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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MultiCultural Center Spices Up Menu of Black History Month Offerings

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly’s MultiCultural Center will celebrate Black History Month throughout February with events that honor African-American history and culture as well as explore contemporary African-American issues. The theme of the events is “I Am,” inspired by a Martin Luther King Jr. philosophy that the individual leaders of respective groups can make a change within their groups and affect larger change. The following events are free and open to the public:

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 7 to 8:30 p.m., University Union, Room 221 – Participants have a chance to win gift cards to gas stations, restaurants and retail stores playing African-American Jeopardy, a trivia game similar to television game show in which participants will be quizzed on their knowledge of African-American history and culture.

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 7 to 9:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center Pavilion - Another Type Of Groove returns with African-American poet and slam poetry sensation Talaam Acey. A full-time poet since 1999, Acey has published a novel, an award-winning memoir and nine spoken-word CDs. His work has been featured on BET, TV One, and in Essence magazine. Acey is an accomplished slam poet who has won competitions throughout the United States as well as in Germany and England.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 11:15 a.m. to noon in the Spanos Breezeway – Various student organizations will participate in the exciting and entertaining African-American tradition of step dancing, a rhythmic style of stomping and clapping that is choreographed for a group.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7 to 9 p.m., University Union, Room 221 – Showing of “Stomp the Yard,” a film which follows DJ (Columbus Short), an exceptional street dancer who bypasses juvenile hall by attending Truth University. A fraternity recruits DJ to help its quest to win the coveted national step dance competition. The film also features R&B sensations Ne-Yo and Chris Brown.

Thursday, Feb. 21, 4 to 6 p.m., University Union, Room 220 – Showing of the CNN special investigation program “The Noose: An American Nightmare.” Prompted by recent incidents such as the Jena 6, Kyra Phillips’ report explores the shocking history of the noose and its re-emergence across the United States.

Thursday, Feb. 28, 11 a.m. to noon, University Union Plaza – Bay Area hip-hop group Crown City Rockers will bring its various styles of jazz, soul, hip-hop, and funk fusion to UU Hour. The band is known for energizing crowds with lively improvisations and ad-libs. The concert is co-sponsored by ASI Events.

Thursday, Feb. 28, 7 to 9 p.m., University Union, Room 208 – Showing of HBO documentary “Little Rock High School: 50 Years Later.” The school is best known as one of the most resistant to desegregation. For a year, film-makers Brent and Craig Renaud follow the lives of contemporary students, faculty members, administration, and community leaders to reveal the legacy of the civil rights struggle 50 years after desegregation.

For more information, contact Brenton Smith at mcc@calpoly.edu or 756-1405.

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