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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CSU, Cal Poly Looking for Students To Participate in Freshmen Assessment Survey on Technology Preparedness

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly and The California State University system will soon be asking 500 freshmen to take a two-hour assessment survey to measure how well they use technology to research and communicate.

In appreciation, each student will receive a $25 Internet gift certificate, T-shirts, a chance to win an i-Pod or a $250 El Corral bookstore gift certificate -- plus the chance to influence how Cal Poly and the CSU plan future technology classes and programs.

It’s all part of the Information and Communication Technology Literacy effort (ITC) Cal Poly and the CSU are participating in, explained Hiram Davis, dean of the university’s Robert E. Kennedy Library.

At Cal Poly, the university will randomly select and invite 500 residence hall freshmen to participate in the assessment survey. Selected freshmen will be receiving an e-mail invitation from President Baker in the next few days.

“IT is very important that Cal Poly freshmen participate. The data gained will be very helpful in planning classes and other programs that relate to technology and information capabilities that are necessary to both student academic success and workplace success,” said Preston Allen, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and Director of Housing.

The assessment survey measures basic skills in word processing and spreadsheet applications, as well as more advanced skills including retrieving and evaluating information and then communicating it using a variety of media and technologies. It takes about 2.5 hours to complete.

Students will be able to take the assessment survey at three computer labs around campus Feb. 22-March 5. Morning, afternoon and evening sessions will be available.

Wheelchair accessible accommodations will also be available. Students with special needs should contact Joan Kunkler, coordinator of library orientation, at 756-5774 or jkunkler@calpoly.edu.