy Cordova
Interim Senior Coordinator, Cultural Centers

Pacific Islander Center, Alyssa Alegre explained the blue represents the sea and the change in color was to embrace that they are all connected through the sea.

The cultural and identity celebration have been around for over 30 years. When COVID-19 hit, these celebrations were held online over Zoom and still received a high number of participants.

to organize and get the word out.

The most recent addition to the celebration is the Undocugraduation Bronco Dreamers celebration. Their first celebration was held in 2017 and took place as an end of the year celebration with the then student club, Demanda Estudiantil Para la Igualdad Educational. Senior Coordinator for Undocumented Student

Services, Mecir Ureta, detailed that this year's celebration preparation moved quickly.

"The most important thing is celebrating this major milestone of undocumented students and the undocumented community," said Ureta. "Undocugrad is not only for undocumented students, it's for all the communities that identify with the journey of being an immigrant in this country or with the migrant community."

Participation in these celebrations is open to anyone regardless of major or degree. Students don't need to be an active member in a cultural or identity center.

"They are not just events," said Cordova. "They really are celebrations, they are community rooted, and they are a form of I would say activism. Showing up and saying, 'I'm here, I'm represented and I did this for my community.'"

Reach Iesly Velasco Guerra at managing@thepolypost.com

ASI: Senators gather for last meeting of the year

Continued from Page 1

student. This was the case for the textbook resolution. As for the food justice resolution, ASI Attorney General Mia Miller shared how the process of drafting that resolution came about.

"I have been passionate about the topic for a long time, so I felt that it was necessary to make a statement about food justice initiatives and how we can implement them on campus," said Miller.

According to Miller, she is so passionate about food justice that she convinced Corwin Aragon, associate professor of the Philosophy Department, to teach an independent study course on food injustice. This course was taught in fall 2021.

As for the textbook resolution, Miller shared that Hailey Luckert, a CPP Affordable Learning Initiative student assistant, reached out to her via email to help her draft a resolution.

The two were joined by ASI Vice President Derek Sweem and CLASS Senator Daniel Foncello.

The overall goal of passing the food justice resolution is that CPP begins educating students on food justice while also becoming leaders in sustainability and social justice issues.

As for the textbook resolution, the resolution encourages CPP professors to lower the costs of course materials and encourage students to participate in the buyback program.

With these resolutions being approved by ASI, it

will start conversations within the next group of board of directors during the fall semester.

"I want to emphasize that even if the resolutions do not result in immediate and effective change, resolutions serve the important purpose of creating awareness of certain issues that affect the campus community," said Miller. "Without such awareness, no change can be made."

With this being the last virtual meeting of the semester, it was also Sweem's last meeting as ASI vice president.

"It's been a privilege to serve as ASI vice president and run these board meetings. I'm going to miss it," said Sweem. "It's been a privilege to work with such passionate student leaders being either in ASI Cabinet or the members of the board. I'm going to miss them, and I have complete confidence in the next administration's ability to conduct board meetings and carry on business of organization."

ASI President Prabhat Jammalamadaka was on an excused absence for the final meeting and was unavailable for comment.

The next ASI Board of Directors meeting, under the leadership of Aliza Ortega and Foncello will be held before the fall semester on June 30.

For more information on previous ASI meetings, students can visit ASI's website.

Reach Kaitlyn Oliveros at managing@thepolypost.com



Hwang chats with students about the campus accessibility map project

MAP: IT, DRC staff collaborate with students on accessibility project

Continued from Page 1

As on-campus alternatives, such as the Bronco Shuttle and DRC indicate that individuals with disabilities can receive assistance navigating around campus, it was important to emphasize that the project's goal is the focus of the map, which will offer additional visuals and directions in the near future to the campus community.

Hwang expressed since the beginning of the semester that she wanted to treat the class less like a competitive space and more like a space of collaboration and coming together to help, not only the campus community, but being inclusive to all its visitors.

"As a class we read the book 'The War for Kindness' by Jamil Zaki by exploring our textbooks. The last step was this class project on taking action that can help change our community," said Hwang.

In an effort to help the class better interpret the significant information contained in the Excel spreadsheet, the DRC and IT staff provided suggestions and guidance. For a better understanding, the

of the project and now is learning management system administrator for the Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence, both shared that the class collaboration was a total coincidence because both

was also very supportive of taking the project polytechnic."

Young also discussed the importance of the collaboration between students and staff to bring this project to fruition.

"We have the idea, but we don't have the manpower they (the students) have the manpower but they just need a little bit of direction from the university perspective, so it works out perfectly," said Young.

Hwang shared that she is not only thankful for the team but also the collaboration of her class in making an impact and stepping out of their comfort zone into something so significant like this project.

Campus accessibility maps may be shared with students in the fall semester.

Reach Ana Salgado at managing@thepolypost.com

"We have the idea, but we don't have the manpower they (the students) have the manpower but they just need a little bit of direction from the university perspective, so it works out perfectly,"

-Jinah Young,

Interim Director of Mobile and Web Applications

class should be more direct about which areas have access to a path and which areas do not with keywords like "accessible buildings," so that they have a better understanding of which areas are accessible.

Jinah Young, an interim director of mobile and web applications, and Ann Loomis, who was the associate director of DRC in the beginning stages

the DRC and IT had begun working on a similar project at the same time as the class.

"It is really a collaboration between students and staff, which is really exciting. Polytechnic is the goal," said Loomis. "Dr. Carol Gonzales, (chief information security officer) who was the impetus behind this project, leading the team

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Poly Kroma returns at Kellogg gallery

By **SANJANA RAJAGOPAL**
Staff Writer

The W. Keith and Janet Kellogg University Art Gallery hosted its annual Poly Kroma showcase, an event which celebrates the Fine Arts and Visual Communication Design work by Cal Poly Pomona students, from April 28 to May 22.

The exhibition, located at the Kellogg gallery, was divided into the “2d3d+ Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition” section, and the virtual “Industry Portfolio Showcase.” It showcased the work made by students and the Class of 2022 Visual Communication Design majors’ senior portfolios.

“Poly Kroma is where art history majors and visual communication design majors can submit work they’ve created throughout the year to a 2d3d show,” said Trinity Faith Fraire, a senior graphic designer and Visual Communications Design specialist & Gallery Assistant at the Cal Poly Pomona University Art Galleries.

The 2d3d show involved works from students of all academic levels that were submitted and chosen to be displayed. The works were then judged by a select group of jurors where students were awarded monetary scholarship prizes.

Out of 113 works submitted, 51 were featured in the exhibition. The pieces were then judged by jurors based on a set of criteria. The second half of the art



The crowd visits the booths of various artists.

