



## Academic Senate: Executive Committee

AGENDA – Extra Meeting  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025  
10:00 A.M. – 11:30 AM

**Location:** BPA Conference Room 134

**Zoom Link:** <https://csu.zoom.us/j/85981842316?pwd=M2QqHBl2e0S3BPLhSFGMavtTVfDYbA.1>

**Members:** M. Danforth (Chair), D. Solano (Vice-Chair), D. Thien (Provost), C. Lam (ASCSU Senator), N. Michieka (ASCSU Senator), T. Tsantsoulas (AAC Chair; virtual), L. Kirstein (AS&SS Chair), A. Grombly (BPC Chair), Z. Zenko (FAC Chair), and K. Van-Grinsven (Senate Analyst).

**Guest:** AVP D. Boschini

1. Call to Order
2. Announcements and Information
  - A. Faculty Town Hall Debrief
  - B. D. Boschini, AVP for Faculty Affairs (**Time Certain: 10:10 AM**)
  - C. Senate Guests:
    - i. Upcoming:
      - a. October 23 – AVP for GRaSP
      - b. November 6 – GE Director, 2024-2025 GECCo Report
    - ii. Future:
      - a. J. Watkins – Center for Accessibility and Essential Needs
      - b. K. De Young – Facilities
3. Approval of Agenda (**Time Certain: 10:05 AM**)
4. Approval of Minutes
  - A. August 26, 2025 (handout)
  - B. September 9, 2025 (handout)
  - C. September 23, 2025 (handout)
  - D. October 7, 2025 (HOLD)
5. Continued Items (**Time Certain: 10:30 AM**)
  - A. AS Referral Log (see BOX folder; handout)
    - i. AAC (T. Tsantsoulas)

- ii. AS&SS (L. Kirstein)
- iii. BPC (A. Grombly)
- iv. FAC (Z. Zenko)
  - a. Pending Referral: Sixth-year Lecturer Review (carry-over from 2024-2025; Hold for taskforce report)
- B. Provost Report (D. Thien)
  - i. Academic Administrator Searches:
    - a. Arts and Humanities: Associate Dean Search (*in progress*)
    - b. Social Sciences and Education:
      - i. Interim Associate Dean Appointment
      - ii. Dean Search (*committee formation in progress*)
    - c. AVP of Academic Programs (*committee formation in progress*)
  - ii. Academic Administrator Reviews (AARC)
    - a. 2025-2026 AARCs for:
      - i. Associate Dean, EEGO (*call in progress*)
      - ii. Dean for the College of BPA (*Provost appointments needed*)
      - iii. Associate Dean for the College of NSME (*Provost appointments needed*)
    - b. 2024-2025 AARC for AVP for Enrollment Management (Review not conducted)
- C. Reports and Recommendations
  - i. Task Force for Periodic Evaluation (Hold; waiting for report)
  - ii. Criteria for Proposing New Schools Taskforce (Hold; waiting for report)
- D. Faculty Visas (AVP Boschini coming to EC 10/14)
- E. Calendar Committee – A. Grombly, BPC Chair
- F. Add “Statements of the Senate” Process to governing documents – EC
- G. Develop formal policy for No Confidence Votes – EC (possible consult w/ J. Tarjan)

6. New Discussion Items (Time Certain: 10:45)

- A. Elections and Appointments (D. Solano)
  - i. Appointment/ Recommendations Needed:
    - a. Faculty Ombudsperson
    - b. All-University Teacher Education Advisory Committee (TEAC)
    - c. Institutional Research and Planning Assessment Advisory Committee (IRPA)
    - d. Taskforce to Develop Guidelines for Faculty Use of Artificial Intelligence
- B. Commendation for CAMP and HEP Programs – EC (handout)
- C. ASI Resolution: SB 104 ASI and Shared Governance (handout)
- D. Post-enrollment Requirements Checking (PERC) Timing Concerns (handout) – AAC and AS&SS
- E. Concerns about content and assignment of instructors for CSUB 1029 (handout) – AAC and FAC
- F. Term limits for Department Chairs, FHAC members and other committees – FAC
  - i. FHAC Term Limits discussed at Summer Senate Retreat\_ 2025-05-21 (handout)
- G. Inventory of AI and other automated software (handout) – AS&SS
- H. Process for appointing academic Acting MPPs – Handbook Change – FAC
- I. Clarify Post-Tenure Review with Promotion (handout) – FAC
- J. Policies on Approval of Course Coding Changes (handout) – AAC, FAC and AS&SS (?)
- K. Department Name Change Request for HD-CAFS (handout) – AAC
- L. \*NEW\* New Degree Program Proposal – Environmental Science- AAC and BPC (handout)
- M. \*NEW\* Items from Provost Council (handout)

N. \*NEW\* AAC workflow and efficiency (handout)

O. Handbook and Bylaws Project – EC (See Box folder for handouts)

- i. Updating Schools to Colleges
- ii. Updating all references to quarters
- iii. Standing Committees Composition:
  - a. Clarify Handbook language about staff positions being non-MPP staff
  - b. AS&SS Composition: Associate Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies is not actually listed in the bylaws as an ex-officio member of AS&SS.
- iv. Director of Assessment: Review position (Handbook 105.2 and 305.6.)
- v. Council of Academic Deans: Review Composition and name (Handbook 105.2)
- vi. Public Affairs Committee: Committee in handbook but not bylaws (Handbook 107.1. Standing Committees of the Academic Senate). Discussion on if we want to create the committee or not.
- vii. Review committees listed (Handbook 107)
- viii. Update TEAC Description: Currently lists old college names (H&SS, SOE, and NSM) (Handbook 201.5)
- ix. Update reference to Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs- association with Academic Advising and review other duties (Handbook 104.2.1)
- x. Update position titles in 309.9 (Handbook 309.9)
- xi. Update all references to the AVP of Enrollment Management- distinguish the VP of Strategic Enrollment Management from the new AVP of Enrollment Management
- xii. Bylaws Section IV.A.4 Annual reports from committees- limit to specific committees?
- xiii. Review and update the Standing Committees ex-officio positions due to the re-organization of university
- xiv. Changes to bylaws that were approved by previous resolution but never posted (clarifying the edition of Robert's Rules of Order).
- xv. Q2S Lingered Issues:
  - a. Deadline issue for stating one's intent to seek promotion to full professor
  - b. Discussions about whether we should change the Handbook to require classroom observations for tenured faculty.

7. Agenda Items for Senate (deferred)

8. Adjournment

## Katherine Van Grinsven

---

**From:** Charles Lam  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 21, 2025 11:19 AM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth; Nyakundi Michieka; Senate Executive Committee Group  
**Subject:** Re: H1B visas

USCIS released a memo that somewhat clarified it.

[https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/memos/H1B\\_Proc\\_Memo\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/memos/H1B_Proc_Memo_FINAL.pdf)

Another question though. For this year, it seems unlikely that we will be able to hire a non-domestic new faculty, unless we can apply for an exemption. At this stage, we do not know the process for exemption.

During the hiring process, we are not allowed to consider the residency status of a candidate. Clarification and proper guidance will be needed.

