

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California**

AS-745-12

RESOLUTION ON CONCENTRATION DEFINITION

- 1 WHEREAS, A concentration is intended to be a coherent and specialized course of study within a
2 student's major degree program, which presupposes knowledge of the major
3 discipline; and
- 4 WHEREAS, A concentration is a carefully chosen and formally recognized course of study with
5 requirements stated in the catalog; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Faculty have a commitment to deliver approved curriculum; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Concentrations, including interdisciplinary concentrations, are not baccalaureate
8 programs; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Concentrations are noted on the student's transcript, but not shown on the diploma;
10 and
- 11 WHEREAS, Faculty have the option to include concentrations in the baccalaureate programs they
12 develop; and
- 13 WHEREAS, CSU Executive Order 602 delegates authority to campus presidents to approve
14 options, concentrations, special emphases and minors
15 (<http://www.calstate.edu/eo/EO-602.pdf>); and
- 16 WHEREAS, The only curricular constraint mandated by Executive Order 602 is that in order to be
17 approved by campus presidents, concentrations must be “in the same discipline
18 division as the approved degree major program” otherwise they require approval by
19 the Chancellor; be it therefore
- 20 RESOLVED, That CAM 411.A.1(c) on concentrations be revised as follows:
- 21 • A concentration is a block of at least five designated ~~major~~ courses (~~E.O. 283~~)
22 from one or more lists of designated courses or course areas.
 - 23 • No single course should appear in every concentration: such courses should be
24 included in the major.

- 25 • The courses for a concentration shall appear in the major course column.
- 26 • ~~At least 50% of the units in a concentration shall be in the same courses or course~~
- 27 ~~areas for all students taking that concentration~~
- 28 • **The number of concentration units shall not exceed 50% of the total major**
- 29 **units.**
- 30 And further be it
- 31 RESOLVED, That the above CAM concentration criteria be effective for all new concentration
- 32 proposals or concentration revision proposals beginning with the 2013-15 catalog
- 33 cycle; and be it further
- 34 RESOLVED, That when advising individual students, reasonable attempts to follow the approved
- 35 curriculum should be made before substitutions are considered.

Proposed by:

Date:

Revised:

Academic Senate Curriculum Committee

January 26, 2012

February 23 2012

State of California
Memorandum

CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO

To: Rachel Fernflores
Chair, Academic Senate

Date: April 4, 2012

From: Jeffrey D. Armstrong
President



Copies: K. Enz Finken, E. Smith,
K. Ikeda, C. Sunata,
S. Olivas

Subject: **Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-745-12**
Resolution on Concentration Definition

This memo formally acknowledges receipt and approval of the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution.

Please extend my appreciation to the committee for their work on this issue.