Speaker attacks 'us' and 'them' mentality, myths of immigration

By Corinne Colmeyer
Daily Triton

The chairs were set up in a circle creating a casual atmosphere for the 16 people that attended this week's Culture Talk. But the topic was far from casual.

Cal Poly's Culture Talk is a weekly meeting that has examined such issues as ethnicity and gangs, ethnicity and AIDS, and cross-racial couples.

This week the talk tackled Proposition 187, welfare, affirmative action and family values.

"The purpose of Culture Talk is to encourage an open dialogue about issues that are traditional, not discussed in classrooms," said Coordinator Tamra Aguinaldo.

"Our goal is to create awareness on campus," Aguinaldo said. "There is not really an opportunity to talk about these issues otherwise.

Michael C. Blank, direct ing attorney in San Luis Obispo, was the chosen speaker of the week.

The talk included what he calls major myths about immigrants and the growing separation between social classes.

"What the conservatives are doing is distancing you from what's really wrong," Blank said. "The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer."

Blank started his speech by mocking the nation's "polite way of dealing with our U.S. is a bad country because of immigrants..." Sometimes it's a great country...but they are ruining America... They are unqualified. They are having babies just to get on welfare...That's what's going on. The chosen speaker of the week.

"This is over stated...but it would be like covering the entire soil science department, with specific nominations by Lynn Moody, a soil science lecturer, and Ron Taskey, a soil science professor. A selection committee voted unanimously for Stubler from the group of nominees.

"We just thought it must have been aboard a ship overnight...it's hard to imagine what it would be like covering the planet using more ancient forms of transportation — like foot power.

But Steven Smith doesn't have to imagine what it would be like covering the planet using more ancient forms of transportation — like foot power.

"It was also the first time we circumnavigated the globe by human power."

Two circumnavigate the globe by human power. Two circumnavigate the globe by human power. Two circumnavigate the globe by human power. Two circumnavigate the globe by human power. Two circumnavigate the globe by human power.

"I can understand why people are unqualified. They are having babies just to get on welfare...That's what's going on. The chosen speaker of the week.

"It's so important these days to tell children that they can achieve anything if they really want to," Smith said.

The globe using a much slower means of transportation. The globe using a much slower means of transportation. The globe using a much slower means of transportation. The globe using a much slower means of transportation. The globe using a much slower means of transportation.

"I understand why people want to travel faster. But the people who use a slower, more direct way to travel can appreciate what the area is like," Smith said. "If you're traveling in a plane or a car, you may as well be watching it all on TV."

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"Smith said he and Lewis survived 107 days on British military rations and whatever fish they could catch. The Atlantic crossing proved to be very dangerous for several reasons, Smith said he and Lewis had absolutely no prior experience in sea travel, and Smith had not been aboard a ship overnight before the trip.

The only preparation they had was a course in ship navigation they took in case their Global Positioning System computer, their main means of navigation, failed.

They came close to getting hit by large cargo ships on many occasions and at one point were attacked by a whale.

"We just thought it must have been aboard a ship overnight...it's hard to imagine what it would be like covering the planet using more ancient forms of transportation — like foot power.

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Upcoming

Pal for a Day, which helps encourage youth to pursue an education, is taking place May 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students are needed to host a 12-15-year-old for the day and show them what Cal Poly life is like. For more information, call 756-4427 or 756-4401.

The Institute for the Healing of Racism presents "Internalized Oppression and Reclaiming our Cultural Heritage" May 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Annex at General Hospital San Luis Obispo. The workshop will offer opportunities for sharing experiences, feelings and points of view in a safe, open and loving environment, free of blame and victimization which so frequently surrounds conversations on the issue of racism and healing. There is a suggested donation to cover administration costs of $10. For reservations or further information, contact Karen at 481-3971, Elaine at 489-9769 or Caryn at 481-3077.

WOW counselors in training are invited to attend a community service project May 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. to acquaint WOW counselors with community service opportunities and to introduce the fun and joy to your WOWies in the Fall. Counselors are asked to meet in the U.U. plaza at 8:30 a.m. and bring comfortable working clothes, sunscreen and water. There will be a free barbecue after the event.