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A display and sign that shows the show's theme of 2d3d.

MICHAEL YU THE POLY POST



A collection of posters that were presented at the show.

MICHAEL YU THE POLY POST

gallery is dedicated to the Industry Portfolio Showcase or Industry Day.

“Poly Kroma is double-sided, partly for the students to show all of their work and come up with an identity for themselves before they graduate and go off in the real world,” said Aaron Avila, a juror this year. “Industry day is for students to show employers their work, but the event is also meant for the public, to show what the art department

does and for students to see what their peers are working on.”

The senior showcase is where students can design a designated wall space and give out a card and resume for people to get their information for employment opportunities. The portfolios serve to present the work of seniors to the professional and surrounding community. This year is also different from previous years because the event brought

in award winners from 2020 and 2021, since those events were online.

The event showcases numerous art pieces, from paintings to designs and even playing cards. The variety of works deal with different topics, including mental health and others reflecting current affairs or political statements.

Fraire created a poster titled “Get Vaccinated,” which won first place in the Visual Communication Design category. The piece discusses the COVID-19

pandemic and spread the message that getting vaccinated will help slow the spread. It was made with newspaper clippings, digital photography and acrylic paint to name a few of the materials.

Fraire encouraged all design students to submit their pieces and attend the event.

“I would encourage everyone who can to submit work because you’d never think your piece would get in and it’s so surprising when they

do,” said Fraire. “Two of my pieces won an award and participating in the senior showcase event is great networking and can help you practice your interview skills.”

The on-site exhibition is open to all students and staff members as well. Ana Siddiqui, a civil engineering student, shared that the art exhibition and its accessibility to the campus community is a great way to allow students to showcase their work to others.

“The event seems like an awesome way to allow everyone to get together to appreciate the students’ art in a collaborative setting and can let the students get to explain the work that went into the pieces and the meaning behind the art as well,” said Siddiqui.

The gallery had programs throughout the duration of the exhibition, to get the campus community and family and friends involved to see all of the art pieces put together by their fellow students. It was also a special experience for the artist and jurors that got to participate and attend the event.

“Being a juror in an environment where art is the focus, and sharing a similar passion with others is amazing,” said Avila. “I would do it again in a heartbeat.”

Reach Sanjana Rajagopal at ac@thepolypost.com

Donald Glover’s ‘Atlanta,’ the best show on television, is back

By **COLE ALLEN**
Staff Writer

The award-winning TV show “Atlanta” is back on air with its third season after a nearly four year hiatus. Created by artist, musician, writer and director, Donald Glover, the show illustrates the life of a college dropout, Earnest “Earn” Marks, played by Glover, who is lost in a world post Princeton, with no foreseeable career path. Earn sees the opportunity to help manage his cousin, Alfred — otherwise known as Paper Boi — played by Brian Tyree Henry, an up-and-coming rapper trying to break out of the local Atlanta rap scene.

The show first premiered in 2016, catching the fandom by storm with its surreal storyline mixed with dry, but intelligently written humor, sweeping

up awards at the Emmys and Golden Globes. In the show’s first season, Glover won an Emmy for best actor with his performance, the writers were awarded for the best comedy show from the Writers Guild and at the Golden Globes the show won best Musical or Comedy show on Television.

“Atlanta” is a show built for success, with its story centered around hip-hop and its producer being one of the most notable hip-hop figures of the 2010s. It was a perfect storm for “Atlanta,” because in 2017 rap became the biggest genre in all of music, being the most streamed on music platforms. Another thing that makes the show special is its unique style of filming. Using the ARRI Amira camera, the quality of shots look almost foggy,

as if you were dreaming the story.

Part of the magic this show produces is its eerie, almost surreal feeling while watching events unfold within the story. “Atlanta” is special in the fact that you can be watching an episode of something that would happen in real life for a rapper. Paper Boi and his team go out to a club to make an appearance for a fee. However, the promoter who promised to pay them, seems to be stiffing them of their agreed upon pay. When escalations arise after the inevitable altercation upon payment, ending in a shootout outside of the club, the episode ends with another celebrity, who was inside the club, driving away in his invisible car, hitting three pedestrians on the way

out. This absurd comedy is common in “Atlanta,” where you never know what can happen when watching and that is part of the genius of it.

With writing so unpredictable, fans of the show were thrilled for the new season to air, wondering what would happen next for the crew.

In past seasons, Paper Boi and Earn, alongside supporting cast like Darius, played by LaKeith Stanfield, and others, were set in the city of Atlanta, and on occasion traveling out for shows and other events. In the newest season, the crew finds themselves in Europe on a Paper Boi tour, the show detailing their travels and conflicts, the life of an artist.

Another thing that makes “Atlanta” so great and different from other

shows, is it dedicates specific episodes to certain characters within the story. This provides a chance for a deeper dive within the character’s mind and behavior within everyday life and put to the extreme in these outrageous scenarios. A fan favorite of this type of episode is the “Teddy Perkins” episode from season two. This is where Darius, a man who acts as the balance to the group, who is always calm and so in his own world where he is almost disconnected from the present, goes to pick up a free rainbow-colored piano from someone he found online. When arriving at the location, we see it is an extravagant mansion, occupied by only one man, Teddy Perkins. A shut-in, who from introduction oozes tension and

suspense. Later on, the audience finds out he is keeping his own brother in captivity in his basement. This episode is so thrilling it has been deemed by many to be one of the best television episodes of all time.

This season sees the same type of episodes, but instead of following a specific character and making it about them alone, this season tells stories about entirely separate tales. The episodes are so well written and filmed beautifully, they go back to that surreal type feeling, as if you are dreaming the sequence, each episode feeling like a movie.

Reach Cole Allen at ac@thepolypost.com

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ASI ACTION PLAN

Updates



Domain 1: ASI

Student Needs

Student Club and Organization Service Center (SCOSC): The ASI Facilities and Operations Committee recommended to the ASI Board of Directors to allocate the space formerly occupied by the Cal Poly Federal Credit Union as a space to help support clubs and organizations on campus. In partnership with OSLCC, ASI created a new space called the Student Club & Organization Service Center, which focuses on streamlining resources for clubs and organizations, as well as promoting cross-collaboration between clubs and departments. The space has launched a soft opening and strives to build better relationships, resources, and workshops for the students based on their feedback.

Student Feedback: Collected more than 500 surveys from students at various ASI events.

Student Involvement

External Relations: The development of an ASICPP Lobby Corp-style group that allows students both in Student Government and within the campus community to become advocates for the CPP Community.

