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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### *Cal Poly Names Portland State Administrator as Dean of Orfalea College of Business*

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Scott Dawson, dean of the School of Business and Administration at Portland State University in Oregon, has been named the new dean of Cal Poly's Orfalea College of Business.

Dawson will begin his new post Aug. 1, 2014.

"Scott Dawson is a visionary leader, a skilled administrator, and someone who knows how to bring people together," said Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong. "Most importantly, he shares Cal Poly's commitment to student success and Learn by Doing."

As dean at Portland State, Dawson manages a faculty of 55 instructors and a \$17 million budget. He led the creation of the School of Business and Administration's 40-member Business Advisory Council, mobilizing leaders in the Portland State community to lend their talents to the school's strategic and philanthropic development. He was also instrumental in developing new international programs and industry partnerships.

"Scott has been highly successful in his role as dean at Portland State," said Cal Poly Provost Kathleen Enz Finken. "He has a wealth of knowledge and experience and the skills required to build upon the success of the Orfalea College of Business. The search committee was highly enthusiastic about his candidacy, and we are looking forward to welcoming Scott to Cal Poly."

Dawson said, "I am excited about working with the faculty, staff and alumni to develop opportunities that leverage the outstanding people and programs that exist at Cal Poly. The Orfalea College of Business has a long history of attracting talented students who are highly sought after graduation by many of the world's leading companies. I look forward to building relationships with alumni and the business community that will help advance the college to an even higher level of excellence."

At Portland State, Dawson previously served as interim dean for the School of Business and Administration and associate dean for graduate programs. He has been a member of the faculty since 1985 and is known for engaging students in hands-on learning experiences.

In addition to his duties at Portland State, Dawson also consulted for companies such as Costco, InFocus Systems, and advertising agency Wieden and Kennedy.

Dawson earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Oregon in 1978. At the University of Arizona he earned an MBA in 1981 and a doctorate in business in 1984.

Dawson succeeds former Orfalea College of Business Dean Dave Christy, who served as dean from 2004 to 2013. Christy left Cal Poly to become the provost of Baruch College in New York City.

### **About the Orfalea College of Business and Cal Poly**

*Orfalea College of Business is one of six academic colleges at Cal Poly, a nationally ranked, four-year, comprehensive public university located in San Luis Obispo, halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles on California's Central Coast. Cal Poly is a distinctive learning community offering academically focused students a hands-on educational experience that prepares them for today's scientific and technical world.*

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