Cal Poly Housing Collaborative Wins Bank of America Low-Income Housing Challenge

SAN LUIS OBISPO – An interdisciplinary team of Cal Poly students took first place in Bank of America's Low-Income Housing Challenge, beating out master's degree students from UC Berkeley and UC Irvine in the final round.

The team partnered with developer Madonna Enterprises to create "Entrada Ranch." The proposed site features a 135-unit affordable living community in San Luis Obispo, adjacent to services and transportation. The project design includes a community center, community garden, recreational and exercise facility, connection to local trails, bike paths, a variety of open spaces and a daycare center.

The project supports healthy living through site design and sustainable building, and programs that foster community, such as a cooperative garden that will produce organic produce and serve as a gathering place for residents.

The team was comprised of 10 undergraduate and two graduate students: six from city and regional planning, three from business and finance, two from landscape architecture and one from construction management. The proposal included detailed plans, video and a website.

For more information go to http://polyhousingcollaborative.com/2011/.

The Cal Poly Housing Collaborative Team will present their project to San Luis Obispo’s Planning Commission May 25.

About the Bank of America Low-Income Housing Challenge:
The competition requires student teams to develop concepts, designs, community support and financing for housing projects that are affordable for low-income households. The proposals are evaluated on concept and design as well as financial feasibility. Bank of America sponsors the competition to encourage emerging leaders in the fields of architecture, business and city planning to pursue careers in affordable housing.