National Voter Registration Day: More than 1,500 users were registered as first-time voter registrants or were verified as registered voters through the CPP Turbo Vote.

Committee Service: ASI Student Leaders served on more than 40 ASI and University-wide committees for almost 5,000 clocked hours served.

Student Success

No-Cost Childcare: ASI provided CPP student parents with no-cost childcare through a virtual summer camp offering of the Kids U program, allowing student parents the opportunity to focus on their own academic success while their children received quality care and education through this ASI program.

Parenting Student Support Team: ASI team members served on the Parenting Student Support Team to explore ways to support student parents such as offering free childcare during campus events so that student parents can participate and have a holistic college experience.

Baby Supplies for Parenting Students: 265 packages of baby wipes and 12,936 diapers were made available to parenting students for free through the Poly Pantry.

Free Menstrual Products on Campus: ASI installed free, high-quality menstrual product dispensers in all restrooms and in common spaces in the BSC, BRIC, and Children's Center buildings and provided 300,000 free menstrual products to 25 campus departments and the Poly Pantry for distribution.

Enhanced Programming: ASI hired a Program Lead, a new position created to enhance programming led by Student Government leaders. This new, collaborative partnership between BEAT and Student Government streamlined logistical planning for our busy student leaders, as well as helping them focus on innovative ideas.



Organizational Practices

Interpersonal Staff Training: Conducted eight courses of interpersonal training for all full-time staff (approx. 24 hours) to support the intentional growth and development of ASI staff to better serve students.

Organization Development Workshops: Conducted 16 organizational development workshops to support the co-creation of ASI's guiding ideas and facilitating strategic corporate operations.

Guiding Ideas: Experimented with both the new working core values and purpose, with a goal to codify them prior to the end of the semester with the ASI Board of Directors.

ASI Policy Reduction: Collaborated with the Attorney General in a Policy Reduction Initiative to remove unnecessary, bureaucratic policies which no longer serve ASI. (Pending formal action)

Research and Design Team: Created a Research and Design team to develop and implement sound organizational practices based on evidence-based and experimental ideas. This group drives the staff workshop content and designs direction for the corporation.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Co-developed a DEI action plan to address areas of improvement for ASI and completed three of the six action items.

Data Interpretation: Conducted a second deep-dive survey and will host an upcoming data interpretation session with ASI staff. This will help guide our continued Learning Organization (LO) and DEI action adjustments and planning.

Intercultural Development Inventory: Completed the divisional Intercultural Development Inventory to determine our real and perceived cultural competency. This data will be considered in the updated DEI action plan.

BSC Spatial Project: Review the BSC Space Study from 2012 and drafted guiding ideas to launch a BSC feasibility study project.

ASI Accessibility: Collaborated with ATI and IT to create an infrastructure to ensure all ASI events and services are made accessible in the digital world. Throughout this process, digital spaces were approved for BEAT, Financial Services, Children's Center, ASI facilities, and Kids U.



Domain 2: Allyships

Student Needs

Basic Needs Resources: Poly Pantry has expanded to a new office in the BSC which allows the ASI Secretary of Basic Needs or Cal Fresh representative to meet with students in the BSC. The Poly Pantry has also launched asi.cpp.edu/shopthepantry so that students may shop online for in-person pickup, making their experience both convenient and more efficient.

Creating a Digital Experience: ASI Financial Services implemented PayPal to make deposits (such as club dues, sponsorships, and registration fees) more convenient and accessible for student clubs and organizations. Additionally, Financial Services launched ACH/Zelle digital payment for reimbursements.

Poly Soft Digital Experience: Poly Panty implemented an innovative pantry tracking and disbursement system to better serve the CPP student community with their specific needs.

Class Pass: ASI collaborated with the University and Foothill Transit to create and implement the CPP Class Pass campaign, which was geared toward informing students to get their free Foothill Transit bus pass at the ASI Games Room, Etc.

Alternative Transportation: Student Government and the Alternative Transportation Committee passed a resolution in support of a Silver Streak Foothill Transit bus stop near campus.

Budget Timeline: ASI Vice President worked with ASI Financial Services to create a budget timeline to help CPP student councils and clubs better understand the budget timeline as it relates to ASI's role in the process of club registration.

Student Involvement

Club and Org Funds: Student Government allocated \$19,912 to student clubs and organizations through the Finance Committee and created specialized workshops and opportunities for councils, clubs and organizations to have their budgets reviewed and resubmitted.

P.I.E.S. with Prabhat: Brought the ASI IGTV series "P.I.E.S. with Prabhat" with Special Guest President Soraya M. Coley to campus in front of a live audience, providing students with a more personable opportunity to hear their ASI and University President answer questions from students about important issues on campus.

Student Success

Transfer Student Engagement: ASI Student Government and the Officer of Transfer Engagement in partnership with PolyTransfer, hosted Transfer Thank You Week, a week-long series of events catered to the CPP transfer community and connecting them with the campus community and transfer student services. The series had more than 205 attendees.

Life After Graduation Workshops: ASI Student Government partnered with faculty and staff in the College of Education & Integrative Studies to host workshops on how to apply to credential programs. BEAT also hosted "Life After Graduation" workshops throughout the year. One of the workshops included "Bronco Connections" which allowed students to network with alumni that are working in the fields that they want to enter after graduation.



Domain 3: Advocacy

Student Needs

Mental Health: ASI Student Government leaders have met with CAPS to express the concerns students have around mental health services on campus and University Administration in the Title IX office to better understand the changing Title IX policies and worked to share how the university may be able to better help communicate the importance of Title IX and how to access Title IX resources.

UPD/PATF: ASI continues to maintain a healthy relationship with UPD (University Police Department) and the Division of Student Affairs. In late Fall 2021, ASI Vice President Derek Sweem was appointed to the University Police Advisory and Safety Committee to represent ASI on this committee. The ASI Officer of Diversity and Inclusion, Tala Qasqas, has been participating in the Search Committee for the Chief of Police.

Practicing Shared Governance: ASI team ensured student voices were heard in spaces with University Administration through University Leadership Council, Academic Senate, and Foundation Board Membership.

Student Involvement

Sustainable events: ASI programming teams have been working toward hosting sustainable events by requesting sustainable utensils, limiting the usage of balloons, and working with CPP Foundation to come up with more options for sustainable food packaging.

Ad Hoc Committee: Student Government created an Internal ASI Sustainability Ad Hoc committee chaired by the ASI Officer of Sustainability and Transportation Guillermo Nila to support sustainability efforts on campus.

