## Meeting of the Academic Senate <br> Tuesday, January 22, 2008 <br> UU220, 3:10 to 5:00pm

I. Minutes:

Approval of minutes for Academic Senate meetings of November 13 and November 27, 2007 (pp. 2-5).
II. Communication(s) and Announcement(s):
A. President's responses to resolutions AS-658-07, AS-659-07, and AS-660-07: (pp. 6-8).
B. Sustainability charrette scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 8:30-4:00, at Cal Poly: Kate Lancaster, Chair of the Sustainability Committee.
III. Reports:

Regular reports [Please limit to 3 minutes or less]:
A. Academic Senate Chair: (p. 9).
B. President's Office:
C. Vice President for Student Affairs:
D. Statewide Senate:
E. CFA Campus President:
F. ASI Representative:

Special reports:
Bill Durgin: Provost report on strategic planning: (p. 10).
IV. Consent Agenda:
V. Business Item(s):
A. Resolution on Faculty/Staff Dining Area: Harris, chair of Ad Hoc Committee on Conference Center and Faculty Club, second reading (pp. 11-12).
B. Resolution on Department Status and Name Change for Women's

Studies Program: Halisky, Dean for CLA/Armstrong, Director for Women's Studies, first reading (pp. 13-31).
C. Resolution on Diversity Learning Objectives: Hannings, chair of Curriculum Committee, first reading (pp. 32-35).
VI. Discussion Item(s):
VII. Adjournment:

# CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY <br> San Luis Obispo, California 93407 <br> ACADEMIC SENATE <br> 805.756.1258 <br> MINUTES OF <br> The Academic Senate <br> Tuesday, November 13, 2007 <br> UU 220, 3:10 to 5:00 p.m. 

I. Minutes: the minutes of October 23 were approved as presented.
II. Communications and Announcements:
A. Giberti announced the next Social Hour scheduled for Thursday, November 15, 4-6 p.m., at the University House Patio. This event is hosted by the President's Office.
III. Regular Reports
A. Academic Senate Chair: Giberti announced his participation in the Access to Excellence Steering Committee meeting to consider responses to the first draft of the system strategic plan.
B. President's Office: Howard-Greene reported that on October 30, State Senator Torkalson, Senator Maldonado, and Assemblyman Blakeslee convened a hearing on science and math education in K-12. Howard-Greene also announced that President Baker attended a bi-national conference convened in part by the US/Mexico Science Foundation.
C. Provost: none.
D. Vice President for Student Affairs: Morton reported that more than $75 \%$ of Poly Canyon student housing is now complete.
E. Academic Senate CSU: Foroohar reported on some of the thirteen resolutions addressed at the last meeting. The resolutions addressed issues such as the policy on class withdrawal and incomplete grades, the proposed fee increase for MBAs, and the Voluntary System of Accountability.
F. CFA Campus President: none.
G. ASI Representatives: Souza reported that Lieutenant Governor Garamendi will be holding a press conference on the likelihood of a $10 \%$ student-fee increase next year.
IV. Special report:
A. Mike Miller, Dean of Library Services, reported on the library building program. The presentation is available at <http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/reports/AcademicSenateReports/LibraryBuildingProg ram111307.pdf>.
V. Consent Agenda: none.
VI. Business Item(s):
A. Resolution on Searches for Academic Campus Administrators (Faculty Affairs Committee): Foroohar presented this resolution, which urges that faculty representatives on certain academic MPP consultative committees be elected or selected from tenured faculty, probationary faculty, and full-time lecturers. The resolution will return as a second reading item.
B. Resolution on Proposal for the Establishment of the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences (CCMS) (Biological Sciences Department and College of Science and Mathematics): This resolution endorses the proposal to establish the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences. Mark Moline explained the proposal; presentation is available at [http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/reports/CoastalMarineSciences.ppt](http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/reports/CoastalMarineSciences.ppt). The resolution will return as a second reading item.
C. Resolution on Faculty/Staff Dining area (Ad Hoc Committee on Conference Center and Faculty Club): Harris presented this resolution, which requests that the management of Cal Poly Corporation Campus Dining address in its strategic plan the needs of faculty and staff and that the Director of Campus Dining report to the Academic Senate on the status of this request. The resolution will return as a second reading item.

VII Discussion Item(s): none.
VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.


# CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY <br> San Luis Obispo, California 93407 <br> ACADEMIC SENATE <br> 805.756.1258 <br> MINUTES OF <br> The Academic Senate <br> Tuesday, November 27, 2007 <br> UU 220, 3:10 to 5:00 p.m. 

I. Minutes: none.
II. Communications and Announcements:
A. Giberti announced the next Social Hour scheduled for Thursday, December 6. The Orfalea College of Business will host this event.
B. Stover announced a new campus emergency notification system that will be available Winter Quarter 2008.
III. Regular Reports: none.
IV. Special Report:
A. The President reported on the budget presentation by Patrick Lenz, Assistant Vice Chancellor, at the November 2007 meeting of the Trustee's Finance Committee. The presentation is available at <http://www.calstate.edu/budget/2008 09BudIndex/documents/Nov2007 Presentation Bot_Committee on_Finance.pdf>.
V. Consent Agenda: none.
VI. Business Item(s):
A. Resolution on Prior Learning Assessment (Curriculum Committee): Hannings presented the resolution that grants adult-degree credit through portfolio development. The resolution is available at <http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/Resolutions/20072008/PLA.pdf $>$. M/S/P to approve the resolution.
B. Resolution on Proposal for the Establishment of the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences (Biological Sciences Department and College of Science and Mathematics): Opava explained that this resolution endorses the proposal to establish the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences. A PowerPoint presentation is available at [http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/reports/CoastalMarineSciences.ppt](http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/reports/CoastalMarineSciences.ppt). M/S/P to approve the resolution.
C. Resolution on Searches for Academic Campus Administrators (Faculty Affairs Committee): Foroohar presented this resolution, which urges that faculty representatives
on certain academic MPP consultative committees be elected or selected from tenured faculty, probationary faculty, and full-time lecturers.

