CAED Receives $250,000 from William Randolph Hearst Foundation
The William Randolph Hearst Foundation awarded $250,000 to Cal Poly’s College of Architecture & Environmental Design to establish the first teacher/student scholar fellowships within the college. The William Randolph Hearst Foundation teacher/student scholar fellowships are intended to foster a culture of intellectual experimentation and curricular innovation that will provide students and faculty in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, architecture engineering, construction management, and city and regional planning with opportunities to further their professional development and enhance the present and future quality of the built environment. For more on the awards, visit the Cal Poly News website.

Cal Poly to Host NASCAR Star Danica Patrick, GoDaddy CEO Blake Irving
Jan. 20
The campus community welcomes NASCAR star and GoDaddy spokeswoman Danica Patrick and GoDaddy CEO Blake Irving to campus on Jan. 20 to rally support for STEM (science, technology, math and engineering) and women in technology. The event will take place from 11 a.m. to noon at Chumash Auditorium. Patrick will discuss STEM as well as her experience defying odds in a male-dominated sport. Patrick is an inspirational role model whose sport relies heavily on science and technology. This past season, she had hashtag #STEM prominently displayed on her No. 10 GoDaddy Chevy. In addition, Blake will share his vision for GoDaddy and technology. Since his appointment as CEO in 2013, he has transformed the way GoDaddy represents women in its brand and advertising efforts — as well as promoting causes supporting women in technology.

Seminar on Social Security and Retirement Planning to be Held Jan. 21
A seminar about social security and how it impacts retirement income will be offered three times on Wednesday, Jan. 21, in the Administration Building, Room 133. The times are 11 a.m. to noon, noon to 1 p.m., and 4 to 5 p.m. This seminar will present information on when to claim Social Security benefits, how to maximize benefits, and where Social Security fits in an employee’s retirement income plans. The cost of retirement, an overview of Social Security benefits, and how to bridge the income gap will also be discussed. The seminar will be led by Michael Barragan, financial advisor with Valic. Attendance is subject to supervisory approval and based on departmental operational needs. To register for the seminar, go to the Valic website and use the code 4116SAN11AA.

Jan. 22 Financial Planning Seminar Features Benefits of Savings Plus
A financial planning seminar, “Put Savings Plus to Work for You,” will be offered twice, at 10:30 a.m. and noon, Thursday, Jan. 22, in the Administration Building, Room 133. The Savings Plus program is a long-term savings program designed by the state to supplement employee retirement income. Seminar leaders will demonstrate the benefits of saving for retirement, how Savings Plus can help people reach their financial goals, details about how to enroll, invest and prepare for retirement. Two deferred compensation plans offer convenient payroll deductions on a pre-tax or after-tax basis. Employees must be a state CalPERS member to enroll. No pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Ralph Hoskins at ralph.hoskins@aonhewitt.com or 805-459-2055, or visit the Savings Plus Program website. Personal appointments are also available.

American Indian and Indigenous Faculty Staff Association Established
President Armstrong has approved establishment of the American Indian and Indigenous Faculty Staff Association. The mission of AIIFSA is to develop and maintain support and recognition of staff, faculty and students, and to empower, enhance and increase the presence and visibility of American Indian and indigenous (AI/I) peoples within the campus community. The group promotes employment, training and advancement of AI/I staff into positions of increased responsibility, as well as the recruitment, retention and promotion of AI/I faculty and students. AIIFSA is committed to establishing diversity and inclusivity and working with other faculty and staff associations on campus. Of particular importance, the group strives to develop effective, ethical, innovative, respectful and culturally appropriate partnerships with tribal communities. AIIFSA will also host speakers and events throughout the year. Allies are welcome. Those interested in joining can contact officers Jenell Navarro, jnavar18@calpoly.edu; Doug Piirto, dpiirto@calpoly.edu; Kate Martin, kamartin@calpoly.edu; or Francis Villalbana, fvillabi@calpoly.edu.