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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY:

Cal Poly Design Expo Showcases Mechanical Engineering Projects Nov. 21

What: Cal Poly Mechanical Engineering Design Expo

When: Thursday, Nov. 21, 4 to 7 p.m.

Where: Advanced Technology Laboratory (Bldg. 7)

Cost: Free and open to the public

More info: Cal Poly's Learn by Doing approach to real-world challenges and opportunities will be on display at the Cal Poly Mechanical Engineering Design Expo. The event showcases 22 student team projects that can change and improve the world around us. The students, all mechanical engineering seniors, will graduate in December.

"The projects represent fresh thinking and innovation across a spectrum of interests and industries — biomedical, alternative energy, recreation, adaptive technologies for the physically impaired, low-cost solutions for the developing world, and more," said Peter Schuster, faculty advisor.

A sampling of projects include:

- A prosthetic hand for an active duty marine
- A 40-foot animated, lighted "12 Days of Christmas display for the Cambria Pines Lodge
- A low-cost solar collector for developing countries
- A system for aerating wine inside the bottle
- Robotic designs that range from an automated foosball-playing robot, to a platform for aircraft manufacturing, to a Fingerspelling Hand for deaf-blind communication

The spectrum of industry partnerships is similarly diverse, reflected in Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's sponsoring the development of a tool to remove biologically contaminated air filters from subway cars; Jack Ranch's interest in a solar-powered field irrigation system; and Sunrise Arts' request for an automated wood trimming machine.

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