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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Pride Alliance Receives \$6, 500 Grant for Programs

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- The Pride Alliance - Cal Poly's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Center - has received a \$6,500 grant from the San Luis Obispo Community Foundation for two of its programs.

The Community Foundation grant will fund the "Respect Zone" training program offered by Cal Poly's Pride Alliance for Cal Poly students, faculty and staff as well as the Central Coast community at large.

The Respect Zone program trains campus and community members who are seeking to provide support to lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender individuals in the workplace or other environments.

The training covers topics such as homophobia, heterosexism and the coming-out process, explained Maya Andlig, coordinator of Gender and Sexuality Programs at Cal Poly. "The Respect Zone training also provides a visible support system for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students, faculty and staff at Cal Poly," she said.

The Community Foundation grant will also provide funding for speakers and a panel discussion during Cal Poly's CommUnity Pride Week. CommUnity Pride is an annual event that is open to the entire community and takes place in mid-May.

Last year CommUnity Pride featured speaker Keith Boykin, special assistant to Bill Clinton, and one of the highest-ranking openly gay male government officials in history.

CommUnity Pride 2004 will take place May 17-22, 2004. For more information on the Pride Alliance, a sponsored by Cal Poly's Student Life and Leadership program, Respect Zone training or CommUnity Pride, contact Andlig at (805) 756-5839.

The San Luis Obispo Community Foundation is a public trust established to assist donors in building an enduring source of charitable funds to meet the changing needs and interests of the community. For more information, visit the organization's Web site at <http://www.slocf.org/>.

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