The following friendly amendment was accepted:
RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly urge that where the academic management personnel position has sbstantial involvement with curriculum, faculty affairs, and/or instructionally related matters, faculty representatives on the consultative committee will be elected or seleeted from a pool consisting of tenured and tenure-track faculty, as well as full-time lecturers (holding 12.12. entitlement). The majority of members appointed to a consultative committee to select a college dean will continue to consist of tenured faculty members; and be it further

M/S/P to approve the resolution as amended.
D. Resolution on Faculty/Staff Dining area (Ad Hoc Committee on Conference Center and Faculty Club): Due to the lack of time, the resolution will return as a second reading item at the first Senate meeting of Winter Quarter 2008.

VII Discussion Item(s): none.
VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.


State of California
Memorandum

To: Bruno Giberti
Chair, Academic Senate
Waum-
From: Warren J. Baker
President

Date: January 7, 2008

Copies: W. Durgin
D. Parks
D. Conn

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-658-07
Resolution on Prior Learning Assessment: Proposal to Expand Cal Poly's Credit for Prior College-Level Learning

Based upon consultation with Provost William W. Durgin, this memo acknowledges receipt and approval of the above-referenced resolution.

Please extend my thanks to those who worked on developing this proposal. I look forward to its implementation and the effect it will have on this student population.

SAN LUIS OBISPO
CA 93407
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { To: } & \text { Bruno Giberti } \\ & \text { Chair, Academic Senate }\end{array}$


From: Warren J. Baker
President

Date: January 7, 2008

Copies: W. Durgin
M. Suess

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-659-07
Resolution on Searches for Academic Campus Administrators
This will acknowledge receipt of the above-referenced resolution. The recommendations will be considered when new policies for the recruitment of MPP personnel are drafted.

State of California
Memorandum


SAN LUIS OBISPO CA 93407

To: Bruno Giberti
Chair, Academic Senate


Date: January 7, 2008

Copies: W. Durgin
P. Bailey
S. Opava
M. Moline
M. Yoshimura

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-660-07
Resolution on Proposal for the Establishment of the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences (CCMS)

Based upon the above-subject resolution, the positive endorsement by the Academic Deans at its October 8, 2007, meeting, as well as the recommendation of Provost William Durgin, I am pleased to approve the establishment of the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences (CCMS).

## AS Calendar for Winter Quarter

January 8 / Executive Committee
Discussion of academic calendar
Resolution on Diversity Learning Objectives
January 22 / Academic Senate
Kate Lancaster's announcement of sustainability charrette
Provost's report on strategic planning
Resolution on faculty/staff dining ( $2^{\text {nd }}$ )
Resolution on Women's Studies ( $1^{\text {st }}$ )
Resolution on Diversity Learning Objectives ( $1^{\text {st }}$ )
January 29 / Executive Committee
Resolution on teaching associates
Resolution on Library Task Force Report
Resolution on MS BMED
February 12 / Academic Senate
Sandra Ogren's report on advancement
Resolution on Women's Studies ( $2^{\text {nd }}$ )
Resolution on Diversity Learning Objectives ( ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ )
Resolution on teaching associates ( $1^{\text {st }}$ )
February 19 / Executive Committee
Resolution on Reform of AS Constitution and Bylaws
February 26 / Executive Committee
AS committee chairs report on charges
March 4 / Academic Senate
President's Report
Resolution on teaching associates ( $2^{\text {nd }}$ )
Resolution on Library Task Force Report ( $1^{\text {st }}$ )
Resolution on MS BMED ( $1^{\text {st }}$ )
March 11 / Academic Senate
Special session on campus strategic planning
March 17 - March 31, 2008 / Finals Week and Quarter Break

## Expected

Resolution on Reform of USCP
Resolution on MS in Polymers

## POSITION

California Polytechnic State University is a nationally renowned polytechnic university dedicated to educating a technologically literate citizenry. It is a vibrant community for learning and discovery where the arts, sciences, and technology intersect. Its graduates are poised to be leaders in engineering, agriculture, architecture, the arts and sciences, business, and education.

## MISSION

Ca Poly fosters teaching, scholarship, and service in a learn-by-doing environment where students and faculty are partners in discovery. As a polytechnic university, Cal Poly promotes the application of theory to practice. As a comprehensive institution, Cal Poly provides a balanced education in the arts, sciences, and technology, while encouraging cross-disciplinary and co-curricular experiences. As an academic community, Cal Poly values free inquiry, cultural and intellectual diversity, mutual respect, civic engagement, and social and environmental responsibility.

## VALUES

The pedagogy of "learn by doing", which is our hallmark, is the foundation for undergraduate and graduate education. As a polytechnic university with a strong emphasis on the liberal arts and interdisciplinary studies, Cal Poly exemplifies the new liberal education and embraces the pursuit of learning outcomes that prepare students for careers and citizenship. Our graduates are proficient in technology, understand its application to culture and society, and aspire to become wise professional and civic leaders. Cal Poly embraces the teacher-scholar model of teaching excellence and substantive engagement in scholarly pursuits.

## VISION

Cal Poly will be the premier polytechnic university, rooted in its technological disciplines, dedicated to the application of knowledge, and committed to educational innovation. It will provide superb education and conduct research, scholarship, and creative activity in concert with the California State University mission. Respect for individuals, their diversity, and their ideas will be the cornerstones of the Cal Poly community. A balance of theory and practice exemplified by the "learn by doing" philosophy and implemented through project-based pedagogy will be the curricular foundation. A deep understanding and respect for educational breadth will ensure that the needs of our students in our rapidly evolving global society are met.

Adopted:

# ACADEMIC SENATE <br> of <br> CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY San Luis Obispo, CA 

AS- $\qquad$

## RESOLUTION ON FACULTY/STAFF DINING AREA

WHEREAS, Cal Poly faculty and staff once enjoyed the exclusive use of the Staff Dining Room in the Dining Complex (Building 19); and

WHEREAS, The Staff Dining Room was the locus of an informal, cross-disciplinary social life, bringing together people from different parts of the campus; and

WHEREAS, This social life disappeared when the Cal Poly Corporation Campus Dining management converted the Staff Dining Room into the Veranda Café, which serves students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, No equivalent plans or arrangements for the special needs of faculty and staff have been made since the conversion to the Veranda Caféfor the special needs of faculty and staff; and

WHEREAS, A new Associate Vice President of Commercial Services and Executive Director of the Cal Poly Corporation has recently been appointed; and

WHEREAS, A new Director of Campus Dining has been appointed along with a new executive dining staff; and

WHEREAS, The Campus Dining organization is at a moment of transition and will be preparing a new strategic plan; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate request that the management of Cal Poly Corporation Campus Dining address in its strategic plan the exclusive needs of the faculty and staff; and be it further

RESOLVED: That by the end of this aeademic year the new Director of Campus-Dining be asked to give a repent to the Academic Senate on the status of this request That the new Director of Campus Dining be asked to give a report to the Academic Senate by the end of this academic year.

