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Cal Poly Student wins public speaking contest at a national conference for minorities

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly agricultural science major Angelica Aldana won the national undergraduate prepared public speaking contest at the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Science conference in Houston, Texas.

Three Cal Poly students, all members of the Cal Poly Latinos in Agriculture club, attended the three-day MANRRS conference from March 26-28: Karina Salomon, Mo Tehrani and Aldana. Tehrani competed in an impromptu competition and placed in the top 15 nationwide.

The conference marked the 30th anniversary of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences, with the theme “Thirty Years of Triumph: Branching Out and Excelling to Greater Heights.”

Aldana’s winning speech focused on how the past efforts of historical figures such as Cesar Chavez paved the way for minorities in agriculture, and how the next generation of agriculturists and professionals must continue that endeavor. She competed against five other MANRRS members from universities throughout the nation.

Aldana, 20, who is from Bakersfield and a graduate of Bakersfield High School, said her past experience with FFA led to her passion for the agriculture industry and for public speaking. She hopes to be an agricultural educator and FFA advisor for high school students.

About Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences
MANRRS is a national society that welcomes membership of people of all racial and ethnic group participation in agricultural and related science careers. MANRRS members are encouraged to be full participants in other professional societies for their basic disciplinary and career interests. For student members, MANRRS provides role models and networking opportunities. MANRRS also offers students opportunities to enhance leadership and organizational and public speaking skills, and to experience professional critique of scholarly worked in a “user friendly” environment.
About Cal Poly’s College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences
Cal Poly is a nationally ranked, comprehensive polytechnic university located in San Luis Obispo, Calif. The university’s College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences is made up of expert faculty members who take pride in their ability to transform academically motivated students into innovative students ready to solve the complex challenges associated with feeding the world in sustainable ways. Students have access to state-of-the-art laboratories including ranchland, orchards, vineyards and forests, all of which provide the basis for Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing methodology. These living laboratories, combined with the attention of expert faculty members dedicated to their students’ success, offer a powerful combination of rigorous academics with hands-on experiences that lead to fulfilling careers. For

more information, visit www.cafes.calpoly.edu.

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