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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Students Plan Inaugural Leadership Conference**

(FRESNO, Calif.) – On Thursday, August 16, students representing sixteen campus organizations will attend Leaderpalooza, a leadership conference aimed at preparing students for their roles in shared governance.

The conference will include skill building workshops, breakout discussion sessions, networking opportunities, a leadership panel featuring campus administrators and will encourage students to utilize social media to interact with other leaders. The event is sponsored by the California State University, Fresno Association, Inc., the Fresno State Office of Student Involvement, and Fresno State Associated Students, Inc.

“Leaderpalooza is the first event of its kind at this school,” said Campus Involvement Ambassador Estevan Gutierrez. “It was designed for students by students.”

The conference was planned by students representing multiple leadership groups including the Office of Student Involvement, the University Student Union Board of Directors, USU Productions, the Campus Involvement Ambassadors, and the Associated Students, Inc.

Kris Westcott, the Chair of the University Student Union Board of Directors, said that the conference would “increase communication between student organizations and enhance efforts for student representation and advocacy.”

More than 100 student leaders will attend the inaugural conference.

“Our goals are to foster a greater sense of unity and community among the student leadership, to explore our common purpose of improving and enhancing the student experience, and to provide students with the opportunity to develop as leaders,” said Arthur Montejano, student body president.

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ASI is a body of elected student representatives that encourages student involvement in campus-wide decisions and funds student programs. As the student government we ensure that students’ rights are protected and their voices are heard.