Proposed by: Ad Hoc Committee on Conference Center and Faculty Club
Date: $\quad$ October 29, 2007
Revised: November 2, 2007
Revised: November 13, 2007
Revised: November 20, 2007

Margaret Camuso
To:
Subject:

## Academic Senators

Faculty/Staff Dining

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------ Forwarded Message
From: Lawrence R Kelley <lkelley@calpoly.edu>
Reply-To: <lkelley@calpoly.edu>
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 09:07:17 -0800
To: Bruno Giberti <bgiberti@calpoly.edu>
Cc: 'Bonnie Murphy' <bdmurphy@calpoly.edu>, <twelton@calpoly.edu>
Subject: Faculty/Staff Dining
Bruno, thank you for talking with me recently about having the Corporation
develop a faculty/staff lunch area on campus. The Campus Dining staff will
be working on this idea and we believe that we can come up with a location
and program that can be open as soon as next academic year. There is much
to consider and we will be developing plans over the next few months. We
will let you know the details as they develop.
Larry Kelley
lkelley@calpoly.edu
805/756-2171
```

------ End of Forwarded Message

Adopted:

# ACADEMIC SENATE <br> of <br> CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY San Luis Obispo, CA 

AS-__-07

## RESOLUTION ON DEPARTMENT STATUS AND NAME CHANGE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The Women's Studies program is presently an academic unit located in the College of Liberal Arts; and

WHEREAS, A change in status and name from Women's Studies program to "Department of Women's and Gender Studies" is being proposed; and

WHEREAS, The functional modifications in changing to department status are provided in the attachment to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, Said change in status and name has been approved by the College of Liberal Arts Chairs Council and the Academic Deans Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly endorse the change in status and name from Women's Studies program to Department of Women's and Gender Studies.

Proposed by: Cal Poly Women's Studies Program and the College of Liberal Arts
Date: $\quad$ October 9, 2007

## To: William Durgin, Provost and Associate Vice-President Dean's Council

From: Mary A. Armstrong, Director of Women's Studies
Women's Studies Faculty Board (See Appendix A: WS Faculty Board)
Re: Departmental Status for Women's and Gender Studies
Date: October 4, 2007

## Section I: Proposal and Rationale

This is a proposal to change the institutional status of Women's Studies from program to department and amend the name "Women's Studies" to "Women's and Gender Studies." The proposal is predicated mainly on the following factors, each of which is addressed in detail in Section II:

## 1. Structurally and institutionally, Women's Studies already currently operates

 as an independent, departmental-level entity.2. Women's Studies serves hundreds of students and many university programs every AY by offering a broad spectrum of General Education and USCP courses and multiple major/minor support courses, engaging the multi-disciplinary talents of faculty as instructors and affiliates, and serving a growing core of Women's Studies Minors.
3. Departmental status will allow Women's Studies to hire its own faculty without being entirely relegated (as is the case now) to jointly-appointed faculty whose principle affiliations are always fractured and partially located elsewhere.
4. Departmental status will enable Women's Studies to formulate pedagogical and scholarly principles through the development of RPT standards and processes. Departmental status will hence promote the excellence of Women's Studies and facilitate coherent long-term planning and program assessment.
5. Departmental status will empower Women's Studies to more effectively advance the mission of the university, fostering diversity, promoting interdisciplinary work and providing critical support in STEM areas. Women's Studies has a unique and central role in Cal Poly's mission. It is singularly positioned to positively address issues of diversity in the curriculum, campus climate, interdisciplinary teaching and learning, and the intersection of gender issues with STEM areas.

This proposal does not entail any curricular changes. It does not require a reallocation of resources within the College of Liberal Arts or the reassignment of any current faculty. Changes will be internal to the College of Liberal Arts. This proposal does not advocate the formation of a Women's Studies major at this time. Modifications will be: a change in the title of "Women's Studies Program" to "Women's and Gender Studies Department" and a change in the title of the head of Women's Studies from "director" to "chair."

## II. Factors Related to Departmental Status

## 1. Structurally and institutionally, Women's Studies already operates as an independent, departmental-level entity.

Women's Studies is a free-standing entity within the College of the Liberal Arts and operates with department-level autonomy. Women's Studies is self-governed by its teaching faculty and has a faculty Director; the Director of Women's Studies has a permanent seat on the College of Liberal Arts Chairs Council where Women's Studies carries a full departmental vote. Women's Studies has its own operating, programming, and discretionary budgets. It is housed within its own office space, which is staffed by the Women's Studies Administrative Support Coordinator (ASC-I) and student assistants.

The program independently schedules and runs its own courses under the Women's Studies prefix (WS) throughout the academic year; summer courses are offered, as well. Women's Studies develops and maintains its own curriculum packages and is responsible for tracking enrollments and maintaining appropriate SCU counts. Women's Studies works with College of Liberal Arts Advancement on support initiatives and represents itself on grant applications. The program shares joint tenure-track lines across the college and internally hires its own lecturers. Unlike most other minor programs-such as the minor in Dance (located within the Theatre and Dance Department) or the minor in Religious Studies (located within the Philosophy Department)-Women's Studies is structurally autonomous.
2. Women's Studies serves hundreds of students and many university programs every AY by offering a broad spectrum of General Education and USCP courses, offering multiple major/minor support courses, engaging the talents of many faculty as instructors and affiliates, and serving a growing core of Women's Studies Minors.

## General Education and USCP courses

The vast majority of Women's Studies courses are designated as General Education and/or USCP courses (See Appendix B: Women's Studies Core Curriculum). Based on projections for the coming year and taking our two new tenure-track joint hires into account, Women's Studies projects it will provide upper division GE credit to approximately 528 students during the 07-08 AY. These numbers include 192 (Area C), 240 (Area D) 96 (Area F) and 523 (USCP). (See Appendix C: WS GE and USCP P Projected Enrollments 07-08).

