

DECORATING THE CAL POLY “P”

1/28/16





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Cleaning the hillside “P”, 1962



An enthusiastic group puts the finishing touches on the original rock-lined “P”, 1921.



Decorating the Cal Poly “P”

A procedural guide for reserving the “P”

Philosophy

The Cal Poly “P”, one of the oldest hillside initials in the West, is the embodiment of Cal Poly’s eventful history. Decorating the “P” to spell out messages is a long-standing campus tradition, often reflecting the temper of the times. In support of the “ultimate college experience”, decorating the “P” is intended to provide the Cal Poly community a long standing marketing tactic that has been in practice since 1919.

Eligibility

Reservations will only be accepted by the following groups:

- Currently chartered Cal Poly Clubs and Organizations
- Cal Poly Campus Departments (Dean’s offices on behalf of departments)
- Cal Poly Auxiliaries (Cal Poly Corporation, University Housing et. al.)
- Academic Departments (i.e. professors who book for class use with their students)
- Athletic camps and revenue generating events or activities
- Private use by Cal Poly students

Terms of Use

Language

- Profanity is not allowed.
- Decorating the P must not defame or malign any group.
- Decorating the P must be in good taste.

Provide description of decorating plan

- Groups are requested to provide a brief plan of how they wish to decorate the “P” with their reservation.

Black Out Dates

- The “P” must be painted white during Cal Poly Athletics football or soccer game days, only Saturday game days apply. Blackout dates will be placed on the “P” calendar to prevent painting on these days.

Paint Quality

- Low volatile organic compound (VOC) or environmentally friendly paints should be used.

Reservations

- Groups can reserve the “P” from Sunday beginning at 6:00 am through Friday at 5:00 pm. By Friday at 5:00 pm the “P” must be returned to its original painted white condition.

Clean - Up Expectations

- Debris and trash must be removed as a condition of returning the “P” to its original state.
- As part of the “P” reservation process, a maintenance work order will be created allowing groups to obtain a 5 gallon bucket of white paint for no charge from Cal Poly Facilities by calling the Work Center 24 hours in advance. Paint will be available for pick up at the Cal Poly Facilities Warehouse located in building 70. Contact the facilities warehouse at (805)756-5555.
- Cal Poly Facilities does not issue brushes or rollers. Groups must use their own painting tools.

Consequences if P is not cleaned by reserving group

- If by Friday at 5:00 p.m. the “P” is not returned to its original condition, the University will repaint it and charge the reserving group a minimum fee of \$250. Costs could be higher depending on the amount of work required to restore the “P” to its original condition. The fee will be based on the time and materials necessary to paint the “P” and clean the surrounding area.



Scheduling & Reservation Process

The Cal Poly "P" must be reserved through the appropriate scheduling entity. Your group's affiliation determines which path to use. Reservations cannot be sold or transferred to other groups or individuals.

ASI Staff

ASI program staff submits requests through ASI Event Scheduling and Management.

- Contact 805-756-7587
- [Email ASI Event Scheduling and Management](#)¹

Cal Poly Clubs, Sport Clubs, and Independent Student Organizations (ISO's)

Cal Poly clubs, sports clubs, and Independent Student Organizations submit requests through the ASI E-Plan process.

- Contact 805-756-7587
- [Complete an E-Plan](#)²

Note: Independent Student Organizations follow the same process as clubs with one exception: ISO groups will be required to deposit \$250 into a state account before they can paint the "P". If the reserving group repaints the "P" within the required time, the money will be refunded. If Cal Poly's Facility Services Department needs to repaint the "P", then the money will not be refunded.

Campus Departments

Campus departments submit requests through University Scheduling.

- Contact 805-756-5550
- [Email University Scheduling](#)³

Academic Courses (Professors intent on using the "P" for their classes)

Professors submit requests through Class Scheduling for academic use with students.

- Contact 805-756-2461
- [Email Class Scheduling](#)⁴

Athletic Camps, Revenue Generating Events

Athletic camps and revenue generating events or activities submit their "P" reservation requests through Conference and Event Planning (CEP).

- Contact 805-756-7600
- [Email Conference and Event Planning](#)⁵

Private Use by Cal Poly Students

Private use by Cal Poly students and faculty/staff and off-campus organizations submit requests through Conference and Event Planning (CEP).

- Contact 805-756-7600
- [Email Conference and Event Planning](#)⁶

¹ Email ASI Event Scheduling and Management - asieplan@calpoly.edu

² Complete an E-Plan - <http://www.asi.calpoly.edu/eplans>

³ Email University Scheduling – events@calpoly.edu

⁴ Email Class Scheduling – classschedule@calpoly.edu

⁵ Email Conference and Event Planning – conference-eventplanning@calpoly.edu

⁶ Email Conference and Event Planning – conference-eventplanning@calpoly.edu



“P” Management

The Associated Student's Inc. will be responsible for the “P” reservation process and monitoring the condition of the “P”.

Access to the “P”

There is no vehicle access to the “P”. The approved route is accessible from the parking lot located near the lower reservoir and requires visitors to walk uphill to the “P” from the designated trailhead. Access to the “P” from the lower reservoir parking lot is by foot only. Vehicles must adhere to all parking permit requirements at all times.

Paint and materials must be walked up to the “P” from the lower reservoir parking area.

Stay on the pathway to the “P” and do not deviate from the pathway.

It is recommended to bring either a garden cart or wheelbarrow for transporting supplies and paint to the “P”.