

March 21, 2008 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Pier Open to the Public April 12

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Due to popular demand, the Cal Poly Pier again will be open to the public on Saturday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to noon. Visitors can explore the facility at their own pace during the free event, enjoying hands-on displays and interacting with Cal Poly faculty and students who conduct research at the pier.

Visitors will be able to:

- Handle live marine creatures in special "touch-tanks" suitable for children and adults
- Watch robotic exploration of the sea bottom, with a live video feed
- Experience the incredible world of microscopic plankton
- Enjoy the unique view of San Luis Bay

Visitors will also be free to ask questions about areas of ongoing local marine research, which include:

- Sustaining Local Fisheries
- Mapping Ocean Currents along the Shore
- Effects of Ultraviolet Light on Marine Organisms
- Morro Bay Ecosystem
- Dangers and Control of Invasive Species
- Monitoring the Varieties of Intertidal Life Forms

The visit begins at the pier entrance. The walk to the end of the pier is just over a half-mile (1.2 miles round trip). Close-toed walking shoes and cameras are highly recommended.

Limited parking is available near the Cal Poly Pier. Use of the public parking in Avila Beach is advised. From Avila Beach, walk west on Avila Beach Dr. across the bridge towards Port San Luis to the pier entrance gate.

For more information visit: www.marine.calpoly.edu

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