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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly to Confer Three Honorary Doctorate Degrees at Commencement June 9, 10

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly alumnus Peter Oppenheimer, senior vice president and chief financial officer for Apple Inc., and entrepreneur-philanthropists Bert and Candace Forbes will receive honorary Doctor of Science degrees during Cal Poly Spring Commencement ceremonies Saturday and Sunday, June 9 and 10.

Peter Oppenheimer will give the keynote address at Saturday's event, and the Forbeses will deliver keynote remarks Sunday.

Cal Poly Jeffrey D. Armstrong of this year's recipients, "This weekend, we will honor three people whose lifelong dedication and support of higher education and community have been exemplary. Peter, Bert and Candace are truly champions for Cal Poly and Learn by Doing."

Oppenheimer began his distinguished career with Apple in 1996 as controller for the Americas. Currently he oversees all of the company's financial operations.

Oppenheimer has remained actively engaged with Cal Poly, bringing his career insights and leadership successes to campus as a speaker, university adviser and philanthropist. A longtime supporter of education, he serves as a member of the Cal Poly President's Cabinet and is a founding member of the Cal Poly Foundation board of directors.

Oppenheimer earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural business from Cal Poly in 1985 and an M.B.A. from the University of Santa Clara in 1987.

Longtime Cal Poly supporters Bert and Candace Forbes co-founded Ziatech Corp. in 1976. Under their leadership for the next 24 years, Ziatech moved to the forefront of its high-tech niche and was acquired by the Intel Corp. in 2000.

Bert Forbes is a well-known innovator, accomplished business executive, and visionary philanthropist whose passion for serving his profession and his community has earned him recognition as a dynamic civic leader and staunch supporter of public education and the arts.

He enjoyed a stellar career at Hewlett-Packard as one of the original architects of the HP 3000 minicomputer, which introduced the era of distributed data processing. He also designed HP's first 16-bit microprocessor.

Forbes earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master's in electrical engineering from Stanford University.

At Cal Poly, Forbes has served on a variety of advisory boards in the College of Engineering and received the college's Distinguished Service Award in 2002. He and his wife have provided support for two endowed Cal Poly professorships in computer engineering, in addition to creating the Bert and Candace Forbes Engineering Lab Endowment Fund.

Candace Forbes leveraged the success of Ziatech to support her lifelong interest in expanding educational opportunities for children locally and internationally.

She earned a bachelor's in philosophy from Stanford University and an M.B.A. with an emphasis on international business from Santa Clara University.

She has been involved with an array of institutions and organizations locally, including Cal Poly, Cuesta College, the Performing Arts Center, and Woods Humane Society, and globally with UNICEF, CARE and American Field Service (AFS), a nonprofit international exchange organization for students and adults.

Ardent supporters of the arts, the couple donated a 2,767-piece pipe organ to the Performing Arts Center's Christopher Cohan Center in 2005.

More than 3,800 students are eligible to graduate in Cal Poly's Spring Commencement.

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