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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Engineering Student Takes First In State University Research Competition

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- A Cal Poly engineering student involved in developing a space satellite won first place in the undergraduate engineering and computer science division of the California State University's 2003 Student Research Competition.

Jake Schaffner, an electrical engineering senior from Arroyo Grande won for his paper titled "The Electronic System Design, Analysis, Integration, and Construction of the Cal Poly CP1 CubeSat."

This year's competition took place at CSU Stanislaus earlier this month. Three Cal Poly students were among 150 students from 22 campuses competing for cash prizes as well as the honor of being named top researchers among the system's 408,000 students.

Schaffner received a \$400 prize for his winning research. His advisor was Aerospace Engineering Professor Jordi Puig-Suari.

Other Cal Poly students selected to compete in the final judging were Carlos Murillo, a dairy products technology student from San Luis Obispo in the graduate Biological and Agricultural Sciences category, and Ashlee Steward, an English senior from San Luis Obispo in the Humanities and Letters category.

Murillo's paper was "Monitoring Spores and Spore-Forming Bacteria Populations in Commercial Skim Milk Powder Production Plants Using Conventional and Molecular Methods." Steward's was "Advertising: His and Hers." Murillo's advisor was Dairy Science Professor Rafael Jimenez-Flores. Steward's was English Professor Johanna Rubba.

Each of Cal Poly's six colleges nominates deserving students, whose presentations are then heard by a faculty committee that selects which go forward to the statewide competition. Each CSU campus can enter 10 papers. Final competitors submit written papers and make oral presentations to juries of experts from major California corporations, foundations, public agencies and universities.

- 30 -

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