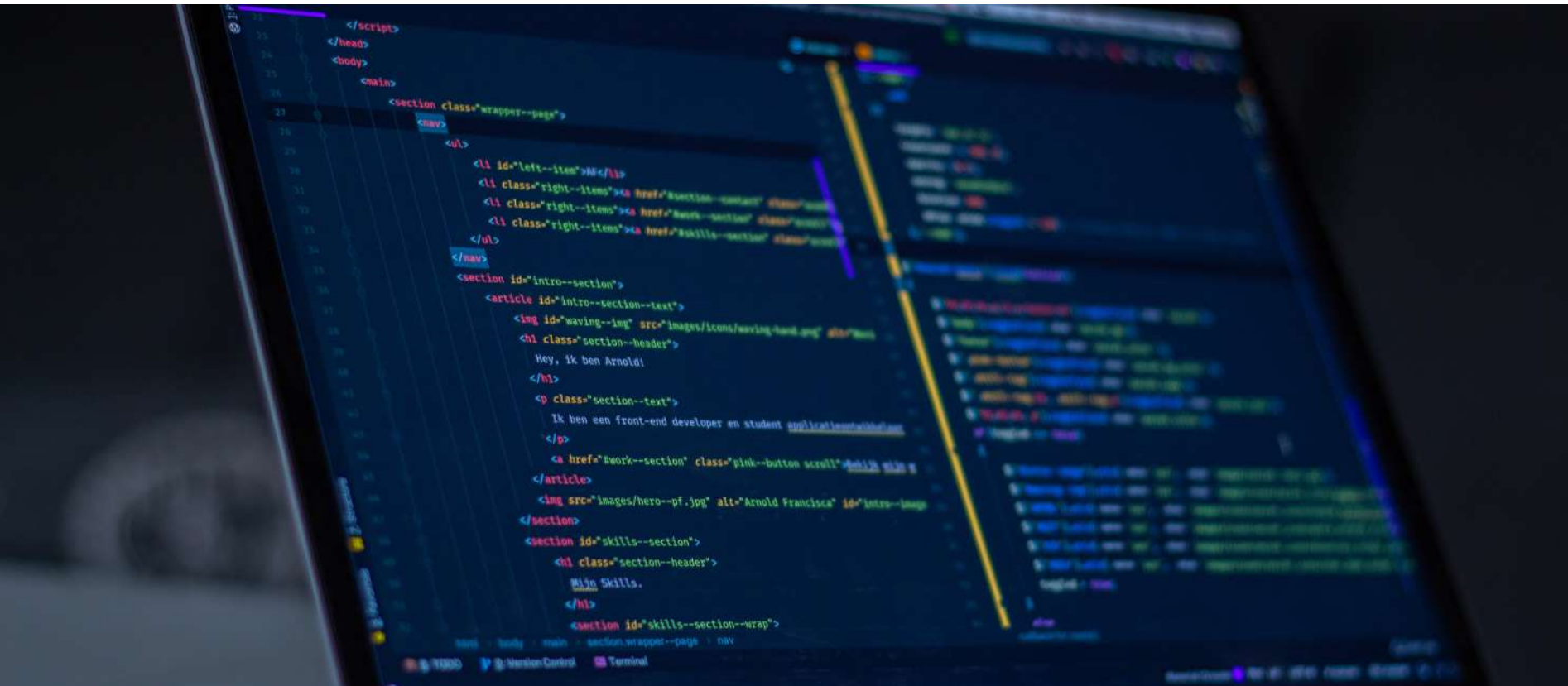
Facility Upgrades: Student Government approved a capital project to study the BSC to potentially fit solid roof panels.

Student Success

Interns for childcare: ASI has developed a growing partnership with academic departments and the Children's Center and Youth Programs including hands-on experience with gaining internship hours in support of providing no-cost childcare for student parents.

Farm to Panty: The ASI Volunteer Program (formerly BEAT Volunteer Program) established a new program in collaboration with the Lyle Center and Huntley College of Agriculture called "Farm to Pantry," where students would volunteer to help plant and harvest fruits and vegetables needed for the Poly Pantry. The project was also a part of ASI's Earth Week events dedicated to educating students about sustainability.

Code-A-Thon teaches students to create GenArt



COURTESY OF ARNOLD FRANISCA

By **COLE ALLEN**
Staff Writer

On April 28, Cal Poly Pomona’s first ever student-run Generative Art Code-A-Thon, a GenArt PolyX Community Code-A-Thon, showcased Maya Stovall’s Generative Art PolyX Hub course teachings through her students.

The event was held on Zoom, with a turnout of over 100 participants. The event detailed some of the content learned in Arts Integration II, the class where student organizers learned the GenArt concepts demonstrated in the event.

Generative Art, or GenArt for short, is the process of using computer coding to create art. Instead of using a paintbrush on canvas, students use

their keyboard and mouse to illustrate their digital painting.

The event was coordinated by Stovall, assistant professor in the Liberal Studies Department. With her help, students were able to direct the Code-A-Thon, and put on an informative, yet engaging, lecture for participants. Students in Stovall’s class signed up for specific roles to help with the building of the GenArt Code-A-Thon, with roles such as influencers, designers, GenArt coaches, equity and accessibility coaches and historians. The students came together, putting in over hundreds of hours of work to put on the Code-A-Thon for Cal Poly Pomona students.

“My goal is to facilitate and sustain a vibrant, diverse, interdisciplinary

u n d e r g r a d u a t e community emergent in this work,” said Stovall. “I am humbled to play a role in enhancing student success and career possibilities, along with academic, personal and professional trajectories among my brilliant students. I hope to help realize a diverse, interdisciplinary u n d e r g r a d u a t e community that values creativity, innovation, critical perspectives centered by a commitment to social justice and accessibility.”

The Code-A-Thon began with an overview of what the topic was, being that GenArt is a more recent practice with the shifts and changes of technology. After a quick introduction, student organizers gave explanations on

the Code-A-Thon, how bilingual interpreters would be available during activities and the friendly, supportive environment being facilitated by the assigned equity and accessibility coaches.

A quick Q&A was initiated to gauge participants’ experience level with computer coding or generative art. Then groups were formed and sent into one of five different breakout rooms, each teaching a different style of generative art. Groups contained Program Your Own Dance Party, Snow cone, Butterfly, Unlimited Flowers and Geometric Forms. Each taught a different type of programming with a different end goal.

Dance party allowed for participants to create a video of characters

dancing to a song through “block-based coding.” Snow cone, butterfly and geometric shapes that led students to build their own through “creative 2D shape primitives.” Lastly, unlimited flowers — a bilingual class for Spanish and English speakers — allowed participants to generate unlimited flowers, built to their liking on a page with “random () function.”

