OCOB to Provide Free Tax Preparation Services to Low-Income Filers through March 14
The Orfalea College of Business is again sponsoring a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) clinic to provide free tax return preparation assistance for individuals and families with annual incomes less than $53,000. Beginning Jan. 31, nearly 100 IRS-certified accounting students will prepare tax returns that will be reviewed by volunteer CPAs and faculty from the Orfalea College of Business. Students will prepare basic forms, including 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, 540, 540A, 540EZ and some supporting forms. Cal Poly students and faculty will host clinics from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on most Saturdays through March 14. Clinics will be held in the Business Building (No. 3). For more information, contact Kevin Shaw at ext. 6-5206 or eshaw@calpoly.edu.

Vehicle Maintenance, Inspection and Repair Required Annually
Cal Poly Facilities is providing notification of CSU-mandated requirements regarding campus fleet management. Departments with state-owned vehicles are subject to the CSU motor vehicle policies, whether the department contracts with the Facilities Services Transportation Department or an outside vendor for services. A detailed description of the responsibilities of state vehicle operation is available at afd.calpoly.edu/facilities/services_transportation.asp?pid=3.

PAC Recognized as ‘Most Amazing Campus Arts Center’ in the Country
The Performing Arts Center was awarded the top spot for Most Amazing Campus Arts Centers by College Degree Search (CDS), a website designed to assist potential and current college students. The PAC was recognized for its “breathtaking Sidney Harman Hall” and the Forbes Pipe Organ. Since its doors opened in 1996, the PAC has been home to local community arts groups as well as Cal Poly’s Music Department and Theatre & Dance Department. Last year, the PAC hosted more than 170 public performances, attended by more than 87,000 patrons. For more information about the ranking, go to collegedegreesearch.net/campus-arts-centers.

Warren J. Baker Center Receives LEED Gold Certification
The Warren J. Baker Center for Science & Mathematics has been awarded gold for being green. The 189,000-square-foot structure, which opened for classes in September 2013, earned LEED gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council earlier in January. LEED — Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design — is the national benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. Certification means a building has met rigorous standards for sustainability, water and energy efficiency, resource selection and environmental quality. The designation brings the number of LEED-certified projects on the Cal Poly campus to four, representing nearly 30 percent of the campus’ 6 million square feet of building space. For more information, go to calpolynews.calpoly.edu.

Jan. 29 and 30 Sessions to Explore Ways to Decrease Trash to Landfill
Sessions will be held to brainstorm new processes to help divert campus-generated trash away from landfills, as required by the systemwide CSU Sustainability Guidelines published in May 2014. The sessions will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, and Friday, Jan. 30. The new CSU policies require 50 percent of total solid waste be diverted away from landfills by 2016 and 80 percent by 2020, which will require a complete redesign of recycling and waste management programs and significant changes in campus food service and procurement. The informational sessions will be held to review the guideline requirements and to solicit ideas, processes and personnel to help achieve the increased diversion rate. For more information, contact Kevin Shaw at ext. 6-5206 or eshaw@calpoly.edu.

Individual Financial Counseling Sessions Available on Feb. 4
Human Resources is pleased to announce an opportunity for Cal Poly employees to receive individual financial counseling from TIAA-CREF, one of the five CSU sponsored vendors. Counseling sessions are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the Administration Building, Room 124. The sessions will be offered by Michael Johns, financial advisor. To register for an appointment, visit the TIAA-CREF website or call 866-843-5640 between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.,