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Contact: Margo Fahey, Kiva Cal Poly  
415-328-1555; mefahey@calpoly.edu

## Cal Poly Student Club Plans May 31 Run to Benefit Lending for Entrepreneurs in Developing Countries

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Kiva Cal Poly – a new student club aimed at raising awareness of direct micro-lending to entrepreneurs in developing countries – will hold a 5k fundraiser run May 31 on campus.

The event, called the Race to Make Loans That Change Lives, will begin at 9 a.m. in front of the Health Center on South Perimeter Road. Participants will run through the inner campus and Cal Poly farmland before finishing back at the Health Center.

The race is designed to raise awareness of the nonprofit group Kiva Microfunds and collect money to be loaned to its clients around the world.

Kiva Microfunds describes its mission as connecting people through lending for the sake of alleviating poverty. Through its Web site, [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org), individual lenders choose an entrepreneur in need, then lend via credit card or PayPal. Kiva collects the money and passes it to one of its many microfinance partners worldwide. The money is then distributed to the selected entrepreneur. Repayments and other updates are posted on Kiva and e-mailed to lenders who wish to receive them.

The group has more than 6,000 lending teams around the world, including clubs at more than 500 universities – among them Stanford, Rice, UC Berkeley and Virginia Tech.

Participants for the Cal Poly event can sign up in advance by logging on to [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) and then searching the phrase “Campus Kiva 5K.” Runners also can sign up the morning of the race, beginning at 8:30 a.m., at the Health Center Lawn.

Participants can pay a simple \$10 entrance fee. Or they can pay \$30 and, at the end of the race, receive a \$25 Kiva gift certificate to put toward a loan to an entrepreneur through Kiva Microfunds. Top male and female participants will receive a prize. There will also be a raffle following the race.

For more details about Kiva Cal Poly, contact member Margo Fahey at 415-328-1555 or [mefahey@calpoly.edu](mailto:mefahey@calpoly.edu).

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