“We took it step by step,” said Cristal Ramirez, a liberal studies major and coach for unlimited flowers. “We taught students how to input it into their processing (a program for coding) and the product was when you ran the code, a bunch of flowers would pop up everywhere. We were showing them how you could change the size of the petals, flowers and the

color of the flowers.” Coaches advised attendees to create their generative art, who, when finished, sent screenshots of their finished artwork for display at the end of the event.

“Coding is the newest thing. It’s the new frontier of doing so many different things,” said Anna Rios, a coach for the Code-A-Thon and liberal studies pre-credentials major. “Generative art is computer generated art, this new medium is digital and it’s learning how to manipulate code to present this image you had in your head. I would definitely recommend it to other students. It’s stressful but rewarding, knowing you made this thing out of code.”

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SHARON WUI THE POLY POST

By **NADIA URBINA**
Staff Writer

The 2022 Met Gala, an event typically considered the “Superbowl of fashion,” left viewers and critics unimpressed, underwhelmed and shocked by the lack of effort from the attendees toward the event’s dress code.

The highly regarded event takes place every year on the first Monday of May at the Metropolitan Museum of Arts in New York. The gala, hosted by Regina King, Blake Lively, Ryan Reynolds and Lin-Manuel Miranda, celebrates the second volume of the Costume Institute exhibition, the first one being in September 2021 called “In America: A Lexicon of Fashion.”

This year’s theme, announced back in April 2022, continues “In America: An Anthology of Fashion” with the dress code being gilded glamor. The dress code draws inspiration from what is referred to as the “Gilded Age” in the U.S. during the 1870s to the early 1900s. This time period entailed the rise of the industrial economy after the Civil War, i n e q u a l i t y and political corruption.

The fashion anticipated for the gala was expected to reflect the time period for which the dress code required. Avant-garde jewel tone gowns, corsets and rich fabrics were part of this specific time period and

reflected the change in society as well as technological advances. What transpired at this year’s Met Gala left many viewers disappointed with the fashion choices of the night.

Media personality Kylie Jenner received much criticism for her Off-White gown and backward baseball cap. The bridal gown was worn by the social media star in honor of the late fashion designer Virgil Abloh. Shortly after pictures surfaced of her

outfit, Jenner was met with memes scrutinizing her fashion choice and not sticking to the dress code.

Other celebrities met with negative criticism for misinterpreting the dress code or plainly ignoring it, were Marvel actor Sebastian Stan dressed

head to toe in a bright pink Valentino suit, Elon Musk, who wore a classic Tom Ford suit, and Kim Kardashian, who wore Marilyn Monroe’s dress worn by Monroe in 1962 while singing “Happy Birthday” to President

John F. Kennedy. Cara Delevigne, who appeared on several worst dressed lists, wore gold body paint and a red Dior suit.

Through the lack of regard for the gala’s dress code, the stars that attended the event and abided by the theme shone the brightest.

Lively wore a Versace gown that showcased N Y C landmarks. The copper g o w n showcased with embellishments included details found in the Empire State Building, references to the Statue of Liberty and constellation designs found in Grand Central Station. Singer

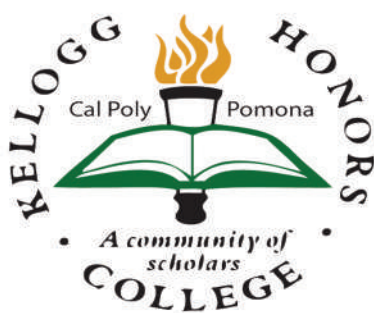
Billie Eilish’s custom Gucci dress received praise for its own spin on the gilded glamor theme as well as Lizzo’s, who wore a corseted dress with gold details designed by Thom Browne.

For an event mostly known for its fashion, art, culture and history, the 2022 Met Gala proved to be another unforgettable event due to the fashion choices made by many. The gala’s meant to raise funds for museum’s Costume Institute raised over \$17.4 million.

More information about the event and museum can be found on their website and the Vogue Youtube channel.

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“The fashion anticipated for the gala was expected to reflect the time period for which the dress code required. Avant-garde jewel tone gowns, corsets and rich fabrics were part of this specific time period and reflected the change in society as well as technological advances.”



Kellogg Honors College Celebrates Graduates with First In-Person Convocation Ceremony in Two Years



On April 28, 2022, the Kellogg Honors College held their Convocation Ceremony where 40 graduating students were honored for their successful completion of their degrees and the Kellogg Honors Program requirements. The ceremony, held at Kellogg House was the first in-person celebration in two years, bringing together faculty mentors, graduating honors students, and their families to recognize the resilience, hard work, and perseverance of our graduates.



Special guests included Provost Jennifer Brown and Dr. Olukemi Sawyerr, Associate Vice President of Academic Innovation. The ceremony was emceed by KHC Interim Director, Dr. Claudia Garcia-Des Lauriers with the support of KHC Faculty Fellow, Dr. Marcus Elam, Academic Coordinator, Won Choi, and Student Assistants Osasuyi Osawe and Raphael Napinas. Graduates that complete the honors program are awarded an elegant sash and lapel pin with KHC insignia to wear at their respective graduation ceremonies. Their achievements are made even more worthy of celebration given that significant portions of their education took place during the pandemic. We are so proud of these amazing students and congratulate them on their success at Cal Poly Pomona and in the honors college and wish them great success in their future endeavors!



Congratulations **THE POLY POST** *Graduating Seniors*

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CLASS OF 2022

Stand up for labor violations in the gaming industry

By ALEXANDER OSORNIO
Staff Writer

On April 15, a complaint was filed against Nintendo of America with the National Labor Relations Board by an anonymous employee with allegations that Nintendo violated the employee’s right to organize.

In the wake of this report, gaming news site Kotaku received word from multiple current and former Nintendo employees sharing stories of, among other things, low wages, being denied health insurance and being uncredited for their work.

On May 3, IGN would release its own report which included statements from current and former contractors who worked with Nintendo of America, Nintendo’s North American branch. More experiences were shared that included contractors being afraid to leave their desks for any amount of time, a lack of opportunities for contractors to become full-time employees and being treated as “second-class citizens.”

While the exact details of the initial complaint are rather ambiguous, there is

the added context that this news broke in the midst of a mass labor movement to which the games industry is no stranger.

It is hard to be surprised by this news after countless stories of toxic work environments across nearly every sector of the games industry, both big and small. Even Nintendo, the company that practically saved the games industry nearly 40 years ago, is not immune from wrongdoing.

