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Hearst Lecture Series to Continue Nov. 1 and Nov. 15 at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly's College of Architecture and Environmental Design has two presentations scheduled in November as part of its Hearst Lecture Series.

Allan and Ellen Wexler will speak at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1. The Wexlers are involved in projects that dissolve the boundaries between fine and applied arts, furniture and performance, sculpture and exhibition, and the practice and research of architecture.

Their works include architecture, public and private art commissions, and museum education environments. They explore human activity and the built environment as they isolate, elevate and monumentalize daily rituals such as dining, sleeping and bathing. In turn, the works become mechanisms that activate ritual, ceremony and movement, turning these ordinary activities into theater.

Allan Wexler teaches in the School of Constructed Environments at Parsons the New School for Design in New York City.

Paul Hamalian, this year's Honored Alumnus for Cal Poly's College of Architecture and Environmental Design, will talk at 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15. A 1988 construction management graduate, Hamalian is now senior director of strategic planning for Habitat for Humanity International. His presentation will address Habitat's mission to build houses using volunteer labor, donations, and innovative financing methods.

Early in Hamalian's career with Habitat for Humanity, he worked in Nicaragua, advising local housing programs in the areas of construction and planning. He was the founding national director for Habitat for Humanity in Ecuador. He trained and managed the formation of a multi-ethnic team of employees and volunteers, facilitating the establishment of several community-led housing programs.

In 1999, he moved to Costa Rica to serve as director of administration and finance for the Latin America and Caribbean area. In this role he led a diverse 14-member team to establish and manage the regional administrative, finance, human resource, credit portfolio management and information systems functions. He also developed the funding process of more than 22 national Habitat programs, actively participated in multiple global initiatives, and facilitated conflict mediation in local programs.

The Hearst Lecture series is free and open to the public. They are held in the Business Building Rotunda (Building 3, Room 213).

The series is hosted by Cal Poly's College of Architecture & Environmental Design through a grant from the Hearst Foundation.

For more information, contact Carmen Trudell at 805-756-5207

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