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April 17, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Cal Poly's SAFER Program plans events April 24-30 for ReMEMber Week and Sexual Assault Awareness Month

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly's Sexual Assault-Free Environment Resource (SAFER) will hold several events the week of April 24-30 to mark Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the university's annual ReMEMber Week.

The events are meant to encourage awareness about all forms of sexual violence, to honor the memories of its victims, and to celebrate its survivors. Activities on campus and in the surrounding area serve to promote consciousness, understanding and prevention of sexual assault.

Among the events are Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, in which local men don high heels and other women's shoes and walk to show solidarity in the cause for ending sexual violence; lectures; self defense presentations for women; and the annual Take Back the Night Remembrance Rally.

Take Back the Night is part of an international event designed to raise awareness about sexual assault and provide a safe venue for survivors and supporters to voice their experiences and assert the right to live free from violence. SAFER will hold a candlelight vigil this year to honor the memories of Rachel Newhouse and Aundria Crawford, a Cal Poly student and Cuesta College student, respectively, who were raped and murdered in 1998 and 1999, Kristin Smart, a Cal Poly student who disappeared in 1996, along with all victims of sexual violence.

The event will provide attendees with a variety of community resources including: Cal Poly's Women's Center, SAFER, Planned Parenthood, the Women's Shelter, the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention (SARP) Center and the University Police Department. Musical performances will include Cal Poly's a cappella group Take it SLO, as well as local musician Melody Klemin and slam poets.

SAFER's events for ReMEMber Week and Sexual Assault Awareness Month include:

April 24- SAFE Organizations orientation from 3 to 4 p.m. in building 52, room E 27.

April 25– Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, at Mitchell Park. Register online through the Sexual Assault and Prevention (SARP) center at [www.sarpcenter.org](http://www.sarpcenter.org). Registration and check in starts 11 a.m. and the walk starts at noon.

April 27– Self-defense presentation for women from 6-8 p.m. in the left wing of Chumash Auditorium.

April 27– Men in the Movement discussion from 6-8 p.m. in building 53, room 202.

April 28– Soup and Substance: Human Sex Trafficking presented by Dr. Christina Firpo from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. in the University Union Room 220.

April 28– Screening of 'Dreamworlds' from 6-8 p.m. in building 53, room 202.

April 29- 'Being There for Survivors' training from 6-7:30 p.m. in building 53, room 202.

April 30- 'Take Back the Night' Remembrance rally from 6:30-9 p.m. on Garden Street.

Through its prevention education programs, SAFER is working to make the Cal Poly campus safer for all its members by raising awareness and fighting to end sexual violence. For more information contact Mariana Lightman, coordinator of SAFER Programs, at SAFERprograms@gmail.com or at Cal Poly's SAFER program, 805-756-2282.

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