

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 12:28:07 PM Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: IS NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF 5/5

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 12:30:00 PM Pacific Daylight 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 5/5

NOTE FROM DR. RYALLS

Happy Week 6, All! We are officially on the downslope to the end of the year! As a reminder, we have green and white graduation cords for all ISLA graduates. Spring graduates can pick one up from the ISLA Office (Building 52, Office D) on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday between 9 and 4. We'll also bring some to the pre-Commencement ceremony, which is Sunday, June 14th at 1:30 in the ATL. We will have snacks and lots of love for our graduates. If you plan to join, please RSVP [here](#).

Last Friday, the College of Liberal Arts Awards were announced, and I'm thrilled to reveal that three ISLA students were named as winners. Theo Harpaz won "Art for Social Change," Ellie Kidd won "Excellence in Learn By Doing," and Amy Lynn Becker won "Service to the Community."

Another big shoutout to the students in ISLA 340 and ISLA 341 and their leader Professor Randi Barros! Last week's Short Cuts was an incredible success! Over 400 viewers turned out to watch these short films at the historic Fremont Theatre. The night brought lots of laughs and tears! Our students this year have just been accomplishing astonishing things, and I could not be more proud. Huge congratulations!

My office hours are Monday 2PM-4PM, Wednesday 11AM-1PM, and Thursday 10AM-12PM. 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 AND AKSHARA - YOUR ISLA STUDENT ASSISTANTS!

Hi everyone! I'm Keely, a fourth year ISLA major/STS minor. I am also the ISLA student assistant!

Hello! I'm Akshara, a second year ISLA major with a concentration in Ethics, Law and Social Justice!

We create these newsletters, run our ISLA social media, and support events throughout the quarter. We are 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.

✉️ Our contact information:

Keely: kfrobert@calpoly.edu

Akshara: amadabus@calpoly.edu

We'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

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.

A green banner for the Mustang Film Society. On the left is a cartoon illustration of a brown and white mustang horse. To its right, the words "MUSTANG" and "FILM SOCIETY" are written in large, bold, dark blue capital letters. Further right is a yellow and black microphone. Below the horse is the Instagram logo, followed by the text "Instagram @mustangfilmsociety". Below that is an envelope icon, followed by the text "For more info contact eryalls@calpoly.edu". On the right side of the banner, there is a rounded rectangle containing two yellow stars and the text "CONNECT WITH PEERS INTERESTED IN FILM!" and "BUILD IMPORTANT INDUSTRY SKILLS!".

**MUSTANG
FILM SOCIETY**

Instagram
@mustangfilmsociety

For more info contact
eryalls@calpoly.edu

★ CONNECT WITH PEERS
INTERESTED IN FILM!

★ 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 eryalls@calpoly.edu or follow the Instagram [@mustangfilmsociety](https://www.instagram.com/mustangfilmsociety)

STUDENT SUCCESSES



The **Mustang Film Society** film, "Sticky," was just featured at the Pasadena International Film Festival, where it was nominated for **Best Student Film**.

Congratulations to the filmmakers: **Natalie Venable** (graduated 2025), **Gavin Hart** (graduated 2025), and **Josh Arrich** (current president of MFS).

CAREERS & INTERNSHIPS

Internships + Careers

Student PIRGs



Work on campaigns to protect wildlife,
address environmental pollution,
register voters, and more.

tinyurl.com/StudentPIRGs26



APPLY: Work on environmental + public health campaigns

Are you Looking to make an impact and learn skills in advocacy and organizing? The [Student PIRGs](#) are looking for passionate students to work on campaigns to protect the environment, address basic needs, and more.

- If you're graduating, they're hiring for Full time Organizing Positions to make a difference on important problems facing our communities.
- If not, get involved now to take on leadership on a campaign to protect the ocean.

[Fill out an interest form here to learn more!](#)

SEMESTER CONVERSION



A note about Cal Poly's Move to Semesters

Cal Poly will transition from the quarter system to a **semester calendar beginning Fall 2026**. This change will affect several things, including the length of terms, how courses are scheduled, and how students plan their academic year. Instead of three 10-week quarters, the academic year will include **two 15-week semesters (Fall and Spring)**. All students will be taking **semester-based courses starting Fall 2026**, and most students will take about **15 units per semester**.

Because this transition will affect course planning and degree progress, it's a good idea to stay informed and start thinking ahead about your schedule. The **CLA Advising Center** has resources to

help you understand what the move to semesters means for you, including course equivalencies and planning tools. Visit the **CLA Advising semester conversion website** (See QR code) for updates and guidance, and follow **@CLAadvisingcenter on Instagram** for tips, reminders, and helpful information as Cal Poly prepares for the move to semesters.

EVENTS

THE RHETORIC OF RACIAL JUSTICE

DR. CORINNE SUGINO



WED, MAY 6

04:10 PM

**BONDERSON 104
(BLDG 197, RM 104)**

Join us for a discussion about Asian American rhetoric, racial allegory, and how it shapes our understanding of what it means to be human



Assistant Professor at
The Ohio State University
Department of English
Center for Ethnic Studies

SPONSORED BY:



CAL POLY

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MAKING THE HUMAN

RACE, ALLEGORY,
AND
ASIAN AMERICANS



CORINNE MITSUYE SUGINO

Dr. Corrine Sugino, an Assistant Professor at The Ohio State University Department of English Center for Ethnic Studies. Her guest lecture, *"The Rhetoric of Racial Justice,"* will take place on

Wednesday, May 6 at 4:10 PM. Dr. Sugino will focus on Asian American rhetoric and discuss her recent book, *Making the Human: Race, Allegory, and Asian Americans*.

