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March 18, 2009

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Cal Poly Architecture Professor, Lecturer Receive Education Award

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly Architecture professor Thomas Fowler, IV and full-time lecturer Barry L. Williams will receive an American Institute of Architects Education Honor Award for excellence in course development and architectural teaching.

The Education Honor Awards program, created in 1988, recognizes collegiate faculty achievements and contributions to education and the discipline of architecture. The Cal Poly faculty members will receive one of five awards to be presented March 27 at the 2009 Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture annual meeting in Portland, Ore.

The award jury looked for exceptional and innovative courses that deal with broad issues, particularly in cross-disciplinary collaboration; contribute to the advancement of architecture education; have the potential to benefit and/or change practice; and promote models of excellence that could be appropriated by other educators.

Fowler and Williams received their award for the Integrated Project Studio, which combines the content of a third-year building design studio and that of a building environmental systems studio.

The difficulty of synchronizing environmental systems lecture topics with building design and environmental systems studios is formidable in a 10-week term. The instructors linked and tightly choreographed these two studios by framing the coursework into thirds, to emphasize to the students that environmental content is not distinct from building design.

About The American Institute of Architects:

For more than 150 years, members of the American Institute of Architects have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. By using sustainable design practices, materials and techniques, AIA architects are uniquely poised to provide the leadership and guidance needed to provide solutions to address climate change. For more details, log on to www.aia.org/walkthewalk.



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Image: Project designed by students in the Integrated Project Studio.

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