June 18, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Karen Watton
805-756-5407; kwatton@calpoly.edu

**Cal Poly Names 2012-13 Outstanding Staff Award Winner**

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly has named three employees to receive the 2012-13 Outstanding Staff Award: Nancy Cochran, theater operations manager at the Performing Arts Center; Dr. David Harris, head of medical services in Health Services; and Mark Rapoport, groundsworker in Landscape Services.

Cochran came to Cal Poly in 1996, the same year the Performing Arts Center opened. She is responsible for managing the curtain, the front of the lobby, and the many volunteer ushers. A co-worker called Cochran a genuine asset to the Performing Arts Center, the university and community. Another said, “She is friendly, approachable and always willing to jump in and assist in any way possible.”

Harris left his medical practice to work at the university’s Health Center nine years ago. He is credited with instituting change and modernization, including helping to implement an electronic medical records system to replace the paper medical charting at the Health Center and in Counseling Services. “His professionalism and humor have created a workplace atmosphere that is amazingly productive,” said a colleague. “He truly cares about the students and his staff.”

Rapoport, who came to Cal Poly in 2005, is known for his incredible “green thumb,” hard work ethic, and warm, helpful personality. He maintains many high-profile areas on campus, such as the Performing Arts Center, the Davidson Music Center, and the Mustang Way signage, recognizable by the bright splashes of color. Scott Loosley, associate director of operations for Facility Services, said, “You know which area is Mark’s just by walking around campus. The areas with the most colors are his.” Rapoport’s supervisor, George Mead, said, “I honestly don’t know how he grows and maintains certain things.”

The Outstanding Staff Members receive a plaque and a monetary award and will be honored during the general session of Cal Poly’s Fall Conference in September.

###