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Cal Poly's April 5 Provocative Perspectives to Highlight Role of Men in Preventing Sexual Violence

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly's Provocative Perspectives series for April will feature "Safer Men" discussing "Masculinity, Sexual Violence, and Prevention: How Today's Men Are the Problem and the Solution."

The event will take place Thursday, April 5 at Vista Grande Café beginning at 7:30 a.m. The event is free and open to the public. A follow-up student-session discussion will be held in the University Union at 10 a.m. in the MultiCultural Center Lounge.

"Safer Men" features Cal Poly alumni Nicholas Bilich and Kyle Rosso, who will discuss the intersections between men's identity development and sexual violence, by examining how our culture provokes a masculine identity which creates an environment where sexual assault is more likely.

Bilich received his bachelor's degree in English from Cal Poly in 2008 and is now serving as an AmeriCorps member with Men & Masculinity Programs, which was piloted this year by Cal Poly's Gender Equity Center. Rosso a 2011 history graduate and recipient of College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Student Award for Contributions to the Objectives and Public Image of the University, is serving as an AmeriCorps member with Cal Poly's Safer Program. Both are certified Rape Crisis Counselors in the state of California, and both volunteer with the San Luis Obispo Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention (SARP) Center.

Reservations are required; please RSVP by 5 p.m. Thursday, March 29. For more information call 756-0327 or e-mail Liz Cofer at lcofer@calpoly.edu. Attendees with disabilities may request accommodations in advance by contacting the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at 756-1521.

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