California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Honors ‘Best’ Students with Awards

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Seven outstanding Cal Poly students have been named as the 2004 recipients of the university’s 2004 Land Family “Quest for the Best” Award.

The Land family, in funding this award, is seeking to recognize students who have achieved the highest level of excellence in their ability to balance their academic pursuits with community service, explained Patricia Harris of the university’s Student Community Services office. “The awards recognize leaders in each college who exemplify core values of excellence, stewardship, collaboration, integrity and community,” she stressed.

Students were nominated by faculty, staff and campus leaders and were selected based on an application and interview process. A student from each college and Associated Students, Inc. was selected, with one student receiving the highest honor: the university-wide award.

The following students were honored at a special ceremony May 16 on campus for their leadership and service:

- Marcos Ruiz (Bloomington), College of Agriculture
- Michelle Glueckert (Camarillo), College of Architecture and Environmental Design
- Laurel Koester (Concord), College of Engineering
- Dianne Hardcastle (Mission Viejo), College of Business and University-wide Honor
- Olga Berdial, (Menifee), Associated Students
- Heidi Schawel (Martinez), College of Liberal Arts
- Jennifer Yost (Cameron Park), College of Science and Math

All students will receive cash awards and commemorative gifts and plaques. Diane Hardcastle, recipient of the University-wide Honor, will also receiving the equivalent of one year’s tuition.
The awards are the result of the blending of the Mr. And Mrs. Jeffrey Land Outstanding University and Community Service Award, established by alumnus Jeff Land (Bus ’80) and wife Carla Land in 1986, and the Quest for the Best Award, initiated four years ago by the Office Vice President for Student Affairs.

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Editors Note: A photo of the winners is attached. Photo IDs are: (l-r) Heidi Schawel, Laurel Koester, Olga Berdial, Jenn Yost, Carla Land, Jeff Land, Marcos Ruiz, Dianne Hardcastle. Not pictured: Michelle Glueckert.