Join us in **Bonderson 104, Building 197 Room 104!**

The First Five Years

The Political Science Department organizes a career-readiness panel discussion every time our Alumni Advisory Board visits campus for their Board Meeting. This Spring, join us on Zoom where three alumni share their "First Five Years." They will each speak for 10 minutes about their experiences, tricks of the trade and lessons learned, followed by 30 minutes of Q and A.



Featuring

Andrew Engel

Staff Assistant and Legislative Correspondent

Andrew Engel is a 2024 Cal Poly Political Science graduate originally from Sonoma County. After graduation, he moved to Washington, D. C. to intern for a California member in the House of Representatives. He now works as a Legislative Correspondent for a Member of Congress.



Matthew Yosgott

Deputy Director at California Transportation Commission

Matt Yosgott is a 2012 graduate of the Cal Poly Master of Public Policy Program, and also received his BA in Government from California State University, Sacramento in 2008. Currently, he's a Deputy Director with the California Transportation Commission. He has been with the Commission for eight years and the State of California overall for 13 years.



Rita Elfarissi

Judicial Law Clerk at U.S. District Courts

Rita Elfarissi is a 2019 Cal Poly Political Science graduate. She received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School, and now serves as a judicial law clerk to a federal district court judge. In this role, she conducts legal research, drafts opinions, orders, and



bench memoranda, and assists in preparing for hearings and trials.

Join us!

***Friday, May 8th, 2026, 1-2pm on Zoom
Link: <https://calpoly.zoom.us/my/zhangcalpoly>***

RSVP Clickable Link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/jebxNaGkWu>

The Cal Poly Political Science Department is hosting a career-readiness panel with 3 Cal Poly alumni. Andrew Engel is a Staff Assistant and Legislative Correspondant, Matthew Yosgott is a Deputy Director at California Transportation Commission, and Rita Elfarissi is a Judicial Law Clerk at the United States District Courts. Join them as they discuss their post-graduation experiences on **ZOOM, Friday May 8 from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM.**

Access the [Zoom Link](#) here! Make sure to [RSVP here!](#)

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

 **CAL POLY**
Health Education
CAMPUS HEALTH
& WELLBEING

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

Join PULSE!

PULSE is Recruiting Peer Health Educators for the 2026-2027 academic year!

PULSE members will...

- Receive Peer Health Educator Training
- Support Community & Collaborate with Campus Partners
- Develop Health Education Programming through Education, Outreach, and Resource Distribution



**Application open
May 1-15**



Scan for more information!

Looking for applicants that are interested in...

- Hands-on Experience
- Educating
- Improving Student Life



PULSE is recruiting Peer Health Educators for the 2026–2027 academic year, with applications open May 1–15. This is the **only application cycle for the year.**

About the role:

PULSE Peer Health Educators:

- Receive formal health education training
- Collaborate with campus partners to support students' wellbeing
- Develop and lead education and outreach programming

Additional details:

- Opportunities for paid positions and expanded responsibilities are available as students grow within the role
- Selected applicants will be invited to participate in an interview
- This is a leadership and professional development opportunity for students interested in community engagement, education, and public health

Students can learn more and apply by scanning the QR code on the attached flyer



CAL POLY

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED



This project is supported by the Center for Expressive Technologies and BEACoN Program

Open to all Cal Poly Students!

Help contribute towards attention restoration research by participating in a short, simple, and fun study!

Sign Up Here!



Research Details

- \$5 Amazon Gift Card
- 25-30 Minutes
- Building 181 (Frost Center), Room 211

<https://calendly.com/attentionrestoration>

CONTACT US:

attentionrestorationproject@gmail.com




Research Participants Needed – Earn a Gift Card!

Interested in contributing to research while earning a reward? A Cal Poly study on **attention restoration** is currently seeking participants!

This short, engaging study is **open to all Cal Poly students** and takes just **25–30 minutes** to complete. Participants will receive a **\$5 Amazon gift card** as a thank-you.

 **Location:** Building 181 (Frost Center), Room 211

 **What to expect:** A simple, fun study focused on attention and cognitive restoration
Spots are limited, so be sure to sign up soon using the QR code on the flyer!

NEW MUSTANG MAKERSPACE

OPEN TO ALL CAL POLY STUDENTS!

ABOUT US

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

OUR SERVICES

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

LOCATION

In Bonderson,
Building 197, Room 110



HOURS

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



CONTACT INFO

Email:
calpolysuptechs@gmail.com



Link to
our
website



MUSTANG MAKERSPACE

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.**

 **Spring 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!



CAL POLY

Robert E. Kennedy Library



Spring 2026 Workshops at the Digital Scholarship Studio

Apr 10 Intro to Git and Github

Apr 17 Data Discovery for Your GIS Project

Apr 23 Research Poster Design with Figma

Apr 30 Intro to Field Maps and GPS

May 7 Map Design and Cartography

May 15 Intro to Adobe Illustrator

May 21 Intro to Adobe Photoshop

May 28 Business Cards with Adobe InDesign



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](#).



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/>