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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Center for Sustainability Awarded Funds to Expand Compost Project

SAN LUIS OBISPO — The College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences' Center for Sustainability has been awarded \$50,000 from the Harold J. Miozzi Charitable Trust to expand and enhance the Cal Poly Compost Project.

The donation will allow the center to continue a workshop series and other community-based training related to compost and nutrient cycling for the next year, including a workshop for professionals. Scheduled for spring 2014, the professional training will be led by an interdisciplinary team of experts from Cal Poly, the Maine Compost School, and the local agricultural community.

The Cal Poly Compost Project will also be expanded to include public workshops for home, school and community gardeners. Most of the workshops will be held at the Cal Poly Compost Unit, the largest facility of its kind in the country.

The Cal Poly Compost Project was initiated by the Center for Sustainability in 2011 with seed funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program. The initial funds helped establish student internships and conduct a pilot training for large-scale agricultural composting on campus.

The Miozzi gift was based, in part, on the success of the SARE-funded workshop in 2012 and a subsequent Agricultural Nutrient Testing workshop held in 2013.

About the CAFES Center for Sustainability

The Center for Sustainability is a cross-disciplinary initiative in Cal Poly's College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences dedicated to advancing education about sustainable food and agricultural systems in Cal Poly's curriculum, campus farm operations and California agriculture.

The Cal Poly Compost Project

The Cal Poly Compost Project is an integral part of the Center for Sustainability's wide-ranging educational objectives aimed at equipping students and professionals with the most current scientific, regulatory, and business considerations for implementing best practices for nutrient management, soil health, and other elements of sustainable agriculture. For more information about the Cal Poly Compost Project, go to http://cfs.calpoly.edu/compost_project.html.

About the Harold J. Miozzi Charitable Trust

The Harold J. Miozzi Charitable Trust is a local organization committed to supporting projects with a positive impact on the environment and San Luis Obispo County.

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