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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

Sheriff’s Search On for Student Missing in Surf at Montana de Oro State Park

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly Vice President for Student Affairs Cornel Morton held a press conference in front of the University Administration Building at 3:45 p.m. Friday to deliver details about a missing freshman student witnesses saw knocked into the surf by a large wave at Montana de Oro State Park in Los Osos.

The missing student was among new Cal Poly students who were participating in freshman orientation events at Montana de Oro.

One of the involved students was participating in Cal Poly’s WOW (Week of Welcome) orientation program, and the other two were participating in Orientation for United Rasa, a sub-committee of the Mexa student club on campus. All were at the beach to take part in various social events.

At 12:14 p.m. the University was notified that three male students were hiking along the rocks at Spooner’s Cove at Montana de Oro in Los Osos when a large wave crashed over the students, pulling one into the water. The other two male students entered the water to attempt to save their fellow student.

The two students who attempted rescue came in from the surf; one had minor cuts and bruises and remained on the scene during initial search efforts by local emergency responders. The other was taken to Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center for treatment of cuts and bruises; he has been released and is home resting.

Cal Poly has no further details at this time, and is referring all media questions to the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Department, which is handling the search and rescue operation.

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