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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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College of Liberal Arts Interim Dean to be Honored
Among 'Women of Distinction' March 12

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly College of Liberal Arts Interim Dean Linda Halisky is among nine exceptional women who will receive special recognition in March at the Cuesta College "Women of Distinction" awards.

The awards luncheon is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, March 12, at the Cuesta College San Luis Obispo Campus Conference Center. The luncheon is part of Cuesta's 31st annual Women's Forum.

San Luis Obispo County Women of Distinction Award candidates are nominated by individuals and organizations from throughout the county. Winners are selected by the Cuesta College Women's Forum committee, composed of community representatives and college staff.

The nominees have distinguished themselves in the areas of community and public service, education and progress for women.

Halisky and Susan Dressler, both of San Luis Obispo, will receive the Women in Education Award at the forum. The award is given to woman whose exceptional commitment to teaching and learning has done much to improve the quality of education.

Halisky has commanded wide respect for years in the local community, serving at Cal Poly as the English Department Chair, Director of International Education and Programs and now current Interim Dean for the College of Liberal Arts.

According to nominators, Halisky was praised by students not just for her knowledge, but also for her empathy and openness. "She has been a mentor for many younger faculty and staff – an example of a woman who 'made it' in a department and profession dominated by men yet remained attuned to the needs of others who were following her path."

Another nominator and colleague summed it up this way: "I can think of no other individual who has impacted my professional life as much as Linda, and I can think of no other woman who has contributed as much to improving education, in all of its facets, as Linda has."
Dressler is enjoying retirement after a stellar 14 years as the Cuesta College Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction.

For more information on the Cuesta College Women of Distinction or for tickets to the luncheon, contact Cuesta’s Community Programs Office at (805) 546-3132.

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