Charles.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** Charles Lam <clam@csub.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2025 3:36:05 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csub.edu>; Nyakundi Michieka <nmichieka@csub.edu>; Senate Executive Committee Group <executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com>  
**Subject:** Re: H1B visas

This is the current status. People are advised not to follow the interpretation of any White House officials unless the policy is written explicitly.

After all, as many of us have experienced, it is still up to the individual immigration officer to decide how they would like to interpret the order on the spot.

Charles.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csub.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2025 3:30:11 PM  
**To:** Nyakundi Michieka <nmichieka@csub.edu>; Senate Executive Committee Group <executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com>  
**Subject:** RE: H1B visas

Hi Nyakundi,

The advice in the follow-up message was to return today, if at all possible, as the effective date is 12:01am tomorrow (Sunday). Media is reporting similar messages going out at many companies.

Melissa

---

**From:** Nyakundi Michieka <nmichieka@csub.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2025 3:25 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csub.edu>; Senate Executive Committee Group <executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com>  
**Subject:** Re: H1B visas

Hi Melissa,

Thanks for sharing this.

There is messaging on social media requesting folks with H1-Bs who are currently out of the country to return to the U.S. before Monday. I'm not sure if this affects any of our faculty or students who may be out on travel (or sabbatical) but thought I'd share.

Nyakundi

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csub.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2025 3:20:10 PM  
**To:** Senate Executive Committee Group <[executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com)>  
**Subject:** H1B visas

Hi all,

In response to yesterday's presidential proclamation requiring a \$100k entry fee for H1B visa holders, AVP Boschini sent the following messages to all CSUB faculty members with H1B visas. She was fine with me sharing the text of these messages with EC.

I also told her we would discuss on Tuesday if we wish to move up her visit to EC in light of these developments. She is currently scheduled to come on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Link to proclamation: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/09/restriction-on-entry-of-certain-nonimmigrant-workers/>

Initial message:

=====

Dear colleagues,

I am reaching out to you regarding today's news about the H-1B visa program. We are aware that the U.S. President signed a proclamation today calling for significant changes to the H-1B program, including an increase in the application fee to \$100,000.

I understand that this must be deeply concerning to our H-1B holders. I wanted to reach out to you to convey my support and share the guidance that is available at this time.

The proclamation's effective date is this Sunday, September 21, 2025. You are strongly advised not to travel outside of the U.S. until further notice, to avoid reentry issues (including additional fees, screening, etc.) at the time of your return. The implications of this Presidential action are not fully known at this time. Therefore, out of an abundance of caution, travel is not recommended.

Your work has a tremendous impact on our students' lives and is deeply appreciated. Please know that we will work diligently to support you as a member of the CSUB family. We will share additional details with you as they become available.

With gratitude,  
Debbie

=====

Follow-up message:

=====

Colleagues,

We have been provided with some additional advice related to travel at this time:

1) H-1B employees (and their H-4 dependents) should not travel outside the U.S. until the effects of the proclamation are known.

2) For those H-1B employees known to be outside the U.S. and who possess a valid H-1B visa, they should attempt to return to the U.S. before 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Sunday, September 21, 2025.

For those who are outside the U.S. and cannot return before Sunday or who otherwise need to apply for a H-1B visa before returning, we can only advise that it is up to the employee whether they take the risk to apply for such H-1B visa or risk entry into the U.S. on or after September 21, 2025. Taking such a chance can result in denial of the H-1B visa or denial of entry into the U.S. and being returned to one's home country.

We are aware that the proclamation itself may be subject to legal challenges over the weekend, which may result in its implementation being blocked. Please stay connected with the news as this situation unfolds. If more information becomes available later this weekend, I will share it with you.

With care,  
Debbie

=====

# Academic Administrator

## Review & Search and Screening Committees

2025-2026

### References:

- University Handbook – [311 Evaluation of Academic Administrators](#)
- Provost Website: <https://www.csub.edu/provost/evaluation-academic-administrators.shtml>
- \*Status on Associate Dean of EEGO: Calls are still in progress– October 14, 2025

| Academic Review Committee (AARC) - Deobrah Cours, Dean, College of Business and Public Administration |                 |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Membership Qualifications:                                                                            | Name            | Department                       |
| Three (3) Tenured BPA Faculty Members                                                                 | John Stark      | Management/ Marketing            |
|                                                                                                       | Di Wu           | Finance/ Accounting              |
|                                                                                                       | Chandra Commuri | Public Policy and Administration |
| Provost VPAA selects a college Associate Dean                                                         | TBD             |                                  |
| Provost VPAA selects fifth member                                                                     | TBD             |                                  |

| Academic Review Committee (AARC) - Karlo Lopez, Associate Dean, College of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering |               |                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Membership Qualifications:                                                                                                | Name          | Department                 |
| Three (3) Tenured NSME Faculty Members                                                                                    | 1 Charles Lam | Mathematics                |
|                                                                                                                           | 2 Dani Solano | Chemistry and Biochemistry |
|                                                                                                                           | 3 Heidi He    | Nursing                    |
| Provost VPAA selects a college Associate Dean                                                                             | TBD           |                            |
| Provost VPAA selects fifth member                                                                                         | TBD           |                            |

\*Calls In-Progress: October 14, 2025

| Academic Review Committee (AARC) - Rhonda Dawson, Associate Dean, Extended Education and Global Outreach |   |                                      |                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Membership Qualifications:                                                                               |   | Name                                 | Department                          |
| One (1) AH Tenured Faculty Member                                                                        | 1 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> call IP-closes 10/14 |                                     |
| One (1) BPA Tenured Faculty Member                                                                       | 2 | Aaron Hegde                          | Economics                           |
| One (1) NSME Tenured Faculty Member                                                                      | 3 |                                      | No nominations; reverts to at-large |
| One (1) SSE Tenured Faculty Member                                                                       | 4 |                                      | No nominations; reverts to at-large |
| One (1) At-Large Tenured Faculty Member                                                                  |   |                                      |                                     |
| Provost VPAA selects member of the Provost's Council                                                     |   | TBD                                  |                                     |
| Provost VPAA selects sixth member                                                                        |   | TBD                                  |                                     |

## Academic Administrator – Search Committees

2025-2026

**\*Status:** Calls are still in progress for the AVP for AA and Dean of Academic Programs – October 14, 2025

| Search and Screening Committee - Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Education |   |                       |                   |                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                                                       |   | Name                  | Department        | Term                          |
| Four (4) Full-time Tenured SSE Faculty Members                                        | 1 | Zachary Zenko         | Kinesiology       | Duration of Search; 2025-2026 |
|                                                                                       | 2 | Kyle Susa             | Psychology        |                               |
|                                                                                       | 3 | Kristina LaGue        | Teacher Education |                               |
|                                                                                       | 4 | Adam Sawyer           | Liberal Studies   |                               |
| One academic administrator appointed by the Provost in consultation with EC.          |   | TBD by Provost and EC |                   |                               |
| One student selected by ASI                                                           |   | TBD by ASI            |                   |                               |
| One staff member jointly selected by the Provost and EC                               |   | TBD by Provost and EC |                   |                               |

