



Office of Public Affairs  
Division of University Advancement

## News Release

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### Cal Poly Pomona Named a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Security

POMONA, Calif. — May 30, 2008 — Cal Poly Pomona once again has cemented its role as a national leader in cyber security education thanks to some recognition from the National Security Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The federal agencies recently announced that Cal Poly Pomona's designation as a Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education has been renewed until 2013. The designation in information assurance, also known as cyber security, is based on the curriculum and faculty research in the Computer Information Systems (CIS) department in the College of Business Administration (CBA).

This year, Cal Poly Pomona was one of only six institutions in the state -- and one of 93 institutions throughout the country -- to receive a designation as a Center of Academic Excellence.

"This university-level designation reflects the bottom-up commitment of CIS faculty, CBA administrators and campus security professionals to the importance of information assurance," said CIS Professor Dan Manson.

The federal government began designating Centers of Academic Excellence out of the need to have trained professionals who can make the Internet and computer networks safe and, as a result, help stabilize our economy and bolster our national security. Many CIS graduates have gone on to work for law enforcement agencies helping to prevent identity theft and other cyber crimes. Many more work for private companies, protecting computer networks from thieves trying to steal information.

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Cal Poly Pomona first received the designation in 2005 and has quickly become a recognized leader in information assurance. CIS faculty members are sought after by law enforcement agencies and network professional throughout the world to talk about the importance of cyber security. They also consult other institutions in the CSU system on how to become a Center of Academic Excellence.

The renewed designation will give the CBA an opportunity to continue providing a knowledgeable workforce in a growing business field. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, five of the 20 fastest growing jobs between 2004 and 2014 will be in computing disciplines, including information assurance. Also, being a Center of Academic Excellence will make students and the university eligible to apply for scholarships and grants from federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Defense.

Cal Poly Pomona will formally be recognized for its re-designation at an awards ceremony on June 4 at the University of Texas at Dallas.

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**ABOUT CAL POLY POMONA** — Striking a balance between urban excitement and rural charm, Cal Poly Pomona is nestled in 1,438 rolling acres in the heart of sunny Southern California. With 3,000 faculty and staff to serve 21,500 students, Cal Poly Pomona's mission is to advance knowledge by linking theory and practice while preparing students for leadership and careers in a multicultural world. The university seeks to place learning at the center of every program, course, and activity on campus. Students can apply their knowledge through hands-on projects, collaborate with faculty members on research, and participate in valuable internships and service learning programs. Seven colleges (agriculture; letters, arts and social sciences; business administration; education; engineering; environmental design; and science) and one school (Collins School of Hospitality Management) offer 56 undergraduate and 23 graduate degrees, as well as 8 credential programs.