## Major and Minor Program Support

Women's Studies serves hundreds of students across the university every year by offering support courses for 5 majors, 4 minors, and 2 graduate programs. (See Appendix D: WS Major and Minor Support Courses).

## Faculty

Faculty with research and teaching expertise in the areas of gender and sexuality have a unique forum for pedagogical and intellectual development in Women's Studies. In addition to four jointly-appointed faculty, 21 non-formally appointed faculty from 9 departments currently teach Women's Studies core and elective courses on an ad hoc basis. Additionally, almost 70 Cal Poly faculty have self-identified as Women's
Studies Affiliates. Women's Studies is at the heart of the university's interdisciplinary mission. (See Appendix E: WS All Faculty and Appendix F: WS Affiliated Faculty).

## Women's Studies Minors

Women's Studies serves a core group of Women's Studies minors, who represent a proportionally small but important part of the program's engagement with students. The Minors illustrate the growing intensity of interest in Women's Studies: since 2000-2001, the number of students involved in the minor has moved from 2 to our current average of around 30-35 (See Appendix G: WS Minors Growth 2000-2007)
3. Departmental status will allow Women's Studies to hire its own faculty without being entirely relegated (as is the case now) to jointly-appointed faculty whose principal affiliations are always located elsewhere.

Because "partial hires" are the only option for a non-department, 4 faculty hires (all of whom have tenure/track responsibilities elsewhere) have created only 1.33 permanent FTEF for Women's Studies. Appointed Women's Studies faculty are organized thusly:

| English Department | Women's Studies |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (Tenure Home) |  |  |


| Philosophy Department <br> (Tenare Home) |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Philosophy Department <br> (Tenure Home) |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Ethnic Studies Department <br> (Tenure Home) |  | Women's Studies |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

These appointments are supplemented by one additional base FTEF that Women's Studies is granted annually. This FTEF enables the program to "hire" additional faculty from other departments on an ad hoc basis.

There are serious disadvantages to continuing to organize Women's Studies through partial hires (and, when possible, ad hoc additional teaching) including:
a) The permanent second-class status of a program without its own faculty will ensure that gender is permanently marked as a "secondary" area of academic inquiry and pedagogy. This is especially evident when Women's Studies is compared to Ethnic Studies, which has held departmental status since 1994.
b) The administrative-intensive work of joint hires is excessively laborious, from the complex joint hiring process to scheduling difficulties to potential problems concerning the "value" of Women's Studies work in terms of a faculty member's candidacy for tenure and/or promotion in his/her home department.
c) The "doubled" and notoriously heavy service responsibilities of joint appointments are especially challenging for Women's Studies faculty. The National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) summarizes:

Faculty members in Women's Studies experience service obligations that are heavier than normal. Women's Studies faculty are called upon to provide expertise for many other academic units . . those with joint appointments need to advise students, attend meetings, and serve on committees in two academic units (Statement of the Governing Council of the NWSA, 2000).

Lack of departmental status generates barriers and difficulties for Women's Studies on multiple levels, creating obstacles to its perceived intellectual viability, hindering and complicating its administrative processes, and increasing the workload of its faculty.
4. Departmental status will enable Women's Studies to formulate pedagogical and scholarly principles through the development of RPT standards and processes. Departmental status will hence promote the excellence of Women's Studies and facilitate coherent long-term planning and program assessment.

Because Women's Studies is independent yet unable to support full lines or grant tenure/promotion, it is effectively blocked from engaging in those processes which are critical to an effective educational unit, ie, developing criterion for scholarly and pedagogical excellence (specifically, standards for teaching, research and service). Selfsufficient yet lacking department status, Women's Status cannot exercise the control needed to form a coherent vision of its own future.

Women's Studies is also hindered from developing external goals or engaging in longrange planning or assessment relative to the CLA and/or the university. Whereas departments can envision and create a course of study over time, Women's Studies
cannot similarly plan and coordinate its curriculum and courses. Because all future (joint) hires occur in terms of the plans of other departments, Women's Studies cannot coherently strategize in the long term or develop effective outcomes assessment. It can only "react."

With the status and stability provided by departmental status, long-term planning and effective program assessment would be achievable. Plans for a Women's and Gender Studies Department could, of course, follow either a no/slow-growth or growth model. But the critical element here is that there would be sufficient stability for long-range planning. (See Appendix H: Sample 5 Year Plan for Women's and Gender Studies).

## 5. Departmental status will empower Women's Studies to more effectively advance the mission of the university, foster diversity, promote interdisciplinary work and provide critical support in STEM areas. Women's Studies can play a unique and central role in Cal Poly's mission. It is singularly positioned to positively address issues of diversity in the curriculum, campus climate, interdisciplinary teaching and learning, and the intersection of gender issues with STEM areas.

The 2007 Cal Poly Mission Statement affirms that a Cal Poly education should be cocurricular where possible and fundamentally connected to diversity, civic engagement, and principles of social responsibility-an educational approach that is reflected in the core of Women's and Gender Studies:

> As a comprehensive institution, Cal Poly provides a balanced education in the arts, sciences, and technology, while encouraging cross-disciplinary and co-curricular experiences. As an academic community, Cal Poly values free inquiry, cultural and intellectual diversity, mutual respect, civic engagement, and social and environmental responsibility.
> (http://www.president.calpoly.edu/mission.asp)

The Cal Poly Strategic Plan repeatedly states that the educational mission of the university requires that academic programs address gender issues:
