



Dear Cal Maritime Community,

Today, the CSU Board of Trustees approved the integration of California State University Maritime Academy and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly). In July 2025, our campus will be renamed as the Cal Poly Solano campus and serve as the home of the Cal Poly Maritime Academy.

This transformative change will provide our campus with financial, administrative, enrollment, and admissions support to ensure stability and growth. The integration will also enhance our experiential learning opportunities by expanding on Cal Poly's "Learn by Doing" education model.

The integration will progress in two major phases.

First, effective July 1, 2025, our two universities will begin operating as a single institution under President Armstrong. The Cal Poly Solano campus will be led by a vice president and CEO who will report to President Armstrong. The Cal Poly Maritime Academy will be led by a superintendent. We are in the process of identifying an executive search firm to assist us with identifying outstanding candidates to be considered for these roles.

The second phase will occur with the Fall 2026 semester, when full integration of academic and student support services is completed. At this point, all degrees and services will be offered by Cal Poly, and all enrolled students will be Cal Poly students.

Merging two universities is a complex task, and the process is underway. As I have previously shared, we are working closely with individuals from Cal Poly and the CSU Chancellor's Office on the integration implementation. With its extensive experience in higher education integrations, the consulting firm Baker Tilly is supporting us in this endeavor. Seven specialized teams have been created to address the critical areas of integration, including academics; enrollment; student affairs; advancement; financial and administrative operations; technology; and regulatory matters. These discussions will shape a comprehensive implementation plan for a successful integration of the two universities.

Jessica Darin, Cal Poly's vice president for strategic initiatives and advocacy, will lead the integration at both the strategic and implementation levels as the Chancellor's project sponsor for the integration effort. In her role, she will work with



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