

Adopted: May 1, 2018

**ACADEMIC SENATE  
Of  
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY  
San Luis Obispo, CA**

**AS-848-18**

**RESOLUTION ON DISCONTINUATION OF B.A. IN LIBERAL STUDIES  
DEGREE PROGRAM**


- 1 WHEREAS, Cal Poly has a policy on the Discontinuation of Academic Programs, which  
2 requires a potentially lengthy review by two separate groups, one  
3 representing students, staff, and faculty that are involved in the program,  
4 and the other representing students, staff, and faculty that are not involved  
5 in the program; and  
6
- 7 WHEREAS, The Liberal Studies Department used to offer a B.A. and a B.S. in Liberal  
8 Studies; and  
9
- 10 WHEREAS, The B.A. in Liberal Studies degree program was a broad-based,  
11 interdisciplinary course of studies; and  
12
- 13 WHEREAS, The department now focuses on pre-professional, subject-matter teacher  
14 preparation, which is the mission of the active B.S. in Liberal Studies  
15 program; and  
16
- 17 WHEREAS, The B.A. in Liberal Studies program has been suspended for the past 13  
18 years; and  
19
- 20 WHEREAS, The Liberal Studies faculty, including the Department Chair, have voted to  
21 discontinue the B.A. in Liberal Studies; and  
22
- 23 WHEREAS, There are no students currently active in the program, and any former  
24 student who left without completing the B.A. in Liberal Studies could return  
25 to complete the B.S. in Liberal Studies program; therefore be it  
26
- 27 RESOLVED: That the B.A. in Liberal Studies program be discontinued as of AY 2018-  
28 2019, and be it further  
29
- 30 RESOLVED: That the discontinuance of the aforementioned program does not establish  
31 any criteria for the discontinuation of any other academic program.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Curriculum Committee and  
Academic Programs and Planning

Date: April 10, 2018

# MEMO

**To:** President Jeffrey Armstrong, Ph.D.

**FROM:** Lola Berber-Jimenez, Chair 

**SUBJECT:** Discontinuing the BA in Liberal Studies

**DATE:** February 8, 2018

**CC:** Mary Pedersen, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Programs & Planning  
Dustin Stegner, Academic Senate Chair  
Amy Robbins, Academic Programs & Planning  
Anne Marie Bergen, LS curriculum chair

The Liberal Studies Department used to offer two degree programs for our majors, a BA and a BS. The BA Liberal Studies degree was a broad-based interdisciplinary course of study for students that were meeting individual needs and interests. Over time, we focused on our coursework leading to pre-professional subject matter teacher preparation only, which is the current focus of our active BS Liberal Studies. Since the admission to the BA Liberal Studies program has been suspended for the past 13 years, we reviewed the possibility of resurrecting this degree.

The Liberal Studies committee met this week to review our intentions, current and future goals. After analyzing pros and cons, all faculty voted that we discontinue the BA in Liberal Studies. We see no reason to keep this program in our system. Our current offering of a BS in Liberal Studies is the correct degree designation for our curriculum and target students. I hereby formally request that we discontinue the BA in Liberal Studies.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Dustin Stegner  
Chair, Academic Senate

**Date:** July 20, 2018

**From:** Jeffrey D. Armstrong  
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff".

**Copies:** K. Enz Finken  
M. Pedersen  
D. Wendt  
D. Gragson  
K. Green Hall  
L. Berber-Jimenez

**Subject:** Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-848-18 – Resolution on Discontinuation of B.A. in Liberal Studies Degree Program

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I am pleased to acknowledge and approve the above-entitled Academic Senate Resolution.

Please express my appreciation to the Academic Senate members, the Academic Senate Curriculum Committee and the Office of Academic Programs and Planning for their attention to this important curricular matter.