1.10.1 Cal Poly shall require for graduation, successful completion of course work that focuses on the issues of gender and cultural and racial pluralism, including social, political, and religious similarities and differences among societies.
1.10.2 Cal Poly shall ensure that the content of courses across the curriculum include relevant issues of gender and cultural and racial pluralism, including social, political, and religious similarities and differences among societies.
(Cal Poly Strategic Plan http://www.president.calpoly.edu/plans.asp?pid=1, author's emphasis)
However, despite the consistent and clear emphasis on curricular diversity and student learning in terms of both gender and race/ethnicity, Women's Studies continues to hold programmatic status. (This is notable when compared to Ethnic Studies, a small interdisciplinary program that became a department after only two years of existence, in 1994). Departmental status for Women's Studies will clearly convey that research and teaching addressing gender are also central to the university mission and to student learning, and that gender equity is every bit as important as racial and ethnic diversity.

Gender disparities and the non- or low-rate participation of women (specifically, in STEM fields) remain critical problems at Cal Poly, as is the case at many polytechnic universities. Women's Studies is precisely the academic unit best positioned to encourage the exploration of curricular and intellectual issues involved in creating a welcoming climate and increase participation and retention of women students and faculty, especially in the STEM areas. Departmental status for Women's Studies would grant both the stability and institutional status needed to engage in the development of new (especially STEM-related) courses. Departmental status would enable Women's Studies to envision courses that speak directly to curricular diversity, make hires as appropriate to long-term plans, and create interdisciplinary curricular ventures in which faculty who work on gender (especially) in STEM fields could find collegial and practical support.

Given the increased importance of interdisciplinary teaching, learning and research at Cal Poly, it is also important to note that Women's Studies is intrinsically interdisciplinary. From the Cal Poly Women's Studies Mission Statement (2001):

> Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary academic field which focuses on issues of gender, examines the contributions and status of women, and seeks to broaden the academic interrogation of sex roles and gender ideals. It enables students to analyze how gender and sexuality, along with race, class and ethnicity (as well as other markers of identity), shape women's and men's lives (Cal Poly Women's Studies Mission Statement http://www.calpoly.edu/~womst/).

Finally, it is worth noting that emphasis on and support for Women's Studies is strongly reflected throughout the CSU system. Of the 23 campuses, all but 3 have Women's Studies (the new campuses of Channel Islands and Monterey Bay are currently developing gender studies curricula and offering classes; only the Maritime Academy has nothing in this area). The majority of CSU Women's Studies units are departments (11). All CSU campuses with Women's Studies have minors (20), the majority (14) have majors. See Appendix I: Women's Studies in the CSU: System Overview.

## IV. Institutional Status and Naming Practices for Women's [and Gender] Studies

Since the 1970s, "Women's Studies" has been the most common name for interdisciplinary academic programs that focus on issues of gender. Over the last decade, the titles of many Women's Studies departments have changed to accommodate an expanded range of inquiry, including sexuality issues and issues of maleness and masculinity. Sometimes the title "Women's Studies" is maintained to acknowledge a still-ongoing mission of Women's Studies: to work towards insuring the inclusion of women at every level of inquiry, every level of pedagogy, and at every level of the production of knowledge. On the other hand, increasing use of an expanded title reflects the new areas of growth represented in a dynamic field. In changing from "Women's Studies" to "Women's and Gender Studies" the Cal Poly Women's Studies Faculty Board wishes to both affirm its commitment to the historic goals of access and inclusivity for women, as well as to acknowledge the newer areas of gender and sexuality studies in which its faculty and its students are actively engaged.

## Concluding Summary

Women's Studies at Cal Poly is an autonomous unit that, for many intents and purposes, already acts as a department. It offers a wide array of courses, the vast majority of which are General Education and/or USCP and many of which support various majors and minors. Women's Studies serves hundreds of students every year.

Over the last five years, Women's Studies has experienced considerable growth in faculty, in courses offered, and in students served-and now Women's Studies is at a critical juncture. There is no doubt that a Department of Women's and Gender Studies could have an important and extremely productive role at polytechnic university that is committed to excellence, curricular diversity, and progress (especially in areas such as diversity and parity in the STEM disciplines). But the extent to which Women's Studies can fill its vital role in any vision of a progressive polytechnic university now depends on it being given the stability and status needed to make its important contributions. The value of Women's Studies to Cal Poly can be significant, but only if it is allowed to take a form in which it can set standards for excellence, envision its own future, establish long-range plans, assess itself, and dynamically address critical issues. If Women's Studies is empowered to reach its full potential, it will not only benefit research and teaching in areas related to gender, but it will substantiate and advance the overall mission of the university as a whole.

## List of Appendices

Appendix A: WS Faculty Board
Appendix B: WS Core Curriculum
Appendix C: WS GE and USCP Projected Enrollments 07-08
Appendix D: WS Major and Minor Support Courses
Appendix E: WS All Faculty
Appendix F: WS Affiliated Faculty
Appendix G: WS Minors Growth 2000-2007
Appendix H: Sample 5 Year Plan for Women's and Gender Studies
Appendix I: Women's Studies in the CSU: System Overview

## Appendix A: Women's Studies Faculty Board

2007-2008 Women's Studies Faculty Board

| Last | First | Home Department | E-mail |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Armstrong | Mary | English/Women's Studies Director | Psyology |
| Burn | Shawn | Psycholog | maarmstr@calpoly.edu |
| Engle | Patrice | Psychology | sburn@calpoly.edu |
| Fern | Rachel | Philosophy/Women's Studies | pengle@calpoly.edu |
| Kuhn | Devin | Philosophy/Women's Studies | rfern@calpoly.edu |
| Lehr | Jane | Ethnic Studies/Women's Studies | dkuhn@calpoly.edu |
| O'Bryant | Camille | Kinesiology | jlehr@calpoly.edu |
