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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Week of Welcome Announces Awareness 2012 Programming

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly’s Week of Welcome Orientation Program announces changes to the topics that will be addressed to all incoming students for the WOW 2012 Awareness Programming.

The goal of the Awareness series is to inform new students on their responsibilities as a new Cal Poly student and Mustang. The programming is developed to educate and inform students about these topics and help them with their transition into college. Students will discuss various topics including stress, depression and suicide, drug and alcohol use and abuse, personal safety, sexual assault, respect, and diversity. Sparking healthy dialogue allows incoming students to prepare themselves for transitional issues that may face them, or someone they may be close to, during their first year at Cal Poly.

New to the series is a component called Cal Poly: A Life Discovered. WOW leaders gathered hundreds of anonymous Cal Poly student stories that touch on a variety of transitional experiences and issues. The stories will be shared with new students throughout the Week of Welcome.

This year, the Awareness programming will consist of five parts:

The Awareness Gallery is a multimedia, multi-presentation experience that uses interaction and participation to engage the viewer. The goal is to allow viewers to travel through at their own pace and interact as much as they choose, and to engage multiple learning styles and types.

Cal Poly: A Life Discovered is a compilation of true, unrevise Cal Poly student stories that illustrate the affect a transitional experience, issue or other factor can have over a new and or continuing student.

Drunk Sex or Date Rape: Can You Tell The Difference? is an interactive, multifaceted presentation delivered by attorney Brett Sokolow. The presentation uses audience participation and questions to help empower participation. It is designed to walk the audience through real-life court case that centers on the title question and utilizes active feedback to guide the participants to a jury-like decision.

Personal Choices and Struggles is a video presentation that explores the dangers of alcohol and drug use and abuse, as well as the challenges associated with transitions, peer pressure and mental health. The topics are interwoven through a series of audience participation exercises, and ramifications are discussed and presented in a documentary style that showcases true Cal Poly stories.

Respect and Diversity is an interactive workshop that explores the differences that unite us and that make us unique in our new Cal Poly family. Utilizing audience participation, the session is designed to leave participants with a healthy respect for all fellow Mustangs and to encourage the discussion of what diversity really is and how we can embrace it on a daily basis.

For dates and times when the presentations will be available for viewing, see attached schedule of events.

For more information about the Awareness series or WOW, contact Jason Mockford, assistant coordinator of Cal Poly’s Orientation Programs, at 805-756-2477.
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