CAL POLY
College of Engineering

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

8 Questions with Andrew Dillon

Mechanical Engineering

What made you choose engineering?
I love learning about how the world around me works and enjoy finding creative ways to solve problems.

What was your earliest engineering project?
My first exposure to engineering was in my sophomore year of high school, when I took an introduction to engineering class. I worked on a variety of hands-on projects, including building VEX robots, participating in Arduino projects and constructing a popsicle stick bridge.

What has been your favorite class and why?
My favorite class so far is Dynamics. I really enjoyed learning how physical interactions can be explained by equations.

What are your hobbies?
I love spending time outside. Some of my hobbies include hiking and photography. I also enjoy playing water polo and powerlifting.

What is your favorite place in San Luis Obispo County and why?
My favorite place in the county is Montaña de Oro State Park. It's a really beautiful area, and I find it even cooler now that I took a geology course and learned how unique the landscape is because of the marine terraces.

What is your dream job after graduation?
I'm still trying to figure out exactly where I want to take my career, but I currently see myself as a design engineer in the renewable energy industry. I want to contribute to making our world a better place, and designing renewable energy systems would give me a way to do so.

Do you have a scholarship?
I am the Class of 2028 recipient of the Loyal Order of Propellerheads scholarship, which is funded by a generous group of Cal Poly alumni. I am very grateful for everyone involved in the LOOP program. They provide not only financial assistance but also professional guidance.

Are you part of any extracurriculars on or off campus?
On campus, I am involved with Cal Poly Wind Power as one of the outreach leads. The club designs and manufactures a scale model wind turbine prototype for the national Collegiate Wind Competition. In addition, I will be a rookie shop tech in the student machine shops this fall.