ASI Announces Online Voting for Campus Issues through MyCalPoly Portal

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly students will be able to vote on ASI issues from home, the library, or anywhere else they can connect to the Internet in the future -- starting with the Feb. 27-28 balloting on a proposal to expand the Rec Center.

On Jan. 16, Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Student Government passed a resolution to support the use of electronic voting from any location with Internet accessibility for all campus-wide elections and referendums.

The new voting method will be implemented in time for the Rec Center Expansion vote on February 27-28 between the hours of 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

The new voting procedure allows Cal Poly students to conveniently vote from any location, on or off campus, by logging into the My.CalPoly.edu portal. Students who are unable to vote on campus, such as those studying abroad, are now provided the opportunity to vote using the new voting procedure. The system also minimizes the logistical demands on Information Technology Services (ITS), Student Affairs and Facility Services staff.

ASI President Brandon Souza is excited about the new system and is hopeful that students will embrace this new method of voting. "In a time when students are busier than ever, a new voting system like this really helps," said Souza. “Students can vote at their convenience and not worry about making a run to the polls between classes or extracurricular activities.”

ASI first tested electronic voting in the 2007 campus-wide ASI Presidential and Board of Directors election. Several laptop polling locations were set up on campus, and students were able to vote electronically via the My.CalPoly.edu portal.

Students and ASI deemed the online voting method a success, and voter turnout was the highest it had ever been. The success of the May 2007 elections affirmed viability for electronic voting for future elections and referendums.

###