



Office of Public Affairs  
Division of University Advancement

## News Release

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### **BOEING BRINGS THE SPACE EXPERIENCE TO CAL POLY POMONA**

POMONA, Calif. — Students will enjoy an up-close look at spacecraft design at Cal Poly Pomona's new Orbital Space Plane Crew Capsule Mockup (OSPCCM), generously donated by the Boeing Co. to the College of Engineering.

The capsule mockup was originally built for a 2004 joint Boeing/Northrop Grumman space project. The capsule is designed to accommodate, safely protect and sustain four astronauts during space launch and recovery operations.

Mockup models such as the OSPCCM are generally out of reach for publicly-funded universities. However, Boeing engineer and designer Xavier Simon recommended the mockup be donated as a human simulation or demonstration tool.

The mockup will be used as an educational tool in the university's Human Factors Laboratory, demonstrating important concepts such as advances in space technologies, instrumentation, launch and recovery systems and spacecraft design.

"Utilization of the capsule would significantly add 'learn-by-doing' value to the Cal Poly Pomona methods of teaching," said Charles Varela, director of development for the College of Engineering. "It will significantly broaden the traditional lab experience and promote multi-discipline team involvement in many design-and-build projects."

The OSPCCM debuted Feb. 23 at Cal Poly Pomona's College of Engineering Open House. It is open to the public and is located in the Human Factors Laboratory in Building 17, Room 2626.

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