### Search and Screening Committee - Associate Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs

|                                                                   | Name                                                          | Department                       | Term                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| One (1) AH Full-time Tenured Faculty Member                       | Election IP - closes 10/14                                    | Philosophy and Religious Studies | Duration of Search; 2025-2026 |
| One (1) BPA Full-time Tenured Faculty Member                      | Di Wu                                                         | Finance/ Accounting              |                               |
| One (1) NSME Full-time Tenured Faculty Member                     | TBD- No nominations after 2nd call; At-Large Call on schedule |                                  |                               |
| One (1) SSE Full-time Tenured Faculty Member                      | TBD- No nominations after 2nd call; At-Large Call on schedule |                                  |                               |
| One (1) Full-time Tenured Librarian                               | Ying Zhong                                                    | Web Services Librarian; Library  |                               |
| One (1) Department Chair, elected by General Faculty              | TBD- At-Large Call on schedule                                |                                  |                               |
| One (1) college dean appointed by Provost in consultation with EC | TBD by Provost and EC                                         |                                  |                               |
| One (1) student selected by ASI                                   | TBD by ASI                                                    |                                  |                               |
| One (1) staff member jointly selected Provost and EC              | TBD by Provost and EC                                         |                                  |                               |

**Topic:** Commendation for CAMP and HEP Programs

**From:** Tiffany Tsantsoulas <[ttsantsoulas@csub.edu](mailto:ttsantsoulas@csub.edu)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2025 7:38 PM

**To:** Amanda Grombly <[agrombly@csub.edu](mailto:agrombly@csub.edu)>; Zachary Zenko <[zzenko@csub.edu](mailto:zzenko@csub.edu)>; Charles Lam <[clam@csub.edu](mailto:clam@csub.edu)>; Senate Executive Committee Group <[executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com)>

**Subject:** Re: CAMP and HEP Programs

I am also in support. I'd like to see us share our disappointment about the program cuts. I think that we should both recognize the great work that CAMP has done for our community and make it clear that these cuts are unjust and will hurt our community going forward. I understand that the latter might be implied in the commendation, but I would like to see us be a bit more explicit and bold about our values.

Sincerely,

Tiffany

---

**From:** Charles Lam <[clam@csub.edu](mailto:clam@csub.edu)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2025 3:26 PM

**To:** Senate Executive Committee Group <[executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com)>

**Subject:** CAMP and HEP Programs

Hello all,

I am not sure how long CAMP and HEP programs have been around on this campus, but as you are aware, Dept of Ed has stopped funding these programs. Their programs will end in November after exhausting the funds.

I would like to suggest that we prepare a commendation for them as the program wraps up.

Charles.

**CHARLES C.Y. LAM**

Professor

Department of Mathematics

(661) 654 2403

**California State University, Bakersfield**

9001 Stockdale Hwy, Mail Stop: 14

Bakersfield, CA 93311

**Katherine Van Grinsven**

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth  
**Sent:** Monday, September 15, 2025 1:58 PM  
**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Subject:** EC Agenda item - ASI resolution  
**Attachments:** SB 104 - ASI and Shared Governance\_encrypted\_.pdf

Hi Katie,

Please add the attached ASI resolution to the EC agenda as new discussion item "ASI resolution: SB 104 ASI and Shared Governance".

In addition to the Resolved section of the resolution, they ask the following in the signature block:

"Acknowledgement:

In the spirit of shared governance, and to show that you have read through this resolution and will commit to its contents, please sign below."

This is something Senate as a whole will need to have a resolution on, as the Resolved section has several asks and EC cannot commit without the full Senate weighing in. EC will need to decide if such a resolution comes from EC or from the standing committee(s).

Melissa

--

Dr. Melissa Danforth (she/they)  
Chair, CSUB Academic Senate  
PI, CSUB's S-STEM Scholarship Program  
Professor of Computer Science  
Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering/Computer Science  
California State University, Bakersfield  
Website: <https://www.cs.csub.edu/~melissa/>

**Topic:** Post-enrollment Requirements Checking (PERC) Timing Concerns

**From:** Danielle Solano <[dsolano@csub.edu](mailto:dsolano@csub.edu)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 3:38 PM

**To:** Melissa Danforth <[mdanforth@csub.edu](mailto:mdanforth@csub.edu)>

**Cc:** ORG-AcademicSenateChair <[academicsenatechair@csub.edu](mailto:academicsenatechair@csub.edu)>; ORG-AcademicSenateOffice <[academicsenateoffice@csub.edu](mailto:academicsenateoffice@csub.edu)>

**Subject:** Fw: Re: PERC

Hi Melissa

FYI...I'm not sure if this is something that you think senate can/should do anything about, but apparently PERC was just run TODAY. This doesn't give ASCs much time to notify students as the last day to add classes is September 3rd. Per the instructor initiated drop policy (which I believe this would fall under), students should be notified by Tuesday at the latest. And of course this doesn't give students much time to find an alternative class if they are kicked out due to not meeting prereqs.

Thought I would pass it along.

--Dani

Danielle Solano, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

California State University, Bakersfield

Office: SCI II 268

Phone: (661) 654-2785

Email: [dsolano@csub.edu](mailto:dsolano@csub.edu)

---

**From:** Tabitha Marsh <[tmarsh3@csub.edu](mailto:tmarsh3@csub.edu)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 3:26 PM

**To:** Chemistry & Biochemistry Faculty & Staff <[chemistrydepartment@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:chemistrydepartment@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com)>

**Subject:** Re: PERC

Hi all,

Just a heads up, PERC just got updated today. I will be running the list today and notifying students that they need to provide me with proof of meeting requirements by tomorrow 12pm.

If I do not receive proof, I will drop them from the class tomorrow.

Thanks,

**Tabitha Marsh, MBA**

*Administrative Support Coordinator*

Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

California State University, Bakersfield

9001 Stockdale Hwy, #62

Bakersfield, CA 93311

(661)654-2030 | Email: [TMarsh3@CSUB.edu](mailto:TMarsh3@CSUB.edu)

**Katherine Van Grinsven**

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025 4:14 PM  
**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano  
**Subject:** Requested referral from DCLC

Hi Katie,

At DCLC today, there was a request to refer CSUB 1029 to Senate. I said it would have to wait until Fall as there is no time for Senate to address new issues right now, but it may be part of a bigger issue EC has discussed in the past about how much oversight Senate should have of GECCo.

The concerns were both curricular and who is hired as instructors. On the curricular side, GECCo is supposed to have a subcommittee that monitors this curriculum, but maybe there are issues there. On the instructor side, there was concerned expressed that many staff members are hired to teach this course when many lecturers may not be reaching their teaching entitlements.

So, please start a pending referral folder for Fall and place this concern there.

