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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## *Cal Poly to Host Climate Action Planning Conference Jan. 31-Feb. 1*

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The Cal Poly City and Regional Planning Department, in partnership with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR), will host the California Climate Action Planning Conference on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, on campus.

The event is the first conference to focus solely on the practice of local and regional climate action planning in California. Experts and practitioners from around the state will participate in in-depth presentations and discussions on the technical and political facets of climate action planning.

Henry Hilken, director of Planning and Research at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, will be the keynote speaker. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is responsible for assuring clean air in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

Hilken oversees preparation of regional air-quality plans, transportation and land-use programs, climate protection activities, amendments to air district regulations, air-quality modeling analyses, preparation of emission inventories, and the Community Air Risk Evaluation program.

“California is a national and international leader in climate action planning, and this conference brings together the best professionals in the field to share their collective knowledge,” said Michael McCormick in the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research.

Sponsors include PG&E; PMC (which provides planning, environmental and municipal services); the Bay Area Air Quality Management District; Ascent Environmental; the California Chapter of the American Planning Association; Sustainability in Practice/Central Coast Vineyard Team; San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District; and Environmental Science Associates.

Michael R. Boswell, Cal Poly city and regional planning professor and the conference organizer, said, “Recent events such as Hurricane Sandy and the country’s record-setting temperatures and drought this past year remind us of the urgency for tackling the problem of climate change. This conference addresses the critically important role for communities and regions.”

For more information, visit <http://planning.calpoly.edu/ccapc2013.html>. For pre-conference inquiries, contact Boswell at [mboswell@calpoly.edu](mailto:mboswell@calpoly.edu) or 805-756-2496.

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