



ASI Press Release

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CONTACT:

Jeff Cox
Public Relations Manager
(909) 869-2158

The Legacy of Matthew Shepard Comes to Cal Poly Pomona

As part of the 2003-2004 Distinguished Lecture Series, **Judy Shepard** will be speaking on **October 7, 2003**, during the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Transgender (LGBT) History Month. This event is being sponsored by Associated Students, Inc., The Distinguished Lecture Series, Office of Student Life and Cultural Centers, and the Pride Center. The event will be located in the Bronco Student Center Ursa Major Suite.

In October of 1998, the lives of Judy and Dennis Shepard were dramatically changed when they lost their eldest son Matthew, a University of Wyoming student, after being brutally attacked because he was gay.

The death of Matthew Shepard captured the nation's growing epidemic of anti-gay brutality, and focused attention on prevention and education of hate motivated crimes.

In hopes of honoring their son in a way that was appropriate to his dreams, beliefs and aspirations, Judy and Dennis started the Matthew Shepard Foundation in December of 1998. The foundation is dedicated to providing information and resources that educate and replace hate with understanding, acceptance, and compassion.

Judy Shepard's message, titled The Legacy of Matthew Shepard, will focus on violence prevention and steps that individuals can take in order to make schools and communities safer for everyone.

The event is also being generously supported by the Stop the Violence Grant Office, University Housing Services, Cal Poly Pomona Foundation Housing Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, and Student Health Services.

For more information, please call 909-869-2158 or email asipr@asi.csupomona.edu.