

Subject: IS NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF 2/17

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 12:00:00 PM Pacific Standard Time

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

To: isla-faculty@calpoly.edu, ismajors@calpoly.edu

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

WEEKLY NEWS 2/17

NOTE FROM DR. RYALLS

I hope you all had a wonderful weekend and were able to take advantage of the incredible weather we've been having.

I'm happy to announce that we have secured a room for Night One of our Social Justice Film Festival. As a reminder, this year's theme is "Migration," which I'm sure you'll all agree is very timely and important.

Night One happens on Wednesday, February 25 at 4:10PM in 33-286. "Crossing Borders: Media Representations of Migration and Justice" will feature 2 segments from a recent episode of 60 Minutes: one on Minneapolis and another on CECOT. We will also show two short films, including YES, a film by ISLA Professor Randi Barros. Following the films, Professor Barros and Dr. Melissa Manzanares will host a discussion and Q&A.

On, Thursday, February 26, we will screen Sleep Dealer at the [Palm Theatre](#), followed by a talk from Dr. Stina Attebery. Doors open at 4PM and the event begins at 4:10. Admission is free.

My office hours are 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, there is a yellow and brown gavel icon. Below the main title, there is a blue square icon with a white camera symbol. To its right, the text "Instagram" and "@mustangfilmsociety" is displayed. Below this, there is a white circle icon with a white envelope symbol. To its right, the text "For more info contact" and "eyalls@calpoly.edu" is displayed. To the right of the contact information 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

CAREERS & INTERNSHIPS

Career & Internship Opportunities You Don't Want to Miss!

Winter quarter is packed with exciting opportunities—mark your calendars and take advantage of what's coming up!

Virtual Social Impact Alumni Panel

Hear from alumni working as nonprofit directors, veteran services coordinators, and even California mayors at this **virtual panel on Thursday, February 19 at 11:10 a.m.** A flyer and Zoom link are coming soon!

Dream Out Loud

Dream Out Loud is a call to CSU students, faculty, and alumni to share the stories that brought you here, shaped you, and keep you moving forward. You can share your own OR someone else's story (think Ryan Coogler, Billie Jean King, etc.)

The CSUEA will select a handful of these stories to create statewide and potentially even national PSA campaigns. Selected participants will work with creative professionals to help craft their story into multiple media types (think tv spots, radio commercials, billboards, and more) to share with the world. Your voice matters—and we hope to hear it!

-  Create a short PSA about your CSU journey
-  Or spotlight someone who inspired your path
-  Any medium. Any style. Your voice. Your story.

We are currently looking for the story, not the finished product—a short, written treatment is all that is needed!

Submission DEADLINE EXTENDED to March 1, 2026—For more information, go to CSUEA.submittable.com

If you have questions about any of these opportunities, don't hesitate to reach out—we're here to help!

ENROLLMENT

DATA ARE A FEMINIST ISSUE

“**Considers how inequality permeates all stages of data science.**”

“**A data science that exposes and challenges power and the intersecting oppressions that result.**”

“**Looks at many axes of inequity including race, gender, class, ability status, and more.**”

Come take Data Feminism (STAT 270) with Dr. Theobold on Tuesdays from 12-2



Course Spotlight: Data Are a Feminist Issue (STAT 270)

Data Are a Feminist Issue explores how inequality is embedded in every stage of data science—from data collection to analysis and interpretation. Using an intersectional framework, the course examines how power, race, gender, class, ability status, and other forms of inequity shape data and its real-world impacts. Interested in using data to challenge systems of oppression rather than reinforce them? Enroll in Data Feminism (STAT 270) with Dr. Theopold, meeting Tuesdays from 12–2.



CAL POLY
Center for Engineering,
Science & Mathematics Education

SCM 302: learn by doing lab

**EARN COURSE CREDIT AND GET
REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH KIDS!**



LEARN MORE AT CESAME.CALPOLY.EDU



Teach, Explore, and Inspire in the Learn by Doing Lab

Looking for a meaningful, hands-on experience that blends science, teaching, and community impact? Join Cal Poly CESAME's Learn by Doing Lab through SCM 302! This interactive outreach program gives Cal Poly students the chance to lead inquiry-based STEM activities for visiting 5th–8th grade classes. You'll guide real experiments, spark curiosity, and help bring science to life—all while building confidence in communication, teamwork, and instructional design. Open to all majors and offered Winter and Spring quarters, SCM 302 counts toward early field experience hours and provides valuable, real-world teaching practice.

Enroll in SCM 302: Learn by Doing Lab during registration. For questions, contact Dr. Seth Bush at sbush@calpoly.edu.