The amount of sentimental value that Nintendo has in the hearts and minds of gamers is unmatched in the industry. How many companies can be a part of the childhood memories of so many people while continuing to hold a strong stake in the industry?

This is a company that has made games that have not only been part of my gaming history since I was a child, but that are also part of my life. Perhaps more so now than ever, I hold Nintendo games, close to my heart. To think that the people who made these experiences possible were treated unjustly is unbelievably demoralizing, especially from a company with this level of prestige.

This long-standing



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reputation is something every game company is aware of and strives for. Having the games your company makes be part of someone’s life is the first step toward creating a fanbase that will go to bat for you no matter what.

This recently occurred with games studio FromSoftware, developers of Elden Ring, arguably the biggest game release of the year thus far. In the weeks after the game’s widely anticipated release, reports began surfacing from employees, going as far back as 2012, describing familiar stories of unfair compensation, mistreatment towards women employees and extreme work hours.

Although I have yet to play Elden Ring, the wave of excitement surrounding its release was impossible to ignore. It seemed that

everyone couldn’t stop talking about it. However, as someone who is aware of past labor issues in the games industry, my head was instinctively turned toward these reports.

It was then that I saw just how fast a fanbase was to defend its favorite company from criticism, even in the face of some terrifying allegations. I saw fans trying to brush workplace violations under the rug just so they can enjoy their fancy new product in peace. It was an unsettling display, but not a shocking one.

This was not the first time I had seen it happen in recent memory. Polish developer CD Projekt Red experienced a similar controversy with its 2020 release, Cyberpunk 2077. Up until its anticipated release, there were reports of labor injustices,

mismanagement and a fanbase that was quick to shield its favorite developers from criticism.

One notorious example of this came from the reporting of former Game Informer editor Liana Ruppert who posted a public service announcement on the game after experiencing at least one seizure while playing the game. In response, her social media profiles were barraged with videos meant to induce photosensitive seizures.

The mere act of trying to keep other people from experiencing a serious medical emergency was enough to get droves of fans to try to put someone through that very hardship.

And for what? For a company whose relationship with you ends at the checkout counter? I could maybe understand why one would defend a company if it directly contributed to their livelihood in some way. But for a corporate body that would never know your name? It’s stupefying.

This phenomenon is interesting with the recent news about Nintendo. Once Stephen Totilo of Axios reported on the

initial complaint and more stories started coming in, I immediately expected to start seeing fans come out of the woodworks like good little consumers to downplay these reports.

Thankfully, it seems that more people are savvy to the realities of the industry. Many responses I’ve seen on Twitter have been more charitable toward the situation with many lamenting the fact that not even Nintendo is immune to the plague of labor violations.

It doesn’t matter if it’s Nintendo, Activision-Blizzard, Ubisoft or any number of studios that face similar controversies. If even one employee faces mistreatment or abuse, that is one person too many.

If the company responsible for your favorite game turns out to have skeletons in its closet, nothing can be gained from turning a blind eye to it. Make the world aware of these offenses and most importantly, demand better.

Gaming is more popular than it has ever been. If you care about the industry and want it to improve, start acting like it.

Reach Alexander Osornio at editor@thepolypost.com

Is Disney’s diversity a spell or here to stay?

By MATTHEW ACOSTA
Staff Writer

READ THIS ARTICLE IN FULL AT
THEPOLYPOST.COM

Marvel has released the much-anticipated “Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness” in theaters. However, the corporate giant has had its ongoing battles in the past few weeks fighting for LGBTQ+ rights.

Between Florida’s “Don’t Say Gay” bill and the battles with China and Saudi Arabia about the contents of the film, Disney has stood its ground and continues on its path of progressiveness, but have they truly done all they can for the LGBTQ+ community within their films?

The future of LGBTQ+ representation in film rides upon big companies like Disney to make the big moves in order to create a world in which placing queer scenes and actors into films becomes more commonplace.

Between Disney and Marvel, there have been few hints and background scenes that depict homosexual gay relationships in most shows and, in some rare occasions, blockbuster movies.

The biggest moment for the Marvel Cinematic Universe to date comes from “Eternals.” One of the side characters, Phastos, has a gay relationship with his husband who was organically added to the movie.

Having moments like this become more common will in turn create more acceptance in real-world situations for those who are part of



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the LGBTQ+ community.

Disney and Marvel have to make sure to not add these scenes into a movie for the sole purpose of making news or making a statement. Rather, these corporations need to add such scenes to increase normalcy for the LGBTQ+ community.

Though Marvel is becoming more and more open about their characters’ sexualities, it still has a long way to go when comparing the comic books to the movies thus far.

Marvel stood its ground when other countries banned its films, such as other countries, such as Saudi Arabia and China, ban its films due to a due to a 12-second clip of America Chavez revealing that she has two same-sex parents in “Doctor Strange: In the Multiverse of Madness.”

Xochitl Gomez, 15, who plays Chavez in the film, has also received much harassment on social media due to the content of the film and the battles that Marvel had to go through with those in and out of the United States.

By holding through with this, Marvel is telling the rest of the world that its views on progressiveness

will not be silenced, and it is trying to start the dialogue around the world that this massive corporation will no longer be adjusting its films to old ways of thinking.

There have been major strides within the Marvel company under Disney making moves toward a more progressive film industry. However, there is significantly less LGBTQ+ representation in Disney and Pixar films.

Many of the films have had some LGBTQ+ background characters but these characters are hard for viewers to notice on their first watch.

Warner Bros. has much improved its progressiveness within the Wizarding World with the canonization of Albus Dumbledore, a major character in the “Harry Potter” and “Fantastic Beasts” series, being gay.

Warner Bros. has continued to move forward with telling its story the way it wants and believes it should be told.

In a statement from the LGBTQ+ employees of Pixar and their allies, obtained by Variety, many employees claimed that they had seen many stories full of diverse of sexual orientations cut

and changed by Disney due to them containing “overtly gay affection.”

With situations like this, creators within the company feel underrepresented with all the work that Disney puts in for the LGBTQ+ community only while in the public eye.

This story broke just as Disney had been in the media for the work the company had been putting into battling against Florida lawmakers and the “Don’t Say Gay” bill. The bill intends to bar public schools from instructing on sexual orientation or gender. Disney has since publicly opposed the bill, which started the battle between Florida lawmakers and the corporate giant.

This bill has and will further damage Disney’s true cause when it comes to how much it truly cares about full inclusion.

The path to inclusion for sexual orientation, may not be clear cut on how Disney and Marvel need to handle their moviemaking, but the simple answer is they need to continue their path of change and kick it into high gear.

