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**For Immediate Release**  
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Chico, Calif. – More than 350 community and business leaders from the Northern California region will be attending the Center for Economic Development’s (CED) 2006 Economic Forecast Conference held at the Bell Memorial Union on the CSU, Chico campus on Jan. 12, 2006, from 7 a.m.- noon.

“This years conference will provide community and business members with vital economic trends and forecasts for the region,” said Dan Ripke, director of the Center for Economic Development. “Obtaining the information is only one part, using it effectively is what we hope to help communities and businesses do.”

Guest speakers from all over California will discuss the strategies they used to be successful leaders in their communities.

“The ‘Preparing for Growth: Lessons Learned’ panel and Q&A session should be very exciting and informative,” said Ripke. “With a panel of experienced city managers and public policy makers, the audience will be able to learn how to strategically use the information they get toward planning for their communities and businesses.”

Registration for this event is \$75 and can be completed by calling the CED, visiting [www.csuchico.edu/cedp](http://www.csuchico.edu/cedp), or by paying at the door. Each registration includes one county profile book.

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The Center for Economic Development is a community outreach and technical assistance organization of the California State University, Chico Research Foundation with a core mission to educate and build the knowledge of California economic development professionals and coordinate economic development strategies.

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