The Cal Poly Bellringer Dance Club invites you to the corner of Santa Rosa and Mill streets May 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for their fund-raising car wash. The cost is only $4 per vehicle and a free hot dog will be given to those individuals who purchase advanced tickets. To purchase tickets, call 783-2571.

"Take Back The Night" is taking place May 16. Doors open in Chumash Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Keynote speaker Karin Katcher will present her program "No Nervs" at 7 p.m. and a campus protest will start at 8:45 p.m. There will also be a post-march rally. For more information, call 756-2600.

Agenda Items/*/  Natasha Cotton, Graphic Arts
232, Cal Poly 93407
Fax: 756-6784

We have entered an age of information and technology where miles per hour has been replaced with bites per second, gas by Random Access Memory, and highways by modem lines.

In this expanding arena of knowledge, problems arise: modem to modem traffic, badly paved hard drives and a polluted disk space.

As society changes, so does the type of education that is necessary for the job market. To adjust to these changes, the level of education required in many fields is increasing, often beyond undergraduate work. More technology has lead to a generation of students with a collage of college degrees.

See GRAD page 3
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1996

GRAD: Choosing to move on to graduate school could very well depend on your chosen career path

From page 2

The Student's Choice: Degree or No Degree

Choosing to pursue graduate school or a career often worries undergraduates mainly because they don't know what the future has to offer. But this decision is a pivotal step in the continual process of education.

"I think most undergraduate students don't really understand what graduate school is," Cal Poly Daily of Research and Graduate Studies Susan Opava said.

Her advice to undergraduates considering further education vs. entering directly into the job market is to weigh all of the options. "It's not a one-sided situation," she said. "Graduate school is one of the options."

In recent studies and observations by scholars and the media, a trend is developing among undergraduates that they have goals but don't be so focused on those goals that you don't see the other opportunities around you," she said. "Almost all undergraduates who have decided to pursue graduate studies at Cal Poly, Stephanie Ludi is working for a

The decision to attend a graduate program really depends on your own questions. Cost remains a deep concern among those with wallets that aren't as deep. In some cases, cost could be the deciding factor, especially after paying for four years plus of undergraduate study. There are many financial resources available for the ambitious though.

Almost all universities that have doctoral programs will have a means for their students to pay for an education," Opava said. "People don't really know the price of the various programs like teaching and lab assistantships. If you are going for a Ph.D., you are almost guaranteed that there will be support for you."

The same is not true for a masters program, Opava said. Because a masters program generally doesn't take as long as a Ph.D. program, it's more difficult to find support. The average length of a masters program is two to five years. It generally combines graduate level course work with additional research. Ph.D.'s usually take four to five years to complete depending on the student's motivation and funds.

Another concern is whether students' grade point averages are high enough. "Undergraduate grades are important, but I would say that what is most important are the graduate grades in your last two years," Opava said. "Once you get into your major, and take your upper level courses those will be given much more weight." Despite the intimidating appearance of the real world to those who are preparing to enter it, employers still have some compassion. "GMAT or GRE is what counts." Students attending graduate school agree it was the right choice. In her second year of graduate studies at Cal Poly, Stephanie Ludi is working for a

The training she mentioned includes the lab research that graduate students may complete for their degree. The experience is necessary because it is required for a position that involves more theoretical knowledge which can be learned in the classroom.

There are other ways to acquire a higher position in the work place which are less important but still necessary according to Peet. "When I graduated, the job market wasn't too great," Ludi said. "I wasn't planning on going to graduate school at all last year."

Ludi hopes to enter the field of designing educational computer software. The masters program is directing her toward that goal. "It gives me more involvement in the field," she said. "It's more like I'm expanding what I already learned as an undergraduate; I'm not really learning anything new now."

Opava agreed with the importance of a graduate degree according to the current employment conditions. "Especially in professional fields, degrees matter and edges you have a masters degree," she said. "You don't necessarily have to go on for a doctorate, but a masters gives you much better career opportunities."

