

Adopted:

Passed

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

AS-___-12

**RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT AND COMMENDATION FOR PRESIDENT
ARMSTRONG'S DEFENSE OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

- 1 WHEREAS, "Academic freedom is the pillar of our university's fundamental mission of discovery and
2 advancement of knowledge and its dissemination to students and the public;"¹ and
3
4 WHEREAS, The Academic Senate CSU encourages development of policies "for the protection of
5 freedom of inquiry, research, expression, and teaching both inside the classroom and
6 beyond;"² and
7
8 WHEREAS, "Universities have a special obligation not only to tolerate but to also encourage and
9 support the free expression of ideas, values, and opinions, even when they may be
10 unpopular or controversial;"³ and
11
12 WHEREAS, We have experienced (appalling) attempts by political pressure groups to quell academic
13 freedom on campuses and to impose their political agenda on our educational institutions;
14 and
15
16 WHEREAS, President Armstrong has demonstrated strong leadership in protecting academic freedom
17 and maintaining our campus as a forum for the free exchange of ideas; therefore be it
18
19 RESOLVED: That the Cal Poly Academic Senate commend President Armstrong for his strong
20 leadership in protecting the core principles of academic freedom; and be it further
21
22 RESOLVED: That the Cal Poly Academic Senate strongly support the recent joint statement of
23 President Jeffrey Armstrong (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo),
24 President Harry Hellenbrand (California State University, Northridge), and President John
25 Welty (California State University, Fresno) in defense of academic freedom [attached];
26 and be it further
27
28 RESOLVED: That Cal Poly Academic Senate distribute this resolution to the CSU Board of Trustees,
29 CSU Chancellor, CSU campus Presidents, Academic Senate CSU, and CSU campus
30 Senate Chairs.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Executive Committee
Date: February 21 2012

¹ "RESOLUTION ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM," Cal Poly (AS-621-04, June 1 2004)

² "Academic Freedom and Free Speech Rights," ASCSU (AS-2649-04/FA, March 11-12 2004)

³ CAP-141 "Freedom of Expression" <http://policy.calpoly.edu/cap/100/cap140.htm>