

Subject: IS NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF 1/6

Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 12:00:00 PM Pacific Standard Time

From: isla-faculty-request@calpoly.edu on behalf of Interdisciplinary Studies Cal Poly

To: ismajors@calpoly.edu

CC: isla-faculty@calpoly.edu

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

WEEKLY NEWS 1/6

NOTE FROM DR. RYALLS

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful winter break! As you may remember, I will be the interim Department Chair for the rest of the year while Dr. Kirby takes a well deserved sabbatical. While I'll miss seeing many of your faces in my classroom, I hope you'll still take the time to swing by the ISLA Office and say "hi."

This quarter promises to be an interesting one as there are plenty of opportunities arising that will be of interest to IS majors. The weekly ISLA newsletter will keep you up to date on information that is important for our majors. For those recently enrolled into the IS major or on an ICMA, the newsletter is a place to share news and to let ISLA students know about internal/external events, research opportunities, and career services' programs relevant to them. If you have any news or events that you would like to share with your fellow IS majors then please let us know at is@calpoly.edu.

My office hours this quarter will be Monday 2PM-4PM and Thursday 12PM-2PM. During these times, we can meet in my office (52-D3) or via Zoom. Please be sure to schedule an appointment: <https://calendly.com/eryalls/dr-ryalls-s-office-hours>. I am also happy to set up other meeting times if you are not able to make these office hours. Just send me an email and we can arrange a day/time.



MEET KEELY - YOUR ISLA STUDENT
ASSISTANT!

Hi everyone! I'm Keely, a fourth year ISLA



major/STS minor. I am also the ISLA student assistant!

I create these newsletters, run our ISLA social media, and support events throughout the quarter. I'm also here as a resource for you — whether you have questions about the ISLA program, need help navigating course selection or declaring a concentration/minor, or want to get more involved in the ISLA community.

 My contact information: kfrobert@calpoly.edu

I'd love to hear from you — don't hesitate to reach out, connect, or say hi around campus!

ISLA ASSOCIATED CLUBS



Cal Poly ISLA Club

Instagram
[@calpolyislaclub](https://www.instagram.com/calpolyislaclub)

Slack



ISLA CLUB

A group of students has founded the ISLA club as a space for ISLA students to meet and connect! The first meeting has been held, but meetings will continue across the quarter.

Follow the Instagram @calpolyislaclub or join the GroupMe for more updates.



The graphic features a green background with a white border. In the top left is a stylized white and brown horse logo. To the right of the logo, the text "MUSTANG FILM SOCIETY" is written in large, bold, dark blue capital letters. In the top right corner is a yellow and brown gavel icon. Below the main title, there is a blue Instagram icon with the handle "@mustangfilmsociety" next to it. Below that is a white envelope icon with the email address "eryalls@calpoly.edu". To the right of these contact details is a green rounded rectangle containing two yellow star icons and the text "CONNECT WITH PEERS INTERESTED IN FILM!" and "BUILD IMPORTANT INDUSTRY SKILLS!".

MUSTANG FILM SOCIETY

Mustang Film Society is a new club on campus aimed at fostering a community around film and providing students interested in film with opportunities to connect to others in the film industry and explore their interests! This may be of interest to any MAST minor students.

If interested, please contact Dr. Emily Ryalls at eyalls@calpoly.edu or follow the Instagram @mustangfilmsociety

OPEN ENROLLMENT - ISLA 411

ENROLLMENT FOR ISLA 411: TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NOW OPEN!

M/W 2:10-4:00

Design and carry-out community engagement activities with middle school and high school students from Santa Maria that involve storytelling, art and STEM. Class combines project-based work in design and robotics with seminars and critical reflection. Build community on our Central Coast and help provide pathways to higher education for underrepresented students. Opportunities to be involved in research and evaluation and work with the Center for Expressive Technologies.

Questions? Contact Dr. Matthew Harsh at: mharsh@calpoly.edu



ISLA/LAES 411: Technology and Community Engagement - ENROLLMENT STILL OPEN!

Winter Quarter | Monday & Wednesday 2:10–4:00 PM

Explore the intersection of technology and community impact in this hands-on course. You'll examine how digital tools and technology can support social change, collaborate with local organizations, and design projects that address real-world challenges. Engage critically with the ethical, cultural, and social dimensions of technology while building skills to create meaningful community-driven solutions.

STUDENT & FACULTY SUCCESSES





Congratulations to Ella R. Colby and Dr. Mang!

Ella R. Colby and Dr. Mang presented a research paper at the American Studies Association (ASA) in November 2025.

Their presentation was entitled, "Uncle Sam's Proving Grounds: The Beltsville National Farm, Scientized Agriculture, and Experimentation as Logics of American Empire." Their presentation was about how agricultural experimentation, supported by the "USDA-Research Complex" at Beltsville, MD, played a significant role in expanding American imperialism in the early 20th century.

Ella is a 3rd year ISLA student with a concentration in Ethics, Law, and Social Justice.

EVENTS

CAN YOU? NARCAN?



Tuesdays at 3:00-5:00pm

Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm

 **HEALTH CENTER (BLDG. 27)**

Interested in learning more about the life-saving benefits of Naloxone?

Training only takes 15 minutes!

Where else can you get Naloxone?

Naloxone, test strip refills and overdose prevention kits are also available by appointment.

Email wellbeing@calpoly.edu for more information or for group training inquiries.

