

California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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College of Education Selected as National Special Education Site

SAN LUIS OBISPO--Cal Poly's College of Education is one of only five campuses nationwide to be tapped as an IRIS (IDEA and Research for Inclusive Settings) site, funded under a U.S. Department of Education grant to Vanderbilt University.

The IRIS Center is the nation's only faculty enhancement center established to offer preparation programs for general education teachers, school administrators, counselors and nurses. The focus of the center is to ensure that university students completing these programs are well prepared to work with disabled students and their families.

As participants at an IRIS site, College of Education faculty will be part of a nationwide network and will receive professional development and IRIS materials to use in their classes.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for Cal Poly faculty to work with Vanderbilt colleagues on a broad effort to better meet the needs of K-12 students with disabilities," said COE Dean Bonnie Konopak. "Through these efforts, we help support the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) by insuring that all students experience school success."

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