EVENTS

SENIOR PROJECT INFO SESSION

We will once again be hosting the ISLA Senior Project Information Session this quarter. This is open to any ISLA majors, but particularly useful for those of you who will be completing your Senior Project in Spring or Fall. All of the ISLA Senior Project advisors will be there to offer tips and advice. The meeting is Thursday, February 19 at 11:10AM. Here is the Zoom link: [ISLA Senior Project Meeting Zoom](#)

CAL POLY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ETHICS LAB PRESENTS:

Ethical Considerations for AI in Urban Planning



Thursday, February 19th at 6:10 pm
in Room 14-232B
(Computer Science Lab)

Guest speaker:

Amir Hajrasouliha, PhD, Department Head and Professor in the City and Regional Planning Department, will be presenting on applications of AI in urban planning. The presentation will explore the ethical concerns around AI in planning, including reproducing existing biases, reducing complex lived experiences into simplified metrics, and shifting power and accountability away from human decision-makers.



Ethical Considerations for AI in Urban Planning

The Cal Poly Artificial Intelligence Ethics Lab invites you to a talk on how AI is shaping cities—and the ethical questions that come with it. Join guest speaker Amir Hajrasouliha, Department Head and Professor of City and Regional Planning, as he explores real-world applications of AI in urban planning and the risks they pose, including bias, oversimplifying lived experiences, and shifting power away from human decision-makers.



Thursday, February 19



6:10 pm



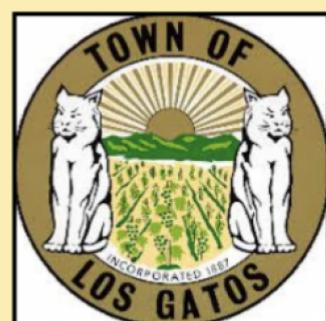
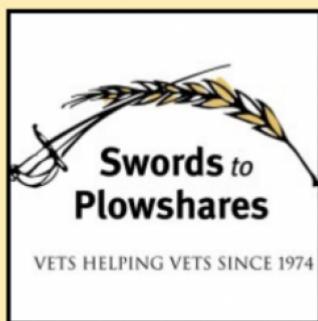
Room 14-232B (Computer Science Lab)

Open to all students—no technical background required. Come think critically about the future of cities and technology.

Social Impact Virtual Alumni Panel



Thursday, February 19th at
11:10AM



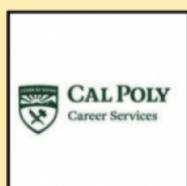
Katie Ettl (POLS '19)
Communications & PR Coordinator
Swords to Plowshares

Rob Moore (POLS '21)
Mayor
City of Los Gatos



Kylie Clark (COMS '20)
Policy Director
Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Cassie Herzog (SOC '18)
Director of Development
Food Recovery Network



Presented by: Cal Poly Career Services

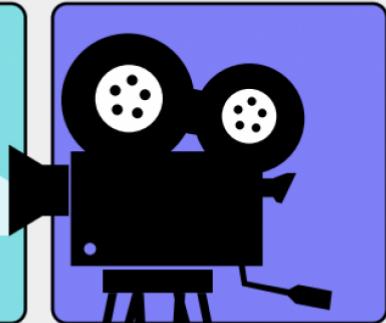
INTERESTED IN SOCIAL IMPACT? 

Join Cal Poly Career Services for a Social Impact Virtual Alumni Panel on Thursday, February 19th at 11:10 AM. Hear from Cal Poly alumni working across nonprofit leadership, local government, food recovery, and veteran advocacy as they share their career paths, lessons learned, and advice for students interested in purpose-driven work. Whether you're exploring public service, communications, policy, or nonprofit careers, this panel is a great chance to connect and get inspired.

PRESENTED BY CAL POLY ISLA DEPARTMENT

SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY
25-26



NIGHT ONE

**Crossing Borders: Media Representations
of Migration and Justice**

Film by **Professor Randi Barros**
Screening and Discussion with
Dr. Melissa Manzanares

February 25th
4:10 PM
Building 33, Room 286

NIGHT TWO

Sleep Dealer
Screening and Discussion
with **Dr. Stina Attebery**



February 26th
4:10 PM
Palm Theater

Social Justice Film Festival Series

The Cal Poly ISLA Department invites you to the **Social Justice Film Festival**, a two-night series

using film and discussion to explore migration, justice, labor, and technology.

Night One: *Crossing Borders: Media Representations of Migration and Justice*

 **February 25 at 4:10 PM**

 **Building 33, Room 286**

A film by **Professor Randi Barros**, followed by a discussion with **Dr. Melissa Manzanares**, examining how migration and justice are represented in media.

Night Two: *Sleep Dealer*

 **February 26 at 4:10 PM**

 **Palm Theater**

A thought-provoking sci-fi film exploring borders, labor, and technology in a globalized world, followed by a discussion with **Dr. Stina Attebery**.

 **Free admission** and **open to all students**—don't miss this chance to engage with film, ethics, and social justice.

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

Survey Support

As part of an Intro to Entrepreneurship course project, a Cal Poly student team is conducting research to validate a potential student-focused product idea. They've created two brief surveys—each only a few minutes long—to better understand student needs and experiences. Your responses will provide valuable insights that support their class project.