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Letters should run between 250 and 500 words and may be edited for accuracy, clarity, length, style and libel. Cartoons should only be drawn on white paper, not lined paper. All submissions should not exceed 8 by 10 inches and must include the author’s full name, telephone number and other relevant information, such as class standing, major and place of residence.

Visit www.thepolypost.com for more submission details.

Alejandro Sandoval Guzman named CCAA Men’s Field Athlete of the Week

BY YETNALECI MAYA
Staff Writer

On May 3, track and field thrower, Alejandro Sandoval Guzman was recognized by the California Collegiate Athletic Association as the Men’s Field Athlete of the Week for his performance at the Steve Scott Invitational.

Sandoval Guzman reached his career’s all time high during the 2022 UC San Diego Triton Invitational ranking among the top 10 with a shot put of 15.89 meters during the first week of April. Continuing to break his own records, he competed in three events at the Steve Scott Invitational, where he came in eighth in the shot put, 15.77m, 12th in the discus, 48.65m, and 16th in the hammer throw, 40.89m. His rankings, along with his team’s accomplishments this season, led them up to the CCAA track and field championship this past weekend.

Although track and field was not where Sandoval Guzman thought he would excel, he first sparked an



Alejandro Sandoval Guzman competed in the shot put event at the CCAA Track and Field Championships.

COURTESY OF CPP ATHLETICS

interest in the sport in high school.

“I did football in high school, and our coaches had said if we didn’t want to do spring conditioning, we would have to do track,” Sandoval Guzman said. “So, I did track my sophomore year, and I fell in love with it and just started excelling in track more than football. So, track took over my life.”

After graduating from Summit High School in Fontana, California, he continued his collegiate

athletic career at Mount San Antonio College for two and a half years.

Sandoval Guzman’s days are filled with practices, classes and work. From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., he is typically found practicing. Because his days are so hectic, he prepares for competitions in a mental capacity as much as he would physically.

“I wouldn’t do anything that I wouldn’t do at practice, so let’s say the day before a competition, I make sure all my

equipment is good to go, and I make sure that my phone is charged,” he explained. “I make sure that I’m mentally dialed in, because I think that 50% of throwing is all mental, and you have to be able to mentally be able to see yourself throw a certain way, throw a certain distance, and then the other 50% is actually execution.”

Outside of track and field, Sandoval Guzman is also passionate about teaching. He graduated

from CPP with a bachelor’s in kinesiology with an emphasis in pedagogy and is currently working toward obtaining his single-subject teaching credentials as well as his master’s from CPP. His ultimate career choice is to become a physical education teacher.

Sandoval Guzman is no stranger to hard work and dedication. Because most of his days are filled with juggling work, school and track, he focuses on pacing himself during

competitions.

“Slow is smooth, and smooth is fast,” he said, “‘Slow is smooth’ means that you don’t have to rush, and ‘smooth is fast’ means that if you do it correctly the first time, then you’re good. So, if I’m relating it to throwing, when I go through the circle, if I’m slow, I hit all positions and I’m able to create tension and torque.”

Although track and field measures his individual outcomes in rankings in order to advance in competitions and continue to place higher, he acknowledges that his team’s efforts are also a crucial part in where they all rank together and how they move forward.

“It really is a team effort, and I value my teammates,” he said. “I value their hard work and dedication, and without them, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

His dedication this season awarded him the 2022 Men’s Shot Put CCAA champion title this past weekend with a winning mark of 16.04m.

Reach Yetnaleci Maya at sports@thepolypost.com

Students weigh in on undrafted athletes for the NFL draft

On April 28, the 2022 NFL draft started, and many athletes’ lives were changed forever. This year, 256 players were selected, leaving countless athletes undrafted and without a roster to welcome them. The NCAA considers a college athlete a “professional athlete” the moment they declare for the annual NFL draft. Now that college athletes have five years of playing eligibility due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, some athletes choose to enter the draft before exhausting all their years of eligibility.

The issue these athletes face is now that they are considered a “professional,” they are no longer allowed to return to their old school and participate in athletics, even with remaining eligibility years. The risk of entering the draft also increases now that college students have the ability to make money thanks to name, image and likeness contracts. Name, image and likeness contracts are a concept where college students are allowed to be paid based on their names, images and likenesses.

The Poly Post interviewed students on campus on whether they believe undrafted athletes from the NFL draft should be allowed to return to school with the ability to participate in athletics.

Photos and quotes compiled by staff writer James Oliden.



Gabriel Johnson |visual communication design student

“I think the rules are good as they are. The athletes obviously believe they are at a higher level than a normal college athlete since they entered the draft. So no, I think they have set the rules in place for a reason.”



Michael Rhee | biology student

“I do not think that is right, personally. I think they should be able to go back to their school and play for the school. If they are going to go back for their degree, you might as well, you know? It does not make much sense to me, honestly. I do not agree with that. I believe it should be like the NBA where you can now go back and play if you go undrafted. It just does not seem fair to me at all.”



Ruben Zepeda | kinesiology student

“For reference, I do not know a lot about the NFL and the draft, but I’ve heard a lot about student athletes being regarded as professionals. But honestly, what has actually changed from when they were in college and now being undrafted? Nothing actually changes, but they treat them differently. I doubt they are getting sponsors at that point anyway. They can get paid in college and it does not make them a pro, so why would simply declaring for the draft make them one?”



German Gonzalez |music student

“I see both sides, but I think they should give as much flexibility to the students as possible, so they should still be able to have that opportunity to go get drafted. But if it does not work out, and it does not work out for most people, they should have the option to come back and play sports, especially if they have years available. If they cannot go pro and they love to play sports, then college should be a viable option at that point.”

Broncos bully the Toros to wrap up the regular season



AUDISSEY HERNANDEZ | THE POLY POST

CPP's first round in the CCAA tournament will be on May 12, at 11 a.m.

BY MATEO LOPEZ
Staff Writer

On May 6, the CPP baseball team shutout Cal State Dominguez Hills 3-0 in game three of a four-game series. The Broncos extended their win streak to five games heading to the postseason.

In game one and game two, the Broncos defeated the Toros 8-2 and 13-7 off extra-base hits and performances from the pitching staff. In game 3, the Broncos struck out seven batters and left five players on base off run-saving plays by the defense.

“It starts with pitching and then it goes to defense; that’s how we play,” said head coach Randy Betten. “Back

when we started talking in February, that’s what we’re about is pitching and defense, and we do that we give ourselves a chance.”

In the first inning, infielder Ryon Knowles led off the inning with a single to right-center field. With one out, outfielder Cesar Lopez singled to right field to load first and second base. After the second out, catcher Jacob Lopez drew a four-pitch walk to load the bases. Infielder Nick Lugo drove in the first two runs off a base hit to left field.

