San Luis Obispo -- California Polytechnic State University will hold a memorial observance and moment of silence on Sept. 11 on the campus's Dexter Lawn marking the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 national tragedy.

Members of the Cal Poly and local communities are invited to join together in a solemn tribute to all of the Sept. 11 victims and are encouraged to arrive by 10:45 a.m. The program will begin promptly at 10:50 a.m.

"Though classes are not yet in session, it is important for the University to pause to reflect upon the events of Sept. 11, 2001," said President Warren J. Baker. "Many of our staff and faculty members will be on campus on that date and will want to gather together to honor the memory of the Sept. 11 victims and reflect upon the meaning of this national tragedy.

"In addition, universities have a special responsibility to foster and defend the inherent value and dignity of every human life," Baker said. "We must remind ourselves that while we are a diverse nation, with people from all corners of the globe, we remain one country, dedicated to the idea of freedom. It is our hope that memorial events such as these will give individuals an opportunity to honor the memories of those who have been lost and the American ideals of mutual respect and tolerance."

The program is being held at a time that does not conflict with other commemoration events sponsored by local community organizations and will include the tolling of the Clock Tower bells, lowering of the flag, a moment of silence, remarks by President Baker and a musical interlude performed by music faculty member William Terrence Spiller.
The public is invited and parking will be provided free of charge, with a special permit, in the H-2 lot across from the Kennedy Library. Visitors may take Highland Drive into the campus and take a right onto University Drive and follow the sign to the H-2 lot, where they can obtain the permit from the attendant.

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