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Agroecology Expert to Speak April 23 at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly will host agroecology expert Steve Gliessman from 11 a.m. to noon Monday, April 23, in Chumash Auditorium in the University Union.

A professor or agroecology at UC Santa Cruz for more than 30 years, Gliessman will share his experiences in the advancement of sustainable food systems locally and globally and with the Community Agroecology Network, the nonprofit he co-founded.

The free lecture is open to the public. It is sponsored by Community Agroecology Network, the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences’ Center for Sustainability and the Cal Poly Fair Trade Club.

About Steve Gliessman

Steve Gliessman earned his doctorate in plant ecology at UC Santa Barbara and then spent nine years teaching and managing agricultural operations in Latin America. He joined the faculty at UC Santa Cruz in 1980. He was founding director of the university’s Agroecology Program and teaches natural history, ethnobotany and agroecology as an emeriti faculty in the Department of Environmental Studies. He is the Heller Endowed Chair of Agroecology at UC Santa Cruz and has been a Kellogg Fellow and Fulbright Scholar. He is co-founder of the nonprofit Community Agroecology Network and current co-director of the Sustainable Living Center at UC Santa Cruz, where he also directs the undergraduate student residential Program in Community and Agroecology. He has published extensively on traditional agriculture in Mexico, agroecology, and sustainable agriculture. His textbook “Agroecology: Ecology of Sustainable Food Systems” is in its second edition and appears in four languages. He lectures in agroecology worldwide. He and his family dry farm organic wine grapes at their small ranch in the Cuyama Valley of Central California.

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