[Survey 1](#)

[Survey 2](#)

Participation is voluntary, and all input is greatly appreciated!

Are you a parent in San Luis Obispo County with young children?

Let me hear your thoughts about **healthcare access** in SLO County in this survey!



It takes only **10-15 minutes** of your time.

Scan this QR code to take you to the survey.

For more information, please
contact Sophia Santo Tomas at
ssantoto@calpoly.edu

Help Shape Research on Early Childhood Healthcare in SLO County

A graduate student in Cal Poly's Master of Public Policy Program, is conducting their thesis research on the healthcare system in San Luis Obispo County, with a focus on parents and caregivers of children aged 2 and under. They are currently seeking survey participants to better understand access, experiences, and challenges within the local healthcare system.

Faculty and community members are invited to support this research by sharing [this survey](#) with eligible parents.

Thank you for helping advance research that supports families and young children in our community.

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!



Winter 2026 Open Workshops at the Digital Scholarship Studio

Jan 9 **Intro to Git and Github**

Jan 15 **Intro to Figma**

Jan 16 **Intro to R and RStudio**

Jan 22 **Contours for Architecture**

Jan 30 **Intro to StoryMaps and GIS**

Feb 6 **Map Design and Cartography**

Feb 13 **Poster Layouts with InDesign**

Feb 20 **Intro to Adobe Illustrator**

Feb 27 **Intermediate Figma**

March 6 **Research Synthesis**



Everyone is welcome!
Details and registration:
guides.lib.calpoly.edu/DPL/workshops

Open Workshops at the Kennedy Library Digital Scholarship Studio

The Kennedy Library Digital Scholarship Studio holds weekly open workshops to introduce basic computing, design, mapping, and visualization topics. These workshops do not require any prior experience, and we welcome beginners and experts from all disciplines.

Additionally, the Digital Scholarship Studio offers consultation support for students, staff, and faculty working on projects and research involving data, design, GIS, and data visualization. Appointment times can be found [here](#). Meetings take place in-person at the Digital Scholarship Studio on Level 1 of Kennedy Library, or on Zoom.

STUDENT SUPPORT



contact
info

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

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

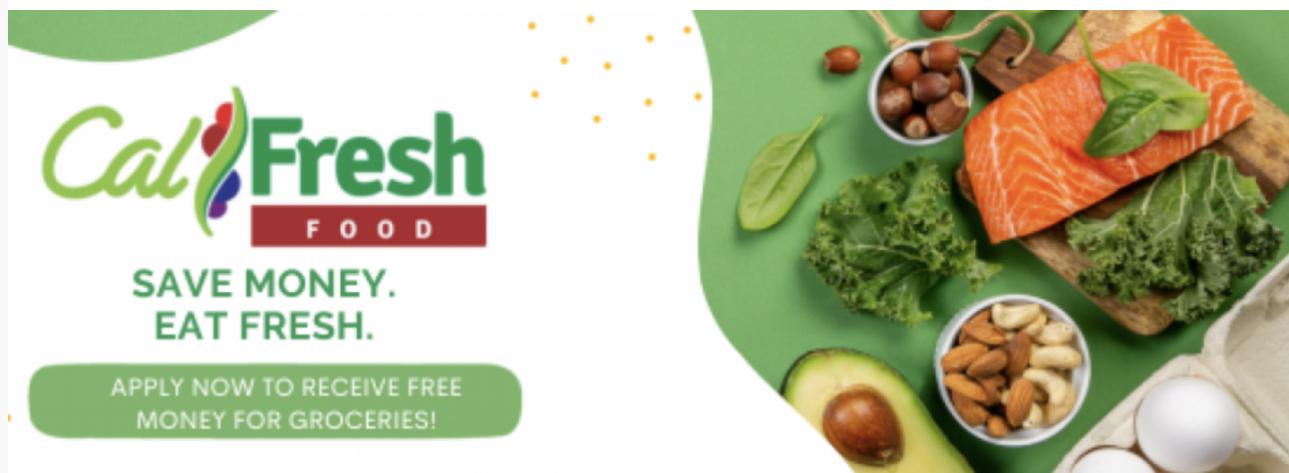
Instagram:
[@calpolycollegepossible](https://www.instagram.com/calpolycollegepossible)

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.



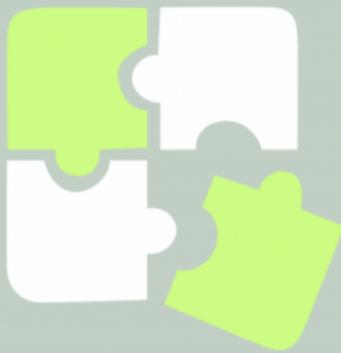
⚠ FINANCIAL AID FOR FOOD: GET UP TO \$250 A MONTH FOR GROCERIES

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/>

Created in  publicate