California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Director of International Education and Programs at Cal Poly To Serve as Interim Dean of Liberal Arts

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Linda Halisky, former Cal Poly English Department chair and current director of the university’s International Education and Programs office and London Study Program, has been named interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts effective Aug. 2.

Halisky succeeds Harry Hellenbrand, dean since 1998, who leaves Cal Poly to begin serving as provost at Cal State Northridge this summer.

While serving as interim dean, Halisky will continue to supervise the London Study Program and plans to teach at least one English course a year.

Halisky joined the Cal Poly English faculty in 1984, the same year she earned a doctorate in English from UC Riverside. She served as English Department chair from 1994 to 2000. During her 20-year tenure at Cal Poly, she has served the university in dozens of capacities.

In addition to serving as chair of the International Education and Programs Council and the London Study Advisory Board, she is a member of the Women’s Studies Advisory Board, English Major Core Committee, English Department Graduate Committee, Council on University Citizenship, and Classroom Civility subcommittee. She formerly served as a member of the London Study Program Review Committee and Honors Council, as well as several collegewide, departmentwide and Academic Senate committees.

Halisky, who lives in San Luis Obispo, was one of three professors to receive the 1990 Distinguished Teaching Award, the university’s top teaching honor. Her fields of specialization are American literature to the Civil War and British literature of the 16th and 17th centuries.

She is currently working on a book, “Of and For the Borderlands: The Myths of Inanna and Borderline Personality Disorder.” She has lectured
at conferences across the country and has made several campus presentations on a wide variety of topics for the benefit of Cal Poly students, faculty and staff members.

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