Make an appointment here:



ODPREVENTION@CALPOLY.EDU



Opioid Overdose Prevention & Free Narcan Kits

Cal Poly's Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention team is partnering with ISLA to support student safety and wellness. With fentanyl-related overdoses on the rise nationally and locally, it's more important than ever to know how to recognize an overdose and respond effectively. Join us for a brief, interactive training covering:

- How to identify an opioid overdose
- How to safely administer Narcan (Naloxone)
- How to access free Narcan + Overdose Prevention Kits

Students can pick up supplies at Building 27 (Health Center) or during weekly distributions: Tuesdays, 3–5 PM and Thursdays, 3:30–5:30 PM on the Health Lawn.

Want us to come to your space for a distribution or presentation? We're happy to schedule a time that works for you!

OPPORTUNITIES

NEW MUSTANG MAKERSPACE

OPEN TO ALL CAL POLY STUDENTS!



LOCATION

In Bonderson,
Building 197, Room 110



HOURS

Fall Quarter, Weeks 2-7
Mon-Fri: 10-7pm
Sat: 9-6pm



CONTACT INFO

Email:
calpolyshoptechs@gmail.com



A completely free space open to all students, regardless of major. No engineering experience necessary. Work on class projects, senior projects or even personal projects!!

OUR SERVICES

- 56 easy-to-use 3D printers
- Lasers for wood, acrylic, vinyl and more
- Embroidery and Sewing Machines

Link to
our
website



The Cal Poly Machine Shops (College of Engineering) are excited to welcome students to the Mustang Makerspace, **located in Bonderson (Building 197), next to Mustang '60. This free, all-major space is your go-to hub for digital fabrication, creativity, and hands-on learning.**

Inside you'll find **56 3D printers (Bambu, Prusa, Elegoo, Formlabs, MarkForged), 4 laser cutters, an embroidery machine, an industrial Cricut vinyl cutter, and sewing machines.** Whether you're working on a class assignment, a senior project, or just a personal idea, the Makerspace has the tools to help bring your vision to life. **No prior experience is needed—our shop techs are here to teach you, answer questions, and support your projects.**

 **Winter Quarter Hours (Weeks 2–10):**

- Monday–Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3D printers are open to everyone without training, but you'll need a Red Tag Certification for lasers and some other equipment. Learn more and sign up for trainings at machineshops.calpoly.edu.

 **Questions? Email calpolyshoptechs@gmail.com** |  **Aero Hangar: (805) 756-2266** | **Mustang '60: (805) 756-5634**

Come explore, create, and make your ideas a reality—see you in the Makerspace!

STUDENT SUPPORT



contact
info

Office:
Building 47, Room 36E, 3rd Floor
College of Liberal Arts

Emails:
Aguti168@calpoly.edu
Lrami113@calpoly.edu

Instagram:
[@calpolycollegepossible](https://www.instagram.com/calpolycollegepossible)

CAL POLY



The College of Liberal Arts partners with College Possible's Catalyze program to connect students with near-peer success coaches. Coaches support academics, study skills, financial literacy, career exploration, wellness, and more.

Learn more by contacting Multicultural Academic Advisor Alejandra Cebreros at alcebrer@calpoly.edu or check out the attached infographic.



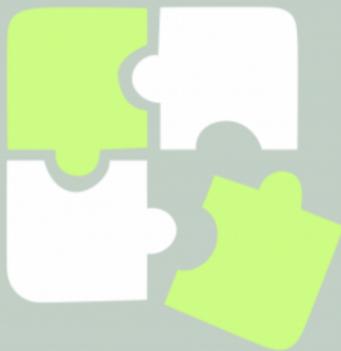
⚠ FINANCIAL AID FOR FOOD: GET UP TO \$250 A MONTH FOR GROCERIES

The CalFresh Outreach Team can help connect you with up to \$250 a month to buy groceries at your favorite stores and many farmers' markets! Get money to buy food, eat better, work less and focus more on school. It's easy to set up an appointment with a CalFresh Student Advocate to determine your eligibility, walk you through the application and answer any questions you may have.

Visit calfreshcalpoly.org/ to schedule an appointment today! **Hours are: M-W 10am to 7pm and TH 10:00am to 5pm.**

Although you can **apply online** on your own, we encourage you to apply with the help of the CalFresh Outreach Team to help with any questions or concerns.

Follow the CalFresh team on Instagram @calfreshcalpoly



SLO Solutions



SLO SOLUTIONS CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Are your students having a hard time focusing on schoolwork due to roommates or neighbors disagreeing about issues around noise, dishes, or house rules?

Students can find themselves overwhelmed by conflict with landlords, roommates, and neighbors! We can help! SLO Solutions may be able to help students and residents with access to FREE conflict resolution and mediation, funded by a partnership between the City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly, Cuesta College, and Creative Mediation. For more information, click [here](#).



Morning, Mustang



MORNING, MUSTANG - NEWS SOURCE FOR CAL POLY STUDENTS

Carly Heztel, a second year journalism student, has published a news source for Cal Poly students that summarizes every day's most important campus, San Luis Obispo and California stories in two-minute emails. Carly is working in cooperation with the nonprofit College Brief to create accessible and relevant news for college students.

Read some of the stories [here](#).



MUSTANG NEWS

CAL POLY'S NEWS SOURCE

🔔 KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CAMPUS NEWS!

Interdisciplinary Studies Students and Staff! Are you eager to be in the know about the latest campus news and updates? Do you want the most up-to-date headlines conveniently sent to your email? Look no further! Subscribe to the Mustang News Roundup today! Our Roundup newsletter brings you the freshest Mustang News and KCPR content, and is delivered straight to your inbox every Monday through Friday of the school year. Don't let this opportunity to stay well-informed pass you by!

Subscribe here: <https://mustangnews.net/the-roundup/>