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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Leading Japanese Seismologist to Speak at Cal Poly June 14, 15

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Professor Masanori Izumi of Japan, one of the world's leading seismologists, will discuss disaster planning trends and the social and technological challenges facing modern industrial societies such as Japan and the United States as part of a two-lecture series. The lectures are free and open to the public.

The two lectures take place Wednesday and Thursday, June 14 and 15, at 1 p.m., in the Fischer Science Building, Room 286.

During Wednesday's lecture, he will discuss the Japanese philosophy on life, and the education of students to foster productive global citizenship in the areas of social sciences, humanities and art.

On Thursday Izumi will discuss man-made and natural disasters including earthquakes. He will also discuss disaster planning and awareness issues.

Izumi is known for founding the concept of seismic base isolation, which has resulted in development of the Resilient Friction Base Isolation (RFBI) system widely used for seismic protection of buildings in Japan and elsewhere in the world.

In his honor, Shimizu Corporation of Japan founded the Izumi Research Institute, which is comprised of close to two hundred doctoral researchers in the field of earthquake engineering. Izumi serves as director of the institute.

Izumi, who in Japan holds a position equivalent to the United States chair of the National Academy of Engineering, is professor emeritus of Tohoku University, Tohoku University of Art and Design, and University of Kiril and Metoliji, Skopje. He is also honorary director of the Engineering Mechanics Institute, Tonji University, Shanghai.

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