Melissa

--

Dr. Melissa Danforth (she/they)  
Chair, CSUB Academic Senate  
PI, CSUB's S-STEM Scholarship Program  
Professor of Computer Science  
Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering/Computer Science  
California State University, Bakersfield  
Website: <https://www.cs.csub.edu/~melissa/>

**From:** [Melissa Danforth](#)  
**To:** [Katherine Van Grinsven](#); [Danielle Solano](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification: Annual Requirement – High-Risk ADS Inventory  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 30, 2025 4:56:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [High-Risk Autonomous Decision-Making Systems in Higher Education.pdf](#)

---

Hi Katie and Dani,

We'll need to add this email and attachment to the Senate Exec agenda. The agenda should have a printout of the two links at the bottom of Chris's email.

And it should contain a link to the CSU page on faculty use of AI in instruction (it's not structured well enough to make a printout since it only allows you to expand one section at a time):

<https://genai.calstate.edu/communities/faculty/guidelines-faculty-regarding-ai-instruction>

There's nothing in the Handbook about inventorying "automated grading or proctoring tools" outside of those provided by ITS directly, and I'm not sure we'd want to add anything beyond an informational note about this state law.

Perhaps we can discuss expanding the existing pending referral on faculty ethical use of AI tools to include a notification about this state law.

Melissa

---

**From:** Christopher Diniz <cdiniz@csub.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 30, 2025 4:30 PM  
**To:** Dwayne Cantrell <dcantrell2@csub.edu>; Lori Blodorn <lblodorn@csub.edu>; Deborah Thien <dthien@csub.edu>; Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csub.edu>; Jane Dong <jdong2@csub.edu>; Luis Vega <lvega@csub.edu>; Alicia Rodriquez <arodriquez@csub.edu>; Deborah Cours <dcours@csub.edu>; Jennifer Mabry <jmabry2@csub.edu>; Elizabeth Adams <eadams6@csub.edu>; Deborah Boschini <dboschini@csub.edu>; Sonya Gaitan <sgaitan@csub.edu>; Tommy Holowell <tholiwell@csub.edu>; Christine Lopez <clopez23@csub.edu>; Tina Williams <twilliams@csub.edu>; Michelle Ponci <mpearce@csub.edu>; Sandra Bozarth <sbozarth2@csub.edu>; Emily Poole Callahan <epoole1@csub.edu>; EJ Callahan <ecallahan@csub.edu>; Hilda Nieblas Valenzuela <hnieblas@csub.edu>; Brooke Davis <bdavis42@csub.edu>  
**Subject:** Notification: Annual Requirement – High-Risk ADS Inventory

Dear Colleagues,

As part of our responsibilities under California AB 302, CSU Bakersfield is required to annually inventory any high-risk automated or autonomous decision-making systems (ADS) used across campus. These systems assist or replace human decision-making in areas that significantly impact individuals' rights, opportunities, or access to services.

Examples of high-risk ADS include, but are not limited to:

- Admissions or hiring algorithms
- Predictive analytics for financial aid or enrollment
- Automated grading or proctoring tools
- Tools used in student discipline, housing, or behavioral monitoring
- AI systems used in talent acquisition or classification reviews

This message is for awareness only at this stage. If any systems in your area meet this definition, or if automated tools are being explored for such functions, please ensure they are brought to our attention.

Our Information Security Officer, Doug Cornell, may be following up to verify whether your area currently uses or does not use these systems as part of the annual review.

You can find additional background here:

- [CA AB 302 – High-Risk ADS Bill Text](#) Refer to page 3 of PDF
- [CDT FAQs on High-Risk ADS Reporting](#) Refer to page 6 of PDF
- Overview and Examples in Higher Education (PDF) is attached. Refer to page 13 of PDF

This process does not prohibit the use of such systems. It ensures proper transparency, documentation, and human oversight as mandated by law.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or to provide relevant information.

Thank you,

Christopher Diniz, MBA  
Associate Vice President &  
Chief Information Officer  
Information Technology Services  
(661) 654-3431

**California State University, Bakersfield**

9001 Stockdale Hwy, Mail Stop: 41LIB  
Bakersfield, CA 93311

<https://its.csub.edu>

<https://twitter.com/itscsub>

**Katherine Van Grinsven**

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 18, 2025 5:30 PM  
**To:** Zachary Zenko  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano; Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Subject:** Re: FAC Updates and Referral Request

Hi Zack,

My unit has instructions in our unit criteria about what material should be included in a promotion to Full request, but that is likely not universal.

This may have something to do with the organization of Sections 305 and 306, since promotion to Full is technically post-tenure review with promotion, which is in multiple subsections of Sections 305 and 306. PTR is supposed to happen on a 5-year cycle, rather than a 6-year cycle, so that's where that particular disconnect in wording has occurred.

There is also a deadline issue in 305.3.3.a, because November 1 was the quarter-system deadline (when reviews happened in Winter quarter) and under semesters that deadline needs to be in Spring term instead. 305.3.3.b was updated to say the review happens in Fall, but the deadline in 305.3.3.a was never updated accordingly.

Katie, please add this to the EC agenda under the new discussion items as "Clarify post-tenure review with promotion".

Thanks,  
Melissa

---

**From:** Zachary Zenko <zzenko@csb.edu>  
**Date:** Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 1:22 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano <dsolano@csb.edu>, Katherine Van Grinsven <kvan-grinsven@csb.edu>  
**Subject:** FAC Updates and Referral Request

Hi Melissa,

FAC had a good meeting today and we discussed the Unit RTP Composition / PTR Committee Composition issues.

We have a draft of something that is now ready for DCLC feedback, and URC feedback, which the FAC would then consider to ensure that we are not missing anything major.

**I'll be reaching out to Elaine Correa and Charles Lam soon for DCLC feedback and URC feedback.**

There are definitely potential issues that can emerge, but we also do not think it is possible to have a handbook to address every potential scenario... so we do our best.

## New Referral Request

During this discussion and going through various scenarios, we identified an area of confusion. An Assistant Professor going up for tenure submits their file in ~September, the beginning of the final probationary year. The WPAF includes everything prior to the submission date.

Then, when the Associate Professor gets reviewed for promotion to full professor, they submit their file in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of their current rank (305.3.3 indicates that promotion shall ordinarily occur at the beginning of the sixth year after appointment to their current rank).

Using me as an example...

I became an Associate Professor, effective Fall 2022. This is based on a file submitted in September 2021.

I will next submit a file in 2026-2027 academic year, for promotion to full professor.

Fall 2021-2022 - File submitted and under review for promotion in September of 2021.

2022-2023 - Associate Professor Year 1

2023-2024 - Associate Professor Year 2

2024-2025 - Associate Professor Year 3

2025-2026 - Associate Professor Year 4

2026-2027 - Associate Professor Year 5, file submitted for review for promotion.

2027 - Hopefully my first year as a Professor

As far as FAC, including Debbie, could tell, the Handbook is not clear that all materials since the prior file *submission* should be included. Section 305.5 (and its subsections) seems like a reasonable place for this. Currently, it seems that my achievements in Year 2021-2022, in my last year as an assistant professor, are not counted or may not be counted, depending on interpretation. Section 305.4.2.10 is another area for consideration. Appendix G may require review and updating.