| Shea | Christine | Communication Studies | cobryant@calpoly.edu |
| Wetzel | Jean | Art \& Design | cshea@calpoly.edu |
| Williams | Jean | Political Science | jwetzel@calpoly.edu |
|  |  |  | jemwill@calpoly.edu |

# Women's Studies Minor Student Progression Chart 

## REQUIRED COURSES (20 Units)

WS 301 Introduction to Women's Studies (GE D5, USCP)(4) 4
WS $450 \quad$ Feminist Theory (USCP)(4) 4

Level A Select One 4
PSY 314 Psychology of Women (4)
SOC $311 \quad$ Sociology of Gender (4)
WS/RELS 370 Religion, Gender and Society (GE C4, USCP)(4)
Level B-Select One 4
WS $350 \quad$ Gender, Race, Science and Technology (GE F, USCP)(4)
WS/HIST 434 American Women's History to 1870 (4)
WS/HIST 435 American Women's History from 1870 (USCP)(4)
Level C-Select One 4
WS 311 Women In Cross Cultural Perspectives (GE D5)(4)
WS $340 \quad$ Sexuality Studies (GE D5)(4)
WS 401 Seminar in Women's Studies(4)

## ELECTIVE COURSES (8 Units)

8
Minors must take 8 units of electives. A list of courses that currently qualify as Women's Studies electives can be found at: http://www.calpoly.edu/~womst/courses.htm

This version of the WS Minor was approved for the 2007-2009 curriculum cycle by the Women's Studies Advisory Board.

## 2007-2008 Enrollment Projections

Fall 2007
Course
WS 301-01
WS 301-02
WS 340-01
WS/ES 350-70
WS/RELS 370-70
WS/RELS 370-71

| $\boldsymbol{G E}$ | $\boldsymbol{U S C P}$ | Units | Enrollment | $\boldsymbol{S C U}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| D5 | Yes | 4 | 35 | 140 |
| D5 | Yes | 4 | 35 | 140 |
| D5 | No | 4 | 30 | 120 |
| F | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| C4 | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| C4 | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |

Winter 2008

| Course | $\boldsymbol{G E}$ | USCP | Units | Enrollment | SCU |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WS 301-01 | D5 | Yes | 4 | 35 | 140 |
| WS 311-01 | D5 | No | 4 | 35 | 140 |
| WS/ES 350-70 | F | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| WS/RELS 370-70 | C4 | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| WS/RELS 370-71 | C4 | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| WS/HIST 435-70 | n/a | Yes | 4 | 30 | 120 |

Spring 2008

| Course | GE | $\boldsymbol{U S C P}$ | Units | Enrollment | SCU |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WS 301-01 | D5 | Yes | 4 | 35 | 140 |
| WS 301-01 | D5 | Yes | 4 | 35 | 140 |
| WS/ES 350-70 | F | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| WS/RELS 370-70 | C4 | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| WS/RELS 370-71 | C4 | Yes | 4 | 32 | 128 |
| WS 450-01 | n/a | Yes | 4 | 30 | 120 |

TOTAL No. of GE WS Courses ..... 16
TOTAL No. of WS Courses ..... 18
TOTAL ENROLLMENT (ALL) ..... 588
TOTAL GE Enrollment ..... 528
Subtotal GE Enrollment by Area
Area C ..... 192
Area D ..... 240
Area $F$ ..... 96
TOTAL USCP Enrollment ..... 523
TOTAL SCU ..... 2352

Cal Poly Women's Studies

| WS Course \#/Title | Department | Major Support | Minor Support |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| WS/ART 316 Woman <br> as Subject and Object <br> in Art History | Art and Design | Core course for the <br> BFA | Elective for Art Minor |
| WS 450 Feminist <br> Theory | English | Non-literature elective <br> for BA in English* |  |
| WS/ES 350 Gender, <br> Race, Science and <br> Technology | Comparative Ethnic <br> Studies | Required course for <br> the BA in <br> Comparative Ethnic <br> Studies | Elective for the Ethnic <br> Studies Minor |
| WS/HIST 434 <br> American Women's <br> History to 1870 | History | Elective for the BA in <br> History** | Elective for the <br> History Minor |
| WS/HIST 435 <br> American Women's <br> History from 1870 | History | Ehilosophy | Elective for the BA in |
| History** | Elective for the <br> History Minor |  |  |
| WS 450 Feminist <br> Theory | Philosophy/ | Religious Studies <br> Ehilosophy | Elive for the BA in |
| WS/RELS 370 <br> Religion, Gender and <br> Society |  | Required course for <br> the Religious Studies <br> Minor |  |

[^0]Elective courses for the Minor in Women's Studies can be taken in 9 departments: Ethnic Studies, English, Kinesiology, Music, Political Science, Psychology and Child Development, Social Sciences, Speech Communication, and Theater.

2007-2008 All Women's Studies Faculty
WS Appointed Faculty

| Last | First | Home Department | E-mail | Core Course | Elective Course |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Armstrong | Mary | Women's Studies Director/English | calpoly edu |  | Lecive Course |
| Fern | Rachel | Women's Studies/Philosophy | alpoly | WS 301, WS 340, WS 450 | ENGL 345 |
| Kuhn | Devin | Women's Studies/Philosophy | - | WS 301, WS 450 | PHIL 336 |
| Lehr | Jane |  | Devin.Kuhn@cgu.edu | WS/RELS 370 |  |
|  |  | Women's Studies/Ethnic Studies | jlehr@yt.edu | WS/ES 350 |  |

WS Core Course Faculty

| Last | First | Home Department | E-mail | Core Course | Elective Course |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Burn | Shawn | Psychology | sburn@calpoly.edu | WS 311 |  |
| Cairns | Kathleen | History | kcairns@calpoly.edu | WS/HIST 435 |  |
| Engle | Patrice | Psychology | pengle@calpoly.edu | WS 311 |  |
| Helmbrecht | Brenda | English | bhelmbre@calpoly.edu | WS 301 | ENGL 469 |
| King | Laura | Psychology | lking@calpoly.edu | PSY 314 |  |
| Mori | Barbara | Social Science | bmori@calpoly.edu | SOC 311 | SOC 351 |
| Shea | Christine | Communication Studies | cshea@calpoly.edu | WS 301, WS 401 | COMS 421 |
| Williams | Jean | Political Science | jemwill@calpoly.edu | WS 301 | POLS 310 |
| Zulfacar | Mahlia | Ethnic Studies | mzulfaca@calpoly.edu | WS 401 |  |

## WS Elective Course Faculty

| Last | First | Home Department | E-mail | Core Course | Elective Course |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Halisky | Linda | College of Liberal Arts Dean/English | lhalisky@calpoly.edu |  | ENGL 459 |
| Jackson | Lorraine | Communication Studies | ljackson@calpoly.edu |  | COMS 421 |
| Lucas | Nancy | English | nlucas@calpoly.edu |  | ENGL 345 |
| MacCurdy | Carol | English | cmaccurd@calpoly.edu |  | ENGL 349 |
| Malkin | Pamela | Theater and Dance | pmalkin@calpoly.edu |  | TH 310 |
| McLamore | Alyson | Music | amclamor@calpoly.edu |  | MU 328 |
| O'Bryant | Camille | Kinesiology | cobryant@calpoly.edu |  | KINE 323 |
| Rubba | Joanna | English | jrubba@calpoly.edu |  | ENGL 495 |
| Rummell | Kathryn | English | krummell@calpoly.edu |  | ENGL 449 |
| Schwartz | Deborah | English | dschwart@calpoly.edu |  | ENGL 439 |
| Trice | Tom | History | trice@calpoly.edu |  | HIST 458 |
| Valle | Victor | Ethnic Studies Chair | vvall@calpoly.edu |  | ES 300 |


|  |  | - | , |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Last | First | Department | Collease | Office Ext |  | Office Location |
| Doyle | D. |  | Colle | Office Ext. | E-mail |  |
|  | D.G. | City Regional Planning | CAED | 6-2285 |  |  |
| Alptekin | Sema |  |  |  | dgdoyle@calpoly.edu | 34-236 |
|  |  | Stria \& Manufacturing Engineering Chair | CENG | 6-5992 | salpteki@calpoly.edu | 26-103 |
