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MultiCultural Center; <http://multicultural.calpoly.edu>

Cal Poly's MultiCultural Center Hosts Black History Month Events in Feb.

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The Cal Poly MultiCultural Center will host a series of events in celebration of Black History month. All events are free and open to the public.

“From Prisons to Plantations” – Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7 to 9 p.m., UU 204 (Left Wing Chumash) The latest study by the Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that one-third of all inmates under state or federal jurisdiction have two things in common; inmates are under 30 years old and are African American. According to the report, 10.4 percent of the country's entire black male population, between the ages of 25 and 29, are in prison. Christopher Bickel will discuss whether our prison system is a new form of slavery.

“Sellouts? Facts and Myths about Black/White Interracial Dating” – Wednesday, Feb. 16, 7 to 9 p.m., UU 220 Interracial dating continues to be a controversial discussion. Some individuals say they do not have a problem with interracial dating however, one's actions may not reflect what they say. We will discuss the history of Black/White dating, myths and facts on Black/White dating and engage in a discussion about whether if one dates outside of his/her race, are they considered a sellout to their race.

“What is Black” – Wednesday, Feb. 23, 7 to 9 p.m., UU 204 (Left Wing Chumash) The term “black” usually refers to a racial group of humans with skin colors that range from light brown to nearly black. It is also used to categorize a number of diverse populations together based on historical and prehistorical ancestral relationships. So when did this definition switch to ideas of: poverty, dead-beat dads, promiscuous teens and gang members? Join the MCC staff as they talk about what is to be “black” in 2011.

The MultiCultural Center cultivates a campus-wide community that represents and celebrates the diversity of Cal Poly's student body. Our mission is to empower students with the resources, skills and opportunities necessary for academic achievement, leadership development and purposeful civic engagement, while providing them with a safe and welcoming “home away from home.”

For more information, contact Shauna Kimball at 805-756-1405, mcc@calpoly.edu, or visit the MultiCultural Center web site at <http://multicultural.calpoly.edu>.

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