February 14, 2012

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SAN LUIS OBISPO -- The Cal Poly Journalism Department has established an endowment in honor of former professor George Ramos, who died in July 2011.

The George Ramos Cal Poly Journalism Endowment will support student scholarships and various program developments. The department also hopes to appoint an endowed chair to support the education of future journalists.

“George educated journalists to understand and practice the importance and value of the free press,” said Harvey Levenson, interim chair of the Journalism Department. “He practiced and taught the virtues of objective reporting that people of all walks of life could understand. A Latino, he had a particular affinity for the Latino community, working to create opportunities for members of that community to enter the field of journalism.”

A nationally recognized journalist, Ramos reported for the Los Angeles Times for 20 years and won a Pulitzer Prize for his work in giving Southern California Latinos a voice. His experience, wealth of knowledge, and passion for journalism continues to inspire countless Cal Poly students.

Contributions to The George Ramos Cal Poly Journalism Endowment will be shared equally between student development and program development. All contributors will be recognized on a plaque to be permanently displayed in the Journalism Department.

To make a contribution by phone, call the Cal Poly Fund at 805-756-6448. Donations can also be made online at: http://giving.calpoly.edu/donations/ccdonation_s3.asp?col=8&dpt=The+George+Ramos+Cal+Poly+Journalism+Endowment+(5609)&amt=0.

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