| Chen | Katherine |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Materials Engineering | CENG | 6-6634 | kcchen@calpoly.edu | 12-107F |
| Liddicoat | Albert | Electrical Engineering |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | CENG | 6-5217 | aliddico@calpoly edu | 20-318 |
| Vakalis | Ignatios | Computer Science |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | CENG | 6-6285 | ivakalis@calpoly.edu | 14-254 |
| Yu | Helen | Electrical Engineering | CENG |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 6-2441 | xhyu@calpoly.edu | 20-311 |
| Pompa | Rudy | Agribusiness | COA |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | COA | 6-5020 | tpompa@calpoly.edu | 22-209 |
| Qenani-Petrela | Eivis | Agribusiness |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | - | COA | 6-5035 | eqenanip@calpoly.edu | 22-301 |
| Demsetz | Elizabeth | Physics | COSAM |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | COSAM | 6.2448 | edernsetz@calpoly.edu | 52-D37 |
| Elrod | Susan | Biological Science | COSAM | 6-2875 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | selrod@calpoly.edu | 33-379 |
| Fidopiastis | Pat | Biological Science | COSAM | 6-2883 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 6-2883 | pfidopia@calpoly.edu | 33.37 ¢ |
| Glassmeyer | Sonja | Kinesiology | COSAM |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 6.2203 | sglassme (ecalpoly.edu | 43-373 |
| Hynes-Dusel | Joanne | Kinesiology | COSAM | 6-2545 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | jhynesdu@calpoly.edu | 43-453 |
|  | Mary | Biological Science | COSAM | 6-2788 | mmaik@calpoly.edu |  |
| O'Bryant | Camille |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Kinesiology | COSAM | 6-1787 | cobryan!@calpoly.edu | 43A-367 |
| Oucllette | Michelle | Physics |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Physics | Cosam | 6-1357 | mouellet@calpoly.edu | 52-E39 |
| Tomanek | Lars | Biological Science |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | COSAM | 6-2788 | Itomanek@calpoly.edu | 33-281 |
| Ney | Cheryl | Associate Vice Provost Academic Programs | N/A. | 6-2246 | cney@calpoly edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | , |  |
| Allen | Regulus | English | CLA |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | CLA | 6-2596 | rlallen@calpoly.edu | 47-32E |
| Allen | Teresa | Joumalisn | CLA |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 6-6068 | tallen@calpoly.edu | 26-24 |
| Armstrong | Mary | English/Women's Studies Director | CLA |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | CLA | 6-2529 | maarmstr@calpoly.edu | 47-36L |
| Bain | Alcx | English | CLA |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | CLA | 6.5757 | abain@calpoly.edu | 47-35P |
| Bennett | Penny | -_ Graphic Communications | CLA | 6-2408 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | pkbennet@calpoly.edu | 26-208 |
| Bum | Shawn | Psychology \& Human Development | CL.A | $6-2934$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 6-2934 | sbum@calpoly.edu | 47-23C |


| C\| Cal Poly Women's Studies Affiliated Faculty 2007-2008 by College |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Last | First | Department |  |  | E-mail |  |
| Caims | Kathleen |  | College | Office Ext. |  | Office Location |
|  | Kathleen | History | CL.A | 6-2863 | kcaims@calpoly.edu |  |
| Call | Lewis |  |  |  |  | $47-25 \mathrm{~N}$ |
|  |  | History | CLA | 6-2672 |  |  |
| Cotkin | George | History |  |  | Icall@calpoly.edu | 47-25M |
|  |  |  | CLA | 6-2763 | gcotkin@salpoly.edu | 47-25A |
| Den Otter | Ron | Political Science |  | 6-6147 | rdenotte@calpoly.edu | 47-11R |
|  |  | Psychology \& Child Development | CLA |  |  |  |
| Engle | Patrice |  | CLA |  |  |  |
| Fagan |  |  | CLA | 6-2914 | pengle@calpoly.edu | 47.23F |
|  | Kevin | Modern Languages and Literatures |  | 6-2750 | kfagan@calpoly.edu | 47-26B |
| Fem | Rachel | Philosophy/Women's Studies Program | CLA | 6-2330 | rfern@calpoly.edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 47-34R |
| Firpo | Christina | History | CLA | 6-2834 | cfirpo@calpoly.edu |  |
| Gillette | David | English | CLA | 6-2331 | ddgillet@palpoly.edu | 47.27A |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $47-14 \mathrm{H}$ |
| Halisky | Linda | English | CLA | 6-2596 | lhalisky@calpoly.edu |  |
| Helmbrecht | Brenda | English |  | 6-2178 |  | 47-32D |
|  |  |  | CLA |  | bhelmbre@calpoly.edu |  |
| Hennessee | David | English | CLA | 6-2596 | dhenness(0)calpoly.edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 47-386 |
| Hewitt | Crissa | Art \& Desigr | CLA | 6-2046 | chewitt@calpoly.edu | , |
|  |  | Psychology \& Child Development |  |  |  | 34-124 |
| Jipson | Jennifer |  | CLA | 6-2611 | iiipson@calpoly.edu | 47-21B |
| Jovanovic | Jasna | Psychology \& Child Development | CLA | 6-2854 | jjovanov@calpoly.edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $47-21 \mathrm{~N}$ |
| Keesey | Doug | English | CLA | 6-2596 | dkeesey@calpoly.edu | 47-32D |
| Kennelly | Brian | Modern Languages and Literatures | CLA | 6-2889 | bkennell@calpoly.edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 47-28 |
| King | Laura | Psychology \& Child Development | CLA | 6.6131 | Ming@calpoly.edu |  |
| Kuhn | Devin | Philosophy/Women's Studies Program | CLA | 6-2042 | Devin.Kuhn@egu.edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lehr | Jane | Ethnic Studies/Women's Studies Program | CLA | 6-1707 | jlchr@vt.edu |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  | 47-14C |
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| Lucas | Nancy | English | CLA | 6-2974 | nlucas@calpoly.edu |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 47-34F |

Cat Poly Women's Studies Affiliated Faculty 2007-2008 by College




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## Appendix G: Women's Studies Minors




Appendix I: Overview of Women's Studies in the CSU


| Name of Program |
| :--- |
| Women and Gender Studies |
| Program |
| NONE |
| Women's Studies |
| Women's Studies Program |
| Women's Studies Program |
| Women's Studies |
| Women's Studies |
| Women's Studies Program |
| Wornen's Studies |
| Women's and Gender Studies |
| NONE |
| WS within the Hurnan |
| Communication Major |
| Women's Studies |
| Women's and Gender Studies |
| Women's and Women's Studies Studies Program |
| Wepartment |
| Women's Studies |
| Women's Studies Program |
| Women's Studies |



Adopted:

# ACADEMIC SENATE of CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY San Luis Obispo, CA 

## AS- <br> $\qquad$ <br> RESOLUTION ON DIVERSITY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

WHEREAS, The Cal Poly Mission Statement declares that the University values cultural and intellectual diversity; and

WHEREAS, The University Learning Objectives state that all Cal Poly graduates should be able to make reasoned decisions based on a respect for diversity; and

