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'Our Ethnic Studies' for 21st Century Title of Feb. 10 Talk at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Columbia University Professor Gary Y. Okihiro will present "‘Our Ethnic Studies’ for the 21st Century: Remembering the Past, Envisioning the Future" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10, in Room 123 in the Agricultural Engineering Building at Cal Poly.

The public is invited to the free presentation, where Prof. Okihiro will address questions crucial to understanding both the limits and possibilities of ethnic studies in the 21st century.

Okihiro will explore the past, present and future of ethnic studies and examine its value and relevancy in today’s world of increasing complexity and globalization.

Okihiro is the director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race and professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. His research interests include Asian American and southern Africa studies. He is the author of eight books about the United States and African histories, including “The Columbia Guide to Asian American History” and “Common Ground: Reimagining American History.” He is the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Studies Association and is a past president of the Association for Asian American Studies.

The presentation is sponsored by Cal Poly’s Ethnic Studies Department in conjunction with the College of Liberal Arts, the Student Affairs office and the History Department. For more information, contact the Ethnic Studies Department at 756-1707 or ethnicstudies@calpoly.edu.

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(NOTE TO EDITORS: For a photo of Gary Okihiro, please contact Jo Ann Lloyd at 756-6530 or illoyd@calpoly.edu.)