

Jeffrey D. Armstrong

President, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Brief Biography

Jeffrey D. Armstrong began his tenure as Cal Poly's ninth permanent president on February 1, 2011, with a determination to enhance the University's renowned Learn by Doing teaching approach.

Dr. Armstrong is a first-generation college graduate who brings to Cal Poly a blend of experience as an honored teacher, respected researcher, and experienced administrator.

He participates in numerous California State University (CSU) committees. He serves as Vice Chair of the Business Higher Education Forum.

Before joining Cal Poly, Dr. Armstrong served as dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and professor of Animal Science at Michigan State University (MSU), beginning in 2001. He was head of the Department of Animal Sciences at Purdue University from 1997 to 2001 and served in various positions at North Carolina State University (NCSU) from 1986 through 1997.

As a faculty member at NCSU, Dr. Armstrong was known for engaging students in the classroom and was awarded numerous honors for his teaching and research excellence. He also was named Alumni Distinguished Professor for Undergraduate Teaching.

Raised on a beef cattle, swine, and tobacco farm in Western Kentucky, Dr. Armstrong attended Murray State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture in 1981. He earned both a master's (1984) and a doctorate (1986) in physiology from North Carolina State University. He and Sharon have two children and two grandchildren.