Thank you,  
Zack

**ZACHARY ZENKO, PH.D., FACSM, PAPHS**

He/Him/His

Associate Professor

Graduate Program Director, [MS in Kinesiology](#)

Department of Kinesiology

(661) 654-2799

Office: EDUC 149

[Zoom Link](#)

### Fall 2025 Office Hours

Mondays: 2:30 to 3:30 pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 1:30 to 3:30 pm

or by appointment

**California State University, Bakersfield**

Mail Stop: 22 EDUC  
9001 Stockdale Hwy  
Bakersfield, CA 93311

**Essentials of Exercise and Sport Psychology: An Open Access Textbook**



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**BAKERSFIELD**

I am a proud member of the California Faculty Association; if you are not already a proud member of CFA, [join here](#).

**From:** Melissa Danforth  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 25, 2025 3:31 PM  
**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano  
**Subject:** Re: DNP course coding

Hi Katie,

Let's call it "Policies on Approval of Course Coding Changes". This will cover other situations beyond changing the CS#, like changing the number of units in a class.

And I too had to Google to find the course classification number (CS#) guide, which looks identical to what I recall from Q2S:

[https://www.csub.edu/academicprograms/\\_files/Course\\_Classification\\_Numbers.pdf](https://www.csub.edu/academicprograms/_files/Course_Classification_Numbers.pdf)

Once I knew the filename, I was able to find it on <https://www.csub.edu/academicprograms/new-catalogandcurriculum-process-8-12-25.shtml> but not on the older Academic Planning Manual page.

Melissa

---

**From:** Katherine Van Grinsven <kvan-grinsven@csb.edu>  
**Date:** Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 3:11 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano <dsolano@csb.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: DNP course coding

New discussion item for EC? Topic title – course coding?

–

**KATHERINE VAN GRINSVEN**

She/her/hers  
Senate Analyst  
Office of the Academic Senate  
Direct Line: (661) 654-3128  
Office: BDC A 252

**California State University, Bakersfield**

9001 Stockdale Hwy, Mail Stop: 20 BDC  
Bakersfield, CA 93311

[www.csub.edu/senate](http://www.csub.edu/senate)



Confidentiality Notice - This entire e-mail message (including all forwards and replies) and/or any attachments, are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain proprietary, confidential, or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited.

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <[mdanforth@csub.edu](mailto:mdanforth@csub.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 25, 2025 2:04 PM  
**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven <[kvan-grinsven@csub.edu](mailto:kvan-grinsven@csub.edu)>  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano <[dsolano@csub.edu](mailto:dsolano@csub.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: DNP course coding

Hi Katie and Dani,

Since we don't have a policy on changing WTUs associated with a course, I told Elizabeth that we'll have to follow prior precedent, which is to have the NSME Curriculum Committee review and approve/deny the request.

We should add discussing if a policy needs to be developed for changing the WTUs associated with a course to the Senate EC agenda. That would be different than auditing/reviewing the current CS#'s to see if they comply with CSU policy, as there could be other reasons to change CS#'s beyond course caps.

Thanks,  
Melissa

---

**From:** Katherine Van Grinsven <[kvan-grinsven@csub.edu](mailto:kvan-grinsven@csub.edu)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 1:28 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <[mdanforth@csub.edu](mailto:mdanforth@csub.edu)>  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano <[dsolano@csub.edu](mailto:dsolano@csub.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: DNP course coding

Hi,

The referral only had a link to the BOX folder in the attachments. I opened up the link and it is a pretty large list of documents which were all uploaded in October 2023. The document you shared is dated November 2023, so I don't think it would be in the BOX folder, but I did look and didn't find anything. Here is the link in case you wanted to look:

<https://csub.app.box.com/s/ingu47wfahx5vyxp3kifvolncq30h4q2>

I found the "New Degree Program Proposal Form" (attached). I did see mention of a "Substantive Change Screening Form," but it looks like it was submitted in Summer 2023 (see page 71). I included some screenshots. It doesn't look like it is the same document, which was titled "WSCUC Substantive Change, November 2023." I know there was some back and forth between the subcommittees and the Nursing Department. Maybe it was sent over to AAC or BPC directly, and not uploaded to the folder? If it bypassed me, I would not have uploaded it to the referral folder. I am not sure.

Here are the screenshots from the *CSUB DNP Program Proposal with MOU* pdf:

j. Substantive Change Screening Form:

The WASC Senior College and University Commission Substantive Change Screening Form was submitted in Summer 2023. See [Appendix P](#). If a full Substantive Change Review is required, the proposal will be submitted by no later than November 2023 to provide adequate time for review.

k. Proposed Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) and CSU Degree Program Code.

CSU CIP: 51.3818

CSU Degree Program Code: 12033 Doctor of Nursing Practice

Page 71 of PDF

## Appendix P: WSCUC Screening Form



### WSCUC Substantive Change Program Screening Form

**Directions:** Institutions planning to implement new degree programs beginning on or after July 1, 2017 should submit this screening form to WSCUC to determine if a Substantive Change review and approval is necessary prior to implementation. A determination on the necessity of review is made after submission of the form and any further information requested by WSCUC. The form should be submitted to John Hausaman (jhausaman@wscuc.org).

**Institution:** California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB)

**ALO Name and contact information:** Dr. Debra Jackson

**Date:** 7/10/2023

Proposed program name, modality, and CIP code:

Currently, the Department of Nursing (DON) at CSUB offers a Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN/FNP) program, which is designed to prepare Family Nurse Practitioners for the region. However, the emerging national standards in Nurse Practitioner (NP) education require a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree for all entry level NPs by 2025. Unless CSU Bakersfield transitions its NP program to a DNP degree, our MSN/NP graduates will not be qualified to take national certification examinations and may be unable to compete with other DNP prepared graduates in the professional job market. Elevating our existing MSN/FNP to a DNP program becomes a necessity. The DON is proposing two Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree programs:

- Post Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Practitioner (DNP-NP) Program with Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration (DNP-NP).  
The purpose of the DNP-NP program is to produce doctorally prepared nurse practitioners to address the critical shortage of primary care providers in the region and to meet the emerging educational and scholarly standards for Nurse Practitioners. This three-year, eight-semester program is designed for registered nurses (RNs) who have a Bachelor of Science (BS) or Master of Science (MS) in Nursing, and who aspire to become doctorally prepared Nurse Practitioners. Currently, our DNP-NP program only offers the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) concentration.

**KATHERINE VAN GRINSVEN**

She/her/hers

Senate Analyst

Office of the Academic Senate

Direct Line: (661) 654-3128

Office: BDC A 252

**California State University, Bakersfield**

9001 Stockdale Hwy, Mail Stop: 20 BDC

**Katherine Van Grinsven**

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025 5:00 PM  
**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano  
**Subject:** FW: Dept of HD-CAFS name change request  
**Attachments:** Department of HD\_CAFS name change .docx

Hi Katie,

Here's an item for the EC agenda.

