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## News

University News & Information



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### *California Secretary of Agriculture to Keynote Cal Poly Resilient Food Systems Conference Set for May 8-9*

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly's Center for Sustainability in the College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences will host a two-day Resilient Food Systems Conference on Friday and Saturday, May 8-9.

The event will bring together leaders in the food and agriculture sectors to discuss current initiatives on better health, thriving communities, and resilient food systems.

Friday's session will draw on themes from California's AgVision 2030, which outlines strategies for how the state's agricultural and food systems are addressing challenges such as water and energy, urbanization, labor issues, health challenges and climate change. Keynote speaker Karen Ross, California's secretary of agriculture, will be joined by former secretary A.G. Kawamura and other leading policy makers, producers, authors and academics, who will share innovative advances in food-system development from multiple perspectives.

Saturday's session will focus on community and local food systems. Speakers will include Paula Daniels, founder of the L.A. Food Policy Council; Luis Sierra of the California Center for Cooperative Development; Adam Kesselman from the Center for Ecoliteracy; and others working to strengthen regional food systems.

The conference will take place in Cal Poly's Multi-Use Activity Center in the ASI Recreation Center. Friday's session will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a networking session immediately following. Saturday's session will be from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A "locavore" food and wine reception and tasting follows in the Cal Poly Performing Arts Center.

The conference will include exhibits from local and state organizations on food-system initiatives.

Conference attendance is free and open to the public, however registration is requested. Tickets are required for Friday's lunch and for the Saturday afternoon reception. Detailed agenda information, exhibitor and sponsor forms, and registration links are available at: [www.cfs.calpoly.edu/conferences.html](http://www.cfs.calpoly.edu/conferences.html).

The conference was made possible by funding from the Harold J. Miossi Charitable Trust.

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