Dear Colleagues,

One of the things I have always found to be interesting is that all across the nation, people have the perception that during the summer universities roll up the carpet, shut the windows, and nobody works. The idea that everyone disappears and takes a summer vacation is one of the great myths, I think, of higher education.

In actuality, the campus is alive, active, and full of a lot of hardworking people! Those who are off campus are often involved in some of the most important work of the year. So I thought we’d take a look at a few of the things that happened at Cal Poly this summer.

- **Lots of construction and maintenance projects** – It’s a fact that approximately 50% of the renovation and construction infrastructure projects that we need here at Cal Poly take place in the three months of summer. And, when you get back in the fall, you’ll see that a lot of changes have occurred. For our staff working in facilities and maintenance, this is always one of the busiest times of the year.

- **New student orientation** – All summer long starting in June and going into August, we have new freshmen and transfers coming to campus for orientation during SLO Days. The staff in Student Affairs have been extremely busy working with the students themselves, as well as their parents and supporters. And, while they are running SLO Days, the Student Affairs staff have also been planning their programming for WOW and the academic year.

- **Yes, there are students on campus**! You’d be surprised to see how many undergraduate and graduate students are actually on campus during the summer. They are involved in a variety of activities, including research projects, on-campus employment, and academic classes.

- **Conferences and Events in full gear** – During the summer the campus is a hot spot for professional development programs,
conferences, events, and camps such as the Kids Learn STEM summer camps and the EPIC program for aspiring engineers.
I hope you have enjoyed this glimpse of what happens at Cal Poly during the summer months. Please feel free to bring new ideas forward for campus summer programming for the future.

Enjoy the last few weeks of summer and we’ll see you at Fall Conference.

Kathleen Enz Finken

Office of the Provost