Employers who deal with the issue directly have mixed feelings about graduate degrees held by applicants. Shannon Peet is the human resource manager of JBL Scientific, a high-tech research company in San Luis Obispo. Peet said the level of degree of a job applicant depends on the position to be filled. "For an entry level job a bachelor's in fine," Peet said, "but for higher level jobs with research involved more training is necessary."

The training she mentioned includes the lab research that graduate students may complete for their degree. The experience is necessary because it is required for a position that involves more theoretical knowledge which can be learned in the classroom.

There are other ways to acquire a higher position in the work place which are less important but still necessary according to Peet. "People don't really know the opportunities or are out there," Opava said. "As an undergraduate you have an opportunity to meet people who have become successful professionals and it's a lot to learn from that."
From The Hip: What was the best or worst thing about the ASI elections?

By Michelle Castilles

"The best thing was McShane's campaign strategy; it was really organized."

Niko-Nyree Jarrett
Business senior

"The worst thing was the guy who walked around with 'Vote McShane' painted on his bald head."

Amy Bernard
Liberal studies freshman

"In my four years here this was the best publicity I've seen, but it seemed like people didn't care — again."

S. York Leung
Industrial technology senior

"The worst thing was there was so much random crap everywhere, like flyers — I was inundated."

Rachel Seff
Industrial engineering senior

"The worst thing was that it seemed McShane was doing too much just to be president, not because of the issues. It was obnoxious."

Lisa DeFazio
Microbiology/biochemistry senior

I am writing in response to Jason Joyce's letter, "Never Again" (as long as you're Jewish)." Jason Joyce is right in that the term "Never Again" suggests that the world has not seen grim attempts at genocide since World War Two. The world has!

Hidden behind the glory of the Gulf War, Iraqi troops tested chemical weapons on Kurdish villages. Five thousand villages were destroyed with mass graves for 50,000 to 100,000 Kurds. Their crime being Kurdish. And the world closed its eyes and said, "Never Again."

While we followed O.J.'s Bronco and watched Melrose, the Beliebers had been cut out of Rwanda. The Hutu/Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) murdered 2 million Tutsis. The Tutsis, called "inversi," "(the cockroaches that must be crushed)", were slaughtered for being Tutsi, and the world did nothing but say, "Never Again."

At the same time in another corner of the globe, with the collapse of Communism, Serbia and Croatia sliced up Bosnia in an ethnic purge. More than 200,000 Muslims were killed, 750,000 disappeared and 50,000 to 60,000 Bosnian Muslim women were raped, by as many as 50 Serbian soldiers at a time. We Americans even watched this crime on TV from the comfort of our living rooms. And the United States, NATO, and the United Nations turned their heads and said, "Never Again."

And the list goes on... 1.5 million Armenians, 1.5 million Cambodians. All of these atrocities must equally be remembered and studied.

By organizing the Holocaust remembrance, I hoped to link the past to our lives today. My goal was to educate. Mr. Joyce asked where the Jewish community has been over the past five years. I ask: Have you heard of the Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles in which thousands of people become educated every day? Have you been to see any Holocaust survivors who have dedicated their lives to teaching about the world of the plague of racism? Were you aware that the Simon Wiesenthal Center (an international Jewish organization), took out a full page ad in the New York Times on July 20, 1995 addressed to President Bill Clinton, reading in part, "The Simon Wiesenthal Center, and its 380,000 constituent families request that the United States publicly name those individuals responsible for the policy of ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity taking place in Bosnia, stopping ethnic cleansing and domestic politics and international hypocrisy. Mr. President, the time for action is now?"

Were you aware that many Jewish groups including B'nai Brith, The Anti-Defamation League and National Hillel were actively involved in protesting and educating on the situation in Bosnia? Did you attend the Holocaust Memorial and see for yourself what our message was? Are you as a human being not as responsible as I to speak out against crimes against humanity or must your specific group be a victim before you take action?

