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Award-Winning Poet Bob Hicok To Read at Cal Poly Nov. 15

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Award-winning poet Bob Hicok will read from his work on Nov. 15 as part of Cal Poly's WriterSpeak series and in conjunction with the San Luis Obispo County Poetry Festival.

The event will be at 7 p.m. in Philips Hall in the Christopher Cohan Center on campus. Hicok's poetry has appeared in such magazines as The New Yorker, Ploughshares and Poetry, as well as twice appearing in the Best American Poetry and Pushcart anthologies. He is the author of three collections of poems: "Animal Soul," "Plus Shipping" and "The Legend of Light," which won the 1995 Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry and was an American Library Association Booklist Notable Book of the Year.

Hicok's poetry has gained praise from The New York Times, which said, "Mr. Hicok's gift lies somewhere between those of the surgeon and the gods of the foundry and convalescent home: seamlessly, miraculously, his judicious eye imbues even the dreadful with beauty and meaning." Acclaimed poet and critic Yusef Komunikakaa wrote, "Bob Hicok's 'Animal Soul' embodies an imagistic world shaped out of the mercy of language and music, and each well-wrought poem is believable in its dream- and life-honed levity. 'Animal Soul' has been summoned by a craftsman and seer; this is poetry we can trust."

Hicok is by trade an automotive die designer living in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Admission to the reading is $3 for the public and $2 for students and senior citizens. The event is sponsored by Cal Poly's English Department, Cal Poly Arts and Poets and Writers Inc. through a grant received from the Lannen Foundation.

For more information on the reading, contact Adam Hill, a member of the
English Department faculty and organizer of the event, at 756-1622 or ahill@calpoly.edu.