WHEREAS, The Cal Poly Academic Senate has affirmed the academic value of diversity (AS-505-98); and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate has created the Cal Poly Statement on Diversity (AS-506-98), which is included in the catalog and posted on the Academic Programs web site and which includes a definition of diversity; and

WHEREAS, We all understand that the awareness of diversity and its value can be increased both through the curriculum and through extra-curricular activities; and

WHEREAS, The campus has been active in organizing and promoting extra-curricular activities to increase student awareness of diversity and its value; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly's Diversity in the Curriculum Task Force recommended the adoption of Diversity Learning Objectives in a January 2004 report; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate Curriculum Committee, with input from Ethnic Studies, Women's Studies, and the University Diversity Enhancement Council has created the attached Diversity Learning Objectives; and

WHEREAS, While there are several diversity requirements in the curriculum, there are no campus diversity learning objectives; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Diversity Learning Objectives shall be considered an addendum to the University Learning Objectives; and be it further

RESOLVED: That satisfying the Diversity Learning Objectives shall be the responsibility of every academic program.

## DIVERSITY LEARNING OBJJECTIVES

(December 19, 2007)
All students who complete an undergraduate or graduate program at Cal Poly should be able to make reasoned decisions based on a respect for diversity as defined in the Cal Poly Statement on Diversity, which is included in the catalog and posted on the Academic Programs web site. They should be able to:

1. Function as members of society and as professionals with people who have ideas, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors that are different from their own
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between diversity, inequality, and social/political power both in the United States and globally
3. Demonstrate knowledge of contributions made by individuals from diverse and/or underrepresented groups to our local, national, and global communities
4. Understand that an integral element of learning and decision-making is consideration of diverse perspectives

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Search the Academic
Programs Web site
Go
:: Academic Programs Home
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:: Accreditation \& Program Review
:: Assessment
:: Calendar
:: Catalog
:: Curriculum Handbook
:: Forms
$::$ Instructionally Related Activities (IRA)
:: Special Initiatives

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## Academic Policice

## CAL POLY STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY*

*The definition of diversity is specifically inclusive of, but not limited to, an individual's race/ethnicity, sex/gender, socioeconomic status, cultural heritage, disability and sexual orientation.

At the heart of a university is the responsibility for providing its students with a well-rounded education, an education that fosters their intellectual, personal and social growth. For students preparing to embark upon work and life in the 21st century, a critical element of a well-rounded education is the ability to understand and to function effectively in a diverse and increasingly interdependent global society. As noted in a recent statement from the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), "the argument for the necessity of diversity is perhaps stronger in higher education than in any other context... The ultimate product of universities is education in the broadest sense, including preparation for life in the working world." In this regard, it is in the compelling interest of Cal Poly, the state, and the nation to provide our students with an education that is rich with a diversity of ideas, perspectives, and experiences.

Thus, diversity serves as a fundamental means to enhance both the quality and value of education. It cannot be a mere adjunct to such an education but must be an integral element of the educational experience, infused throughout the community (faculty, students, and staff), the curriculum, and the cocurricular programs of the University.

- As a University whose motto is "to learn by doing," Cal Poly explicitly understands the importance that experience brings to education. When students are exposed personally and directly to faculty, staff, and other students from diverse backgrounds, their stereotypes about "the other" are challenged. As the AAUP statement notes, such personal interaction gives students an understanding of the "range of similarities and differences within and among ... groups" that "no textbook or computer" can provide. For this reason, both the formal and informal classroom (i.e., the rich
learning experiences that occur for our students during their cocurricular activities), must be constituted in a way that reinforces the value of encountering and considering diversity.
- Moreover, diversity in the curriculum is a fundamental component of a wellrounded and beneficial education. The perspectives provided by the University are contingent upon the content and purpose of its courses. Since the curriculum is the principal expression of our educational goals and values, it must signal the importance of diversity to the Cal Poly mission, to the institutional culture, and to our teaching and learning environment in clear and unambiguous terms.

Thus, the University community (its students, faculty, and staff), the curriculum, and the co-curricular environment must be dedicated to the principle of ensuring that all of our students routinely encounter diverse people, ideas, and experiences.
Only through intellectual and first-hand personal exposure to diversity in its myriad forms-racial, ethnic, cultural, gender, geographic, socioeconomic, etc.-will students gain the understanding, empathy, and social skills that they will require to be effective, engaged citizens in an increasingly crowded and interrelated global community. The benefit of diversity is universal. Cal Poly's commitment to diversity signals an affirmation of the highest educational goals of this University, including mutual respect, civility, and engaged learning.

Download a printable PDF version of Cal Poly's Statement on Diversity

## Related Links:

- Academic Senate Resolution AS-506-98/DTF (PDF)
- Learning Objectives for Diversity in the Curriculum
- Diversity in the Curriculum Task Force Report, 2004

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I Who We Are I What's New | Academic Policles I Accreditation \& Program Bevlew I Assessment |
I Calendar I Catalog | Curriculum Handbook | Forms | Instructionally Related Activitles |
I Special Initiatives | Cal Poly Home Page | Cal Poly Flnd it |


[^0]:    * Can serve as a non-literature elective for the MA in English
    **Can serve as an elective for the MA in History

