

# California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

## Investigations of Improper Activities by State Employees, February 2007 Through June 2007

### INVESTIGATION I2007-0671 (REPORT I2007-2), SEPTEMBER 2007

#### *California State Polytechnic University, Pomona's response as of September 2007*

We investigated and substantiated an allegation that an employee with the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Pomona), inappropriately used university computers to view pornographic Web sites.

#### **Finding: The employee misused state resources to engage in improper activities.**

We asked Pomona to assist us in the investigation, and we substantiated the allegation. Pomona found that the official repeatedly used university computers to view Web sites containing pornographic material. State laws prohibit employees from using public resources, such as time and equipment, for personal purposes. In addition, these laws require employees to devote their full time and attention to their duties, and prohibit individuals employed by the State from using a state-issued computer to access, view, download, or otherwise obtain obscene matter. Specifically, Pomona found that the official viewed approximately 1,400 pornographic images on two university computers during several weeks in 2006 and also from February to May 2007. Pomona was unable to review the official's complete Internet usage because the settings on the official's main computer only allowed for a two-month retention period of Internet activity. When interviewed, the official admitted to viewing pornographic Web sites regularly using university computers.

#### *Pomona's Action: None.*

- Pomona indicated that as of the issue date of our report, the official is no longer working on campus. Pomona negotiated a resignation with the official and permitted the official to exhaust all earned leave credits and other paid leave.

Pomona indicated that it has an Appropriate Use Policy for Information Technology and that it is committed to taking appropriate action when notified of employees who access pornographic materials on the Internet. However, Pomona did not indicate that it implemented any new controls or software filters that would prevent any future access to pornographic Web sites by employees.

#### *Updated information as of January 2008: None.*

- The department failed to provide a response.

#### **Investigative Highlight . . .**

*An employee at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, admitted, when interviewed, to viewing pornographic Web sites regularly using university computers.*