SAN LUIS OBISPO -- As part of an ongoing mission to meet the needs of working professionals, Cal Poly Continuing Education has announced the launching of a new certificate in Leading Nonprofit Organizations.

This certificate program is designed for professionals, managers, staff and board members, operational volunteers and other who work or volunteer for nonprofit organizations. In addition, professionals who are moving into the nonprofit sector and professional who provide services for the nonprofit sector will benefit from the new certificate program.

The Leading Nonprofit Organizations certificate will provide students with the tools they need to make the most of resources available, while insuring quality of service for the nonprofit organizations' clients and stakeholders. Participants will be allowed to choose a focus area of study including organizational management, resource development, governance, marketing and communications, leadership and ethics, partnerships and collaboration, technology and information resources, planning and evaluation, legal and emerging issues, and entrepreneurship and creativity.

There are three required elements to complete the certificate program: 1) A required overview class entitled "Nonprofit Organizations: A Survey," 2) 8 Additional CEUs of instruction, and 3) 50 hours of documented paid or volunteer work in the nonprofit sector.

The required course "Nonprofit Organizations: A Survey," which will be offered once per quarter, will be held this quarter on Mondays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., starting January 27 and running through April 14. Anyone interested in exploring the certificate program is encouraged to attend this course. A discount is offered on this course for
participants who enroll in the certificate program.

Other certificate courses offered in the winter quarter include, "Identifying Funding Sources," being offered beginning January 28, 2003 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and "Effective Volunteer Programs," being offered beginning March 1, 2003 from 8:30 a.m. - noon. More elective courses for the Leading Nonprofit Organization Certificate program will also be offered in the spring quarter.

For more information about the Leading Nonprofit Organizations Certificate, contact Cal Poly Continuing Education at 805-756-2053 or e-mail continuing-ed@calpoly.edu. Current course offerings can be found at www.continuing-ed.calpoly.edu.

- 30-