Aug. 30, 2012

California conference will explore connections

This year’s Envisioning California Conference, titled “Connected (or Disconnected)? California’s Culture, Technology and Politics,” will be held from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, at the Sacramento Convention Center. The free event is sponsored by Sacramento State’s Center for California Studies, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary.

The conference will feature renowned historian and fourth-generation San Franciscan Kevin Starr, who will offer his perspectives on the Golden State’s prospects. Starr’s 15th book, *Golden Gate: The Life and Times of America’s Greatest Bridge*, received strong reviews, as have his panoramic portrayals of California.

Conference participants will focus on the connections among culture, technology and politics. Are new technologies such as social media fundamentally changing the way political campaigns are conducted? Does gridlock on some major political issues signal lack of openness to new approaches, or are we seeing the beginning of public policy innovations that will rival the celebrated accomplishments of the 1960s? What is the next major technological change Californians are likely to embrace?

The closing plenary will feature veteran journalist and political commentator Greg Lucas.

Program details and a schedule can be found at [www.csus.edu/calst/envisioning_california_conference.html](http://www.csus.edu/calst/envisioning_california_conference.html). For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

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