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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly's Community Center Receives Recognition from Lois Capps

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The Community Center at Cal Poly recently received special recognition from Congresswoman Lois Capps for its efforts to serve communities in San Luis Obispo.

The annual award was presented by the Nonprofit Support Center as part of their Leadership in Action Awards program. The award is given to organizations that demonstrate leadership in developing solutions to community challenges and exhibit exemplary practices in citizenship, partnership and collaboration in the community.

“This is certainly good news and well-deserved recognition for everyone involved in the center’s activities, especially our amazing and dedicated students,” said Student Life and Leadership Director Ken Barclay.

With more than 30 community partners, the Community Center connects more than 2,500 Cal Poly students with service activities at local non-profit agencies. A division of the university’s Student Life and Leadership unit, Community Center service opportunities include:

- Student Community Services - provides opportunities for students to act as vital members of the community, share their resources with others, and develop skills and leadership abilities while creating meaningful social change.
- Days of Service – one-day opportunities for students and community members to engage in service that benefits their community.
- AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Promise Fellows - Domestic Peace Corps program for students, alumni and community members. Volunteers serve with a local non-profit agency for at least one year.
- Community-based Learning – faculty developed service-learning courses that enhance students’ academic curriculum while providing direct service to local non-profit agencies.
- Holiday Gift Drive – annual fundraiser to collect gifts for low-income families.
- Change the Status Quo – annual student-organized social justice conference.
- Alternative Breaks Program - provides students with a chance to make a difference during their breaks. Some 24 students recently served in Louisiana during winter break.

For more information about the Cal Poly’s Community Center or Student Life and Leadership, visit <http://studentlife.calpoly.edu/csv/index.asp?dept=csv> or call Joy Pedersen-Harkins at 756-6749.

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