Is it only the responsibility of the victims and the descendants of victims to make the truth be known? Instead of seeing our signs saying "Never Forget" and feeling "disgusted," why weren't you inspired to put up your own posters to further educate the community regarding other atrocities? Why is it that you chose to attack our efforts for education instead of using your energy to speak out about events you feel are important? It is much easier to sit back and complain. I ask you, I beg you. Learn the lesson of history. Don't just see it. Don't merely say "Never Again," let us act. Learn it. Reflect upon it. Act upon it! Our history books contain the words of George Santanyane, "Those who cannot remember history are condemned to repeat it." But repeat it we did and repeat it we shall continue to do. For it is as Aldous Huxley teaches: "Men who do not learn very much from history is the most important of all lessons that history has to teach." This is the message that we attempted to convey through the memorial. Let us not merely say, "Never Again," let us act upon it.

Jonathan Blum is the SLO Holocaust Memorial Chairman and an environmental engineering sophomore.
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From page 1

understanding about his odd work schedule and his decision to attend college.

Working is something Stubler knows how to do, he said. Stubler, 30, worked for the Santa Barbara Parks Department for 6 1/2 years as a gardener. But choosing to attend Cal Poly was a difficult decision.

"I decided to go to school to prove to myself I could do it," Stubler said.

And he's done it. He's maintained a 3.5 GPA, he's finishing up his senior project this quarter and he will graduate in the fall.

After he graduates, Stubler would like to work with trees, possibly in urban forestry. He'll be interning this summer in Santa Barbara helping a local business expand their tree-care services by analyzing the soil.

Nature is very important to him, he said.

Though Stubler and his brothers are close, he said, his family missed the award presentation last Thursday. Soil science faculty and students attended the casual, brief ceremony.

"There was a feeling of admiration from the soil science students that showed up," Roberts said.

Craig Stubler received the award, because as Taskey wrote: "His work ethic is ingrained and profound; his personal pride is strong and controlled, and his attitude toward other people and the earth is reverent and unwavering."

Stubler has been entered in the state and regional Student Employee of the Year competition, which is sponsored by the Western Association of Student Employment Administrators, where he has a chance of winning a small amount of money for all his hard work.
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E U R A L I N P A S S E S
“H n d y C l u b s"
CULTURE TALK: "If we were to kick Latinos out (of California) our economy would go down the tubes," Blank said.

"They are things that are current and that I think I should know about," Journalism junior Ardarius McDonald said.

Coordinator of Multicultural Programs and Services Everardo Martinez-Inzunza said they use U.U. 220 for the talks because it has a living-room feel to it which is an integral part of the meetings.

"The feeling is that the group dynamics that happen, tends to make people want to discuss more. The lecture feeling is more passive and we want to maintain an active meeting," Martinez-Inzunza said.

"Students are often excited and surprised at some of the facts and figures that are presented," said Martinez-Inzunza. "There is so much learning in Culture Talk they are surprised to be exposed to these things."

Students interested in getting involved or presenting a topic at Culture Talk should contact Tamra Aguinaldo at 544-1825.

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The prof never covered this!

GLOBE

From page 1

Southwest and Lewis through the Midwest, when tragedy struck.

Lewis was just outside of Pueblo, Colo. on Sept. 10, 1995 when he was hit by a car and suffered compound fractures to both legs. Smith went on to complete the journey to San Francisco in November 1995. Fortunately, Smith said that Lewis has almost completely recovered from his incident and will complete the rest of his trip to San Francisco on in-line skates.

Smith said he is currently seeking sponsors for their trip and once they are found, the pair plans to take the Moksha out to sea under the Golden Gate Bridge and sail down the California Coast to help raise publicity for their trip.

After that, they plan to cycle to Mexico, down the Central and South American Coasts to Ecuador. From there, Lewis and Smith will embark on one of the most dangerous legs of their trip, a journey across the Pacific Ocean to Australia in the Moksha. If they succeed, they will become the first people ever to cross the Pacific using only human means.

Smith says he expects the voyage to take at least another two to three years to complete, with the Pacific crossing taking a full year. You can check on their progress on the Internet at the "Pedal for the Planet" website at: http://www.tach.net/public/organizations/pedal/pedalplanet.html.

Because Your Brain Doesn't Have Wheels.