Melissa

---

**From:** Alexander Reid <areid2@csb.edu>  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 4:39 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano <dsolano@csb.edu>, Elaine Correa <ecorrea1@csb.edu>, Elizabeth Adams <eadams6@csb.edu>  
**Subject:** re: Dept of HD-CAFS name change request

Dear Melissa,

On behalf of the Department of Human Development and Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies, please accept our request for Senate Approval of our Department name change.

We consulted with Dr. Adams and our interest to begin the process of changing our Department name first with Senate approval and then we anticipate submitting a request to SSE Curriculum Committee to move forward with our degree name aligned with our Department name.

Please see attached for our name change approval request.  
Please let me know if there is any additional information needed.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alexander

Alexander Reid, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Department of Human Development and Child, Adolescent and Family Studies  
California State University Bakersfield

Department of Human Development and Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (HD-CAFS)  
Name Change Approval Request

Dear Colleagues,

On May 12 2022, the President of CSUB approved our request for a Department name change from Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) to Human Development and Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (HD-CAFS). We were informed, however, that the 6-letter name would not work in PeopleSoft and we would need to have the name change be reflected on our degree. At this point, we would like to start with a name change from HD-CAFS to Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS), which aligns with other CSU Departments in our field.

The Department of Human Development and Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (HD-CAFS) faculty unanimously voted to change to Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS).

The rationale for this name change was to service the diverse program strands in which our students seek a B.A. degree aligned with employment opportunities in the fields of Human Development, Resource Management, Teacher Education and Early Childhood and Family Sciences. Currently, our program description reads as follows:

*Program Options and Paths*

*Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies This program is geared towards students interested in working with children and their families in any of the following settings: preschool, childcare center, case management, criminal justice, Head Start, and the Department of Human Services. Students will earn a B.A. Degree in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies.*

To ensure that our students can apply for positions that cover the vast range of options available with a CAFS degree, we would like to ensure that our Department's name reflects the diverse areas for which we serve as a feeder program.

Additionally, it should be noted that 3 out of our 4 full time faculty members hold degrees covered under the area of Human Development. The size of our Department is small, and therefore we cover a range of areas that other CSU's have divided into separate departments. In alignment with other CSU's, our department name should include the Human Development area as well as the Family Sciences domain. In accordance with other CSU's, for consistency and disciplinary convention, the name change aligns with our other campuses:

CSU Sacramento (BS in Family Studies and Human Development)  
CSU Monterey Bay (BA in Human Development and Family Studies)  
CSU Long Beach (BA in Human Development)  
CSU East Bay (BA in Human Development)

We propose HDFS as the 4-digit acronym for People Soft, in keeping with other institutions of higher education in the U.S.A. that offer the same degree. For example, Colorado State, Michigan State, University of Connecticut, Penn State, East Carolina University, Florida State, George Mason University, Georgia Southern, Indiana State, Kansas State, Iowa State, Mississippi State, and North Dakota State. All these institutions use HDFS as their acronym.

Once we have approval from the Senate for a Department name change, we will begin the process of aligning the Department name to the degree with submission to the SSE Curriculum Committee.

Bakersfield, CA 93311

[www.csub.edu/senate](http://www.csub.edu/senate)



Confidentiality Notice - This entire e-mail message (including all forwards and replies) and/or any attachments, are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain proprietary, confidential, or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited.

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <[mdanforth@csb.edu](mailto:mdanforth@csb.edu)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025 10:49 AM  
**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven <[kvan-grinsven@csb.edu](mailto:kvan-grinsven@csb.edu)>  
**Cc:** Danielle Solano <[dsolano@csb.edu](mailto:dsolano@csb.edu)>  
**Subject:** FW: DNP course coding

Hi Katie,

Can you check the referral for the DNP program made to AAC and BPC to see if this document was included?

Thanks,  
Melissa

---

**From:** Elizabeth Adams <[eadams6@csb.edu](mailto:eadams6@csb.edu)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025 10:44 AM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <[mdanforth@csb.edu](mailto:mdanforth@csb.edu)>; Tiffany Tsantsoulas <[ttsantsoulas@csb.edu](mailto:ttsantsoulas@csb.edu)>  
**Cc:** Heidi He <[hhe@csb.edu](mailto:hhe@csb.edu)>; Jane Dong <[jdong2@csb.edu](mailto:jdong2@csb.edu)>  
**Subject:** DNP course coding

Hi all,

I had a chance to speak with Dr. He today and it's clear to me that the course forms for the Didactic courses for the DNP were submitted with the incorrect C/S number. If you look at the attached WSCUC substantive change document on p.23, you'll see that they clearly intended those courses to have a 1.5 K factor, which is only associated with C-15.

What I'd like to suggest that either AAC or Senate be briefed on this and asked to approve a correction to the C/S number for these courses so that the faculty teaching them can get the appropriate compensation this term (and to prevent the current APDB errors). If that won't work, I'm open to other idea about how to solve this issue.

Elizabeth

---

**From:** Elizabeth Adams  
**Sent:** Friday, October 3, 2025 4:09 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth; Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Subject:** Re: Degree proposal for Senate consideration

Hi—

The easiest way to do is to go to this link:  
<https://next-catalog.csub.edu/programadmin/>

and enter 518 in the search box.

Their system really likes its own assigned numbers in search.

Elizabeth

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>  
**Date:** Friday, October 3, 2025 at 2:36 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Adams <eadams6@csb.edu>, Katherine Van Grinsven <kvan-grinsven@csb.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Degree proposal for Senate consideration

Hi Elizabeth,

Yes, that would be helpful. At the very least, it will help the committees get familiar with the platform, even if they prefer to review the PDF.

Melissa

---

**From:** Elizabeth Adams <eadams6@csb.edu>  
**Date:** Friday, October 3, 2025 at 2:34 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>, Katherine Van Grinsven <kvan-grinsven@csb.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Degree proposal for Senate consideration

I downloaded the pdf from CIM but it can also be viewed in CIM. Do you want the link for EC?

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>  
**Date:** Friday, October 3, 2025 at 2:33 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth Adams <eadams6@csb.edu>, Katherine Van Grinsven <kvan-grinsven@csb.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Degree proposal for Senate consideration

Hi Elizabeth,

We'll add it to the EC agenda, but it may take us a while to refer it out.

And I assume this is in CIM from the format of the PDF, but just to confirm, is this something that should be routed through CIM? If so, we'll make sure the committees know that.

Melissa

---

**From:** Elizabeth Adams <eadams6@csb.edu>

**Date:** Friday, October 3, 2025 at 2:02 PM

**To:** Katherine Van Grinsven <kvan-grinsven@csb.edu>, Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csb.edu>

**Subject:** Degree proposal for Senate consideration

Hi—

NSME has approved the attached proposal for a new baccalaureate degree. I'm forwarding it your way for referral.

