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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge Teams Win First at Regional Competition

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. — Cal Poly scored big at the recent American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) regional competition, placing first overall at the University of Arizona-Tucson. The competition was held during the annual Pacific Southwest Regional Conference on April 2-5.

Led by the Cal Poly Concrete Canoe Team and Steel Bridge Team, which placed first in their respective categories, Cal Poly was ranked first overall among 18 university teams from Southern California, Southern Nevada, Hawaii and Arizona. In addition to dominating the concrete canoe and steel bridge events, Cal Poly placed fourth in the geotechnical category.

"Our bridge this year is incredibly complex, and we're thrilled with the results," said Shayla Allen, a senior captain of the Cal Poly Steel Bridge Team. "Now we're pouring all our energy into preparing for nationals."

In addition to Allen, a senior from Shoreline, Wash., Steel Bridge Team members include senior captains Eric Babin (Grass Valley, Calif.), Jeremy Gold (Rancho Palo Verdes, Calif.), Demi Pacifuentes (Long Beach, Calif.), and Angel Trejo (La Quinta, Calif.). Junior captains are Elizabeth Coffey (Fremont, Calif.), Drew Glover (San Luis Obispo, Calif.), and Tyler van Iderstein (Martinez, Calif.).

The Steel Bridge Team will compete at the ASCE National Student Steel Bridge Competition on May 22-23 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Concrete Canoe Team project manager Jessica Leyva (Upland, Calif.) credits her team and a new hull design for Cal Poly's sweep of all eight concrete canoe races. "A new rail design and stained murals on the interior and exterior of the canoe added aesthetic appeal," she said.

In addition to Leyva, the Concrete Canoe Team includes mix-design captains Joshua Core (Boron, Calif.), Julie Hendrick (Santa Maria, Calif.) and Brandon McCormick (Beaverton, Ore.), and construction captains Brett Diener (Laguna Hills, Calif.), Tim Forrest (Santa Rosa, Calif.), and Dayna Scott (San Luis Obispo, Calif.).

The Cal Poly team will compete in the Concrete Canoe National Competition at Clemson University in Clemson, S.C. June 20-22.

The competition was held in conjunction with the annual Pacific Southwest Regional Conference was held April 2-5.

Photo caption: Concrete Canoe Team paddlers included (left to right) Tim Forrest (Santa Rosa, Calif.), Kayla Smith (Galt, Calif.), Julie Hendrick (Santa Maria, Calif.) and Brett Diener (Laguna Hills, Calif.).

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