Cal Poly Appoints Linda Halisky Dean of Liberal Arts

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly has appointed Linda J. Halisky dean of the College of Liberal Arts, effective April 3. Halisky, of San Luis Obispo, has been serving as interim dean since August 2004. She is credited with fostering a positive environment for teaching, scholarship, creative activity, research, and service to the university and community.

"Linda Halisky has proved to be both visionary and pragmatic in leading the College of Liberal Arts," said Interim Provost Robert Detweiler. "Under her commendable leadership, the college's programs and faculty will continue to thrive."

As dean, Halisky is responsible for the quality of the College of Liberal Arts’ undergraduate and graduate academic programs. She oversees about 60 staff members and more than 300 faculty members, who teach some 3,000 majors, representing the third largest undergraduate enrollment at Cal Poly.

“I am thrilled to have been given this opportunity,” Halisky said. “New energies are stirring; we've some great things ahead. I very much look forward to leading the college during this exciting time.”

In 2004-05, Halisky received the Student Success Recognition Award from the university’s Division of Student Affairs and won the Cuesta College Woman in Education award, part of their Women of Distinction series of awards presented each spring to notable women throughout the county.

Halisky, who served as chair of the English Department from 1994 until 2000, came to Cal Poly as an assistant professor of English in 1984. She was appointed full professor in 1993.

From January 2002 until August 2004 she served as director of both the London Study Program and International Education and Programs, expanding opportunities for international education.

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