“Great day [today]; this whole weekend so far has played well,” said Betten. “It’s going to be an emotional day for the seniors, but we were excited about getting the

chance to take care of business.”

The Broncos honored their seniors from the current and 2020 rosters in game one and game four over the weekend.

One of those players being honored was starting pitcher Drew Atherton. Atherton finished the game with five hits allowed and five strikeouts through five innings to record his second win of the season.

“We’ve been working on a lot of stuff this year; the slider felt like it was working really well today,” said Atherton. “I was able to make some pitches in key moments. It’s just all the work that we put in as a team came out today for sure.”

In the fifth inning,

Atherton allowed a lead off base hit to right field. After recording an out, Toros’ Emilio Barrera doubled to left-center field to load second and third base. Atherton struck out the next batter chasing a 2-2 pitch.

With two on and two outs, third basemen Tyler Chaffee dove on a hard-hit ball down the line to pick up a groundout and end the inning with runners in scoring position.

“As a pitcher, to have a defense like that behind you, it makes pitching just that much easier,” said Atherton. “Knowing that your guys have your back and they’re going to put their bodies and their hearts on the line to make a play, and Chaffee did that.”

Fifth inning troubles continued for the Toros, as Knowles lined a triple to right-center field to leadoff the inning. The Toros picked up two outs while surrendering a walk, but Jacob Lopez singled to left field to send Knowles home 3-0.

“I genuinely think this is one of the better performances I’ve had all year,” said Knowles.

Knowles finished the game three-for-four at the plate while coming home for two runs.

“I’ve been working hard off the field to tweak some parts out of my swing, but this is my last series at Cal Poly Pomona,” said Knowles. “I think that energy has given me something special, so I’m carrying that with me.”

Knowles is the only graduate student on the team.

“It’s definitely bittersweet; I had a lot of great memories here,” said Knowles. “It’s definitely going to be hard walking away from this field. I think the way our season been going and the ending and the stamp that it’s putting on my career is something I’ll cherish forever.”

In game four, the Broncos completed the sweep with an 11-1 victory.

The Broncos will compete in the California Collegiate Athletic Association tournament on May 12 in Chico, California.

Reach Mateo Lopez at sports@thepolypost.com

Will Rudy dominates with third CCAA award

BY CHRISTIAN ULRICH
Staff Writer

CPP pitcher Will Rudy tossed eight shutout innings and allowed only two hits against Stanislaus State on April 14, earning him his third CCAA Pitcher of the Week award for the week of April 11-17 and a 9-0 victory for the Broncos.

Rudy continued his dominance with his fifth win in a row against Cal State San Marcos on April 22. Rudy recorded five strikeouts while only giving up one run in six innings. The Broncos would go on to win with a final score of 9-2.

Rudy’s journey as a baseball player began at two years old as he was growing up in Irvine, California. He asserted that sports had a big impact early on in his childhood. Rudy and his father watched just about every sport together; his life revolved around sports then and does to this day.

Rudy, a kinesiology major, emphasized his dream of playing professionally one day. Should things change, Rudy has aspirations to become a physical therapist.

Having played for many years, Rudy explained he learns from the guidance passed on to him by all of his coaches and that it all continues to be vital to his success.

“Each and every coach in my life has played a part in developing myself, and I can’t thank them enough,” said Rudy. “They taught me what it is to have a competitive spirit. They

have helped me so much. They do a great job here at CPP, and I enjoy being around them every day.”

Rudy reflected on how things have come together for him this year and as the season progresses.

“This season, the thing that has clicked for me is gaining confidence and just trusting in my ability on the mound,” said Rudy. “This confidence has taken my talents to a whole new level and given me a different perspective on the game.”

Rudy also credits his coaching staff for guiding him in the right direction and for helping him adapt in high pressure situations. Jenzen Torres, pitching coach for the men’s baseball team, works with Rudy every day and spoke on Rudy’s improvement this year’s season.

“When he was up in Sonoma this year, that was as dominant of an outing as I have been a part of,” said Torres. “Tim Holdgrafer threw a no-hitter for us back in 2019. To me, Rudy has had a few outings this season that have been more dominant than that.”

That night against Sonoma State, Rudy threw a one-hit complete game shutout.

Rudy described himself as more of a quiet person, yet his actions on and off the field speak louder than words.

“He is as good as a teammate as you can have; he gets along with everyone,” said Torres.

“I notice that the guys respect him for how he goes

Cal Poly Pomona

Will Rudy

CCAA

8 IP
2 H
0 R
3 K
87 P

Week of April 11-17

.080 OPP. AVG.

PITCHER OF THE WEEK

3x

CARLOS LEANO | THE POLY POST

Will Rudy finished his freshman season with a 2.76 ERA and 7-1 record in his 11 starts.

about his business; he is such an easygoing kid. For me as a coach, to see him grow with confidence as a player is cool to see.”

Torres added that Rudy has mastered his routine. Rudy’s preparation in between starts has remained consistent since the beginning of the season.

Rudy explained that the intense preparation leading up to their start on the mound

does not pose a struggle for him.

“I don’t really like to get in the zone,” said Rudy. “I’m more of a relaxed guy in general, and I treat every game the same. I just want to go out and compete and being as relaxed as possible calms me down when I’m up there on the mound during my start.”

Torres added that Rudy’s ability to be ultra-focused has

set him apart from others. Before every game, Torres meets with head coach Randy Betten to discuss how his starter threw in the bullpen. Torres remembers telling Betten a few times this year after watching Rudy throw, “It’s going to be a long night for the other team.”

Reach Christian Ulrich at sports@thepolypost.com

Track and field takes home championship

BY LESLY VELASCO GUERRA
Sports Editor

READ THIS ARTICLE IN FULL AT [THEPOLYPOST.COM](https://thepolypost.com)

On May 5 through May 7, CPP men’s and women’s track and field teams traveled north to Cox Stadium at San Francisco State for the CCAA Track

and Field Championships. Both teams came victorious, placing first out of 12 teams.

The men’s team totaled 277 points across all events, and the women’s earned 223 points, both reigning champions for the first time since 1998. Multiple athletes placed in the top three, and the women’s team earned the

most individual titles in a meet since 1998 with seven titles. Following the championship win, the coaching staff and head coach Chris Bradford earned the CCAA Coach of the Year award.

Reach Lesly Velasco at sports@thepolypost.com



COURTESY OF CPP ATHLETICS

Ana Tovi took home the Field Athlete of the Meet award while Ayana Fields received the CCAA High Point Award.