FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly "Rocks the Vote" to Increase Student Participation in Civic Issues; Twenty-Four Hour Rocking Chair-a-Thon to Motivate Students to Register to Vote

Beginning at 11 a.m. Wednesday (Jan. 30) and continuing for 24 hours, Cal Poly students, faculty members and administrators will be "rocking 'round the clock" in an effort to inspire students to register to vote.

The "Rock the Vote" event is intended to encourage students to participate in local government issues as valid residents of our community, according to Derek Huerta, club chair. Each participant in the "chair-a-thon" will sit in a rocking chair for one hour in the University Union Plaza. The event ends at 11 a.m. Thursday.

Poly Voice, the student club that is sponsoring the voter registration drive, was created in 2001 to increase students' awareness of their responsibility to participate on a civic level.

"Students aren't participating as much as they could or should," Huerta said. "Cal Poly's more than 17,000 students should be heard and their opinions respected regardless of the belief that students are temporary community members."

As chief student advocate, Associated Students Inc. President Angie Hacker is proud to set an example for her peers to be concerned about local issues.

"I registered to vote during my first year at Cal Poly," she said. "It's time for all students to get involved in the decisions that affect students as residents of this county."

Students who register to vote during UU Hour Thursday (11 a.m.-noon) will be treated to free hot dogs.

The 24-hour rocking chair-a-thon is being presented in conjunction with the Executive staff of Cal Poly's Associated Students Inc. For more information, call Huerta at 234-5773.

- 30 -

About Associated Students, Inc. (ASI): ASI strives to enrich the quality of student life and to complement the educational mission of Cal Poly through shared governance, student employment, student advocacy and a variety of diverse programs and services. Through the administration of the McPhee University Union, The Orfalea Family and ASI Children's Center, the Recreation Center and Sports Complex facilities, ASI offers a
broad spectrum of programming, services and opportunities for leadership and social interaction.