Elizabeth

# 49011 : ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

---

## In Workflow

1. 310 - GEOL Curriculum Review (arathburn@csub.edu)
2. NSM Curriculum Committee (dgilliland@csub.edu)
3. NSM Dean Office (jdong2@csub.edu,klopez@csub.edu)
4. Academic Programs (eadams6@csub.edu)
5. Academic Operations (amendoza145@csub.edu,czuniga-prado@csub.edu,org-curriculum@csub.edu)

## Approval Path

1. Tue, 23 Sep 2025 22:41:22 GMT  
Anthony Rathburn (arathburn): Approved for 310 - GEOL Curriculum Review
2. Wed, 24 Sep 2025 22:53:01 GMT  
Denise Gilliland (dgilliland): Approved for NSM Curriculum Committee
3. Fri, 03 Oct 2025 18:20:46 GMT  
Jane Dong (jdong2): Approved for NSM Dean Office

## History

1. Sep 8, 2025 by Cindy Zuniga-Prado (czuniga-prado)
2. Sep 8, 2025 by Cindy Zuniga-Prado (czuniga-prado)

Date Submitted: Tue, 23 Sep 2025 22:15:58 GMT

**Viewing: 49011 : Environmental Science**

**Last approved: Mon, 08 Sep 2025 18:44:40 GMT**

**Last edit: Fri, 03 Oct 2025 18:20:26 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Anthony Rathburn (001502085)

## Contact

### User ID

000695916

### Proposer Name

Anthony Rathburn

### Proposer E-mail

arathburn@csub.edu

### Proposer Department

Geology

## Program Information

### Program Type

Bachelor of Science

### Propose Program Moratorium?

No

### Effective Catalog

2026-2027

### Effective Term

Fall 2026

### College

Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering

### Department

Geology

**Program Title**

Environmental Science

**Program Code**

49011

**CIP Code**

30.4101 - 30.4101

**Academic Career**

Undergraduate

**Support Type**

State Support

**Delivery Format**

Hybrid

**Is the proposed program subject to WASC Substantive Change?**

No

**Program Overview and Rationale**

**Provide a brief descriptive overview of the program citing its 1) purpose and strengths, 2) fit with the institutional mission or institutional learning outcomes and 3) the compelling reasons for offering the program at this time.**

**PURPOSE AND STRENGTHS**

The purpose of the proposed BS in Environmental Science is to fill an important gap in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs offered at CSUB, and to offer students the opportunity to obtain the interdisciplinary skills and knowledge necessary for employment in fields related to environmental science. The BS in Environmental Science would be designed for students interested in environment-related issues, including water, energy, climate change, natural resources, and pollution. This degree program would focus on interdisciplinary, experiential learning in the natural sciences. The proposed program thus provides an essential, rigorous foundation in the scientific skills needed for environmental science careers. It also provides the greatest flexibility in elective courses of any environmental science program offered in California. This flexibility allows students to shape their coursework and experiences to reflect their interests and career goals.

**FIT WITH INSTITUTIONAL MISSION OR LEARNING OUTCOMES**

CSUB is the only public university within 100 miles, lying in the southern San Joaquin Valley in Bakersfield, the heart of Kern County. CSUB strives to be a model for supporting and educating students to become knowledgeable, engaged, innovative, and ethical leaders in the regional and global community. CSUB emphasizes its great value, student-faculty interactions, career opportunities, and community engagement. The proposed BS in Environmental Science will advance CSUB's mission, providing essential training and knowledge to students who will enter the workforce in a field critical to the future of southern California.

**COMPELLING REASONS FOR OFFERING THIS PROGRAM AT THIS TIME**

Environmental science issues will remain prominent in California's future, and will result in a significant need for highly trained scientists, educators, and policy-makers in environment-related fields. Many institutions in California already offer a bachelor's degree in environmental science, but CSUB is notably missing an environmental science degree, despite major environmental issues in Kern County regarding water, energy, and ecosystems. These local issues and other environmental issues throughout California are driving increasing demand for a well-prepared workforce. The proposed BS in Environmental Science at CSUB will prepare students for a wide range of available jobs relevant to their community. In addition, the personnel, courses, facilities, and equipment needed for the program all currently exist at CSUB. No new or additional resources are required to offer the program at this time.

**Program Description (i.e. Catalog Description)****Program Description**

The Department of Geological Sciences offers the Bachelor of Arts in Geology, the Bachelor of Science in Geology, the Master of Science in Geology, and the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences. A minor in Geology is also available. Geology and Environmental Science encompass a broad array of studies focused on natural and physical sciences related to Earth and environmental issues and their impact on society. Our degree programs address geological and environmental topics related to the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere through the development of fundamental knowledge and skills, with an emphasis on experiential learning. The curricula in the Geology and Environmental Science programs are designed to provide flexibility for interdisciplinary exploration that incorporates fieldwork, technical analysis, individual study, and research participation. Students are encouraged to take advantage of diverse opportunities to conduct fundamental and applied research with experienced research mentors using state-of-the-art scientific equipment.

CSUB is located in an excellent geographic region with convenient access to mountain ranges, valleys, rivers, deserts, oil fields, agricultural areas, nature conservancies, national parks, and the Pacific Coast.

At the completion of their Geology or Environmental Science degree program, students will have broad foundational knowledge and strong field and laboratory skills that provide them with the qualifications for professional employment as well as prepare them for continued academic studies in a graduate degree program.

Graduates with degrees in Geology or Environmental Science have excellent employment opportunities locally, across California, and elsewhere in the United States. These careers can be in government regulation, carbon management, minerals exploration, pollution remediation, energy and water resources, environmental consulting, hazard mitigation, land use planning, and conservation. The degree programs also provide a strong foundation for secondary school science teaching or graduate study in Geology and Environmental Science. Students planning on attending graduate school are advised to pursue a BS degree as the coursework typically represents the minimum coursework required for acceptance into a graduate program, including the Master of Science in Geology program at CSUB.

### Program Requirements

| Code                                                                        | Title                                       | Units |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>General Education Requirements</b>                                       |                                             |       |
| Subject Area 1A: English Composition                                        |                                             | 3     |
| Subject Area 1B: Critical Thinking                                          |                                             | 3     |
| Subject Area 1C: Oral Communication                                         |                                             | 3     |
| Subject Area 2: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning <sup>1</sup> |                                             | 0     |
| Subject Area 3A: Arts                                                       |                                             | 3     |
| Subject Area 3B: Humanities                                                 |                                             | 3     |
| Upper Division 3 Arts or Humanities: (3UD) <sup>2</sup>                     |                                             | 3     |
| Subject Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences                              |                                             | 3     |
| Upper Division 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences: (4UD) <sup>2</sup>         |                                             | 3     |
| Subject Area 5A: Physical Science <sup>1</sup>                              |                                             | 0     |
| Subject Area 5B: Biological Sciences <sup>1</sup>                           |                                             | 0     |
| Subject Area 5C: Laboratory <sup>1</sup>                                    |                                             | 0     |
| Upper Division 5 Science: (5UD) <sup>1</sup>                                |                                             | 0     |
| Subject Area 6: Ethnic Studies                                              |                                             | 3     |
| <i>General Education Subtotal</i>                                           |                                             | 27    |
| <b>Campus Requirements</b>                                                  |                                             |       |
| First-Year Seminar (FYS)                                                    |                                             | 2     |
| American Institutions: Government <sup>4</sup>                              |                                             | 3     |
| American Institutions: History                                              |                                             | 3     |
| Junior Year Diversity Requirement (JYDR)                                    |                                             | 3     |
| Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)                            |                                             | 3     |
| Capstone <sup>1</sup>                                                       |                                             | 0     |
| <i>Campus Requirement Subtotal</i>                                          |                                             | 14    |
| <b>Major Requirements</b>                                                   |                                             |       |
| <i>Required Lower Division Courses</i>                                      |                                             |       |
| GEOL 2010                                                                   | Physical Geology                            | 4     |
| GEOL 2020                                                                   | Introduction to Environmental Science       | 4     |
| GEOL 2050                                                                   | Introduction to Soil Science                | 4     |
| GEOL 2069                                                                   | Sustainable Energy and Environment          | 3     |
| <i>Required Upper Division Courses</i>                                      |                                             |       |
| GEOL 3010                                                                   | Fundamentals of Geochemistry                | 4     |
| GEOL 3080                                                                   | Geomorphology                               | 4     |
| GEOL 4010                                                                   | Hydrogeology                                | 4     |
| GEOL 4050                                                                   | GIS for Natural Sciences                    | 4     |
| GEOL 4200                                                                   | Professional Development for BA-BS Students | 2     |
| GEOL 4928                                                                   | Senior Seminar for Environmental Science    | 1     |
| ERM 4110                                                                    | Environmental Law I                         | 3     |
| INST 4200                                                                   | Electronic Legal Research Methods           | 1     |
| Select a minimum of 20 units <sup>3</sup>                                   |                                             | 20    |
| <b>Required Cognates</b>                                                    |                                             |       |
| Complete 15 units of Cognates                                               |                                             | 15    |
| <i>Biology Cognate</i>                                                      |                                             |       |
| Select one of the following courses:                                        |                                             |       |
| BIOL 2010                                                                   | Introductory Biology - Cells                |       |

|                                                      |                                                     |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| BIOL 2110                                            | Introductory Biology - Animals                      |            |
| BIOL 2120                                            | Introductory Biology - Plants                       |            |
| <b>Chemistry Cognate</b>                             |                                                     |            |
| Select one of the following courses (or equivalent): |                                                     |            |
| CHEM 1000                                            | Foundations of Chemistry                            |            |
| CHEM 1010                                            | Preparation for College Chemistry                   |            |
| <b>Mathematics Cognate</b>                           |                                                     |            |
| Select one of the following courses (or equivalent): |                                                     |            |
| MATH 1060                                            | Precalculus II                                      |            |
| MATH 2010                                            | Calculus for the Biological and Chemical Sciences I |            |
| MATH 2310                                            | Single Variable Calculus I for Engineers            |            |
| MATH 2510                                            | Single Variable Calculus I                          |            |
| <b>Physics Cognate</b>                               |                                                     |            |
| Select one of the following courses:                 |                                                     |            |
| PHYS 2110                                            | College Physics I                                   |            |
| PHYS 2210                                            | Physics for Scientists and Engineers I              |            |
| <b>Major Subtotal <sup>4</sup></b>                   |                                                     | <b>73</b>  |
| <b>Additional Units Needed Towards Graduation</b>    |                                                     | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>Total Units</b>                                   |                                                     | <b>120</b> |

- <sup>1</sup>
- Some General Education requirements are covered within the major and cognates.
    - Subject Area 2, 5A, 5B, and 5C
  - Some Campus Requirements are satisfied in the major and cognates.
    - Capstone
- <sup>2</sup>
- General Education courses for Upper Division Areas 3 and Upper Division Area 4 that are particularly relevant to the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences:
- Upper Division Areas 3 (3 units are required for GE)
    - COMM 3089 Communication and the Environment
    - ENGL 3268 Writing Nature: Literature and the Environment
    - HIST 3258 The American Environment
    - PHIL 3368 Environmental Philosophy
  - Upper Division Area 4 (3 units are required for GE)
    - ECON 3418 Energy Economics and Policy
    - ECON 3508 Environmental Economics
    - SOC 4008 Society and the Natural Environment
- <sup>3</sup>
- Select a minimum of 20 units in any combination of:
    - natural science (GEOL, BIOL, CHEM, PHYS), mathematics (MATH), engineering (ENGR), computer science (CMPS), or public health (PH) disciplines, with at least 12 units from upper division courses.
  - Students should check with their advisors about prerequisites for interdisciplinary elective courses. GE courses are not acceptable as interdisciplinary electives. Courses required for the Environmental Science B.S. degree (including cognates) cannot be counted as interdisciplinary electives. A maximum of four (4) units of research may be applied toward interdisciplinary elective requirements.
- <sup>4</sup>
- The minimum acceptable GPA for these 73 units is 2.0
- <sup>5</sup>
- American Institution - Government (American & Constitutional Ideals) satisfies one course of the two required in Subject Area 4.

**Note:** One semester unit normally represents 50 minutes of lecture or 150 minutes of laboratory study. For every unit, students are expected to devote 2-3 hours of outside study per week.

## Program Learning Outcomes

**Program Learning Outcome. Identify each PLO one by one (select the green "+" to add)**

PLO 1: Utilize the scientific method and integrate the fundamental principles of geology, biology, chemistry, and physics to address complex environmental issues.

- 1. Goal 1: Critical reasoning and problem solving skills
- 3. Goal 3: Discipline-based and career knowledge
- 4. Goal 4: Numerical literacy
- 6. Goal 6: Students will develop a well rounded skill set.

**Program Learning Outcome. Identify each PLO one by one (select the green "+" to add)**

PLO 2: Be able to work individually and collaboratively in the collection, organization, analysis, and interpretation of environmental datasets in both field and laboratory settings.

- 1. Goal 1: Critical reasoning and problem solving skills
- 3. Goal 3: Discipline-based and career knowledge
- 4. Goal 4: Numerical literacy
- 5. Goal 5: Students will become engaged citizens.
- 6. Goal 6: Students will develop a well rounded skill set.

**Program Learning Outcome. Identify each PLO one by one (select the green "+" to add)**

PLO 3: Recognize the interactions and feedbacks between human activities and the natural environment at the local, national, and global scales.

- 1. Goal 1: Critical reasoning and problem solving skills
- 3. Goal 3: Discipline-based and career knowledge
- 5. Goal 5: Students will become engaged citizens.
- 6. Goal 6: Students will develop a well rounded skill set.

**Program Learning Outcome. Identify each PLO one by one (select the green "+" to add)**

PLO 4: Communicate effectively about environmental issues to both scientific and general audiences in written, oral, and visual formats.

- 1. Goal 1: Critical reasoning and problem solving skills
- 2. Goal 2: Oral and written communication
- 6. Goal 6: Students will develop a well rounded skill set.

**Program Learning Outcome. Identify each PLO one by one (select the green "+" to add)**

PLO 5: Demonstrate interdisciplinary knowledge and skills appropriate for graduate school or a career in environmental science.

- 1. Goal 1: Critical reasoning and problem solving skills
- 2. Goal 2: Oral and written communication
- 