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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Business Students to Host Fifth Annual 'Gift of Mobility' Benefit April 1

SAN LUIS OBISPO - The Cal Poly student chapter of the Wheelchair Foundation will host its fifth annual fund-raiser, "The Gift of Mobility," at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, April 1, at The Cliffs Resort in Pismo Beach.

The event will feature dinner and live and silent auctions. Auction items have been donated by several local businesses throughout San Luis Obispo County. Some of this year's auction items are a stay at a New York cabin including airfare, a one-week stay at a three bedroom, two bathroom cabin in Tahoe, Nev., and a private tour of Hearst Castle for six people.

Proceeds will help Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation team members meet their fundraising goal of $44,000. At a cost of $75 per wheelchair, the money raised will allow the students to order, purchase and deliver 560 new wheelchairs for the under-served in Belize.

"We want our guests to understand that by attending this event, they have provided mobility for Belize's under-served," said Katie Kluenker, MarComm Manager.

"I am feel extremely lucky to have been given an opportunity to make a difference and change the lives of many for the better," said Andrea Baza, sales manager.

Tickets for "Gift of Mobility" are $75. For those unable to attend the event, cash donations will be accepted. All donors contributing $75 or more will receive a photo and brief history of the child receiving their gift. Donated items for the auction are also needed. All donations are tax-deductible.

For event information or to purchase tickets, contact the Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation at calpoly@wheelchairfoundation.org or call (805) 756-2010.

This year's Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation team includes: Andrea Baza, Vista; Krista Couch, Huntington Beach; Dana DiPasquale, Renton, WA; Brittany Fletcher, Newbury Park; Kristen Hunt, Pleasanton; Katie Kluenker, Roseville; Katie LaFollette, Pleasanton; Kristen Larson, Monrovia; Aaron Mendelovitz, Tarzana; Jaime Ransom, Spring Valley; Molly Roberts, Torrance; Kenny Smestad, San Jose; Jennifer Taber, Shingle Springs; Marjorie Taylor, San Jose; Scott West, Burlingame.

The Cal Poly Wheelchair Foundation

The Cal Poly Chapter of the Wheelchair Foundation began in April 2001 as a way for students to apply their educational experiences to beneficial causes. Over the past four years, Cal Poly students have raised $98,000 and sent a total of 1,280 wheelchairs to people in need in Peru, Ethiopia, Thailand and Guatemala. For more information visit www.cob.calpoly.edu/hot/wheelchair05/.

The Wheelchair Foundation

The Wheelchair Foundation is a nonprofit organization leading an international effort to deliver a wheelchair to every adult, teen and child in the world who needs a wheelchair, but cannot afford one. The gift of a wheelchair allows people with physical disabilities freedom, self-reliance, mobility and hope. For additional information go to www.wheelchairfoundation.org.