Endowed faculty positions are vital to the success of the university because they help us secure and support dedicated and gifted faculty whose interactions with students define the educational experience at Cal Poly. Outstanding faculty not only attract the most qualified students, they also enhance our academic programs, link the campus to industry partners through outreach and research, and provide services to the community. The prestige and financial momentum that an endowed position represents is a powerful tool for attracting and retaining the most talented faculty.

Appointment to an endowed position is one of the highest honors that Cal Poly can bestow on a faculty member. It is an honor that is only possible through the generosity of private support. These positions acknowledge, in a permanent and distinctive way, the contributions that faculty members make to the teaching and learning environment. They also acknowledge the important contributions faculty make to the discovery of new knowledge through research.

A permanent endowment created by a philanthropic gift provides consistent support to the selected faculty member and is designed to foster the success of his or her work. A portion of the annual return from the endowment is available for applied research and equipment, professional development, graduate assistants and/or other important activities of the faculty member.

ENDOWED CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS
Through the creation of endowed chairs and professorships, our generous benefactors make significant academic advances possible and enhance learning opportunities for our students that strengthen the entire university. Many chairs and professorships are permanently named after a benefactor or a loved one. Endowed professorships begin at $1 million and endowed chairs at $3 million, depending on the department or program.

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