

**From:** [University Affairs](#)  
**Subject:** March Presidents' Communication-Integration Update  
**Date:** Friday, March 14, 2025 10:50:18 AM

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*Sent on behalf of Interim President Dumont and President Armstrong*

Cal Poly and Cal Maritime Community Members,

Preparations for the integration between Cal Poly and Cal Maritime have been progressing quickly, with teams working hard to ensure a successful transition. The following information provides an update on our progress and outlines the key next steps in our efforts.

### **Planning and execution**

In January, functional implementation teams (FITs) met at Cal Poly for an integration workshop that included FIT members from both campuses as well as the Chancellor's Office. FITs were established last year to review administrative action steps and considerations needed to successfully integrate our two universities. The goal of the January workshop was to update existing integration plans, review key decisions and confirm key administrative milestones that support the integration. FITs continue to meet on a regular basis to identify and complete tasks necessary for integration. These meetings focus on discussing action items, risks/risk management plans, issues and issue resolution plans, and progress made against planned activities.

### **Technology integration**

Information Technology teams at both campuses continue to work toward a solution to quickly share documentation and communication across both campuses. An important early win is an integrated Microsoft Office environment. Thanks to the two campus IT teams, we will soon be able to connect as integrated administrators, faculty and staff through updates made to Office 365. This will support our integration efforts and help us work more efficiently following the integration. Users from both institutions who are members of directory groups will have the ability to share access to documents via SharePoint sites at either campus. In addition, the basics associated with Microsoft Office capabilities such as email distribution groups, calendar availability and other fundamental activities will be available across all members of the integrated directory group. We expect this functionality will happen in mid-March and will provide updated information and instructions soon.

### **Integration resource sites**

We continue to receive questions regarding the integration, the timeline, and how it will impact both campuses. With the advancements in technology noted above, we are proud to announce we are actively working on a dedicated integration SharePoint site for staff, faculty and students. This site will provide FAQs, resources and general information as we make progress toward becoming one university.

An external site (<https://www.calpoly.edu/maritime>) was developed for all constituents including faculty, staff and students interested in the latest information. This page will be refreshed as new information becomes available.

### **Academic integration**

A primary reason for integrating Cal Poly and Cal Maritime is the synergy between academic programs and a shared emphasis on experiential education. To begin the academic review process, important decisions must be made about Cal Poly's Academic Senate and Cal Maritime's Faculty Senate. Dr. Rachel Fernflores, integration faculty curriculum coordinator, continues to engage in conversations with senate chairs and senators at both Cal Poly and Cal Maritime to discuss senate structures as part of the combined university. These conversations have gone well and will continue over the next several months as each senate votes on senate integration plans.

It is important to note that the academic and curricular integration will continue beyond our integration milestone of fall 2026-27, when all enrolled Cal Maritime students become Cal Poly students. The US Coast Guard license track degree programs will remain intact, and all other programs at Cal Maritime will remain unchanged for the 2025-26 academic year. In addition, we will work with the Cal Poly deans and others to assess programmatic opportunities.

### **Student Integration**

Student leaders are consulting with their counterparts across the CSU system to identify models of successful student body representation. Working in tandem with advisors and legal counsel, student leadership is developing a plan to achieve full representation across both campuses by fall 2026. At the forefront is the pursuit of a shared leadership model that ensures balanced representation and allows student representatives from both campuses to participate in decision making during the 2025-26 academic year while working toward a unified administration.

### **Enrollment efforts**

Our enrollment team is already looking for new ways to increase enrollment at the Solano campus and is actively assisting with the admissions process, financial aid, and the registrar's office for the 2025-26 academic year. As of the end of January, the Solano campus has received over 1,100 applications with over 700 students admitted, which is very exciting to see. Although the more detailed plan to further identify potential students is still in development, the team is actively identifying key sources of students interested in attending the Solano campus and the Cal Poly Maritime Academy.

### **Accreditation standards**

Integration team members have been hard at work preparing the necessary documentation for our accrediting bodies. This process requires us to provide detailed background on the reason behind the integration, our current progress and strategy needed to carry it out, and our plans to shape our future university.

We achieved a major milestone in completing our initial substantive change submission to WSCUC (WASC Senior College and University Commission) and are also working with ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) to provide information about our engineering programs and request alignment with the accreditation of the engineering programs at Cal Poly.

**Leadership searches**

We are also engaged with our partners at Korn Ferry in two executive leadership searches for a vice president and CEO of the Solano campus and a superintendent of the Cal Poly Maritime Academy. Committees for the searches are comprised of members from both campuses and are co-led by both a Cal Maritime and Cal Poly representative. The committees have begun their initial work of reviewing candidate materials. Once the search advances to the finalist stage, candidates will visit and interact with both campuses prior to selection.

**In closing**

As you consider more questions or if you want to raise additional concerns about any aspect of the integration process, please send an email to [cpcmintegration@calpoly.edu](mailto:cpcmintegration@calpoly.edu). This inbox is shared by several team members who will respond to your inquiry.

We want to thank you for your support as we work our way through the journey toward becoming one university. We are honored that you are with us and appreciate your commitment to a successful future.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Armstrong  
President, Cal Poly

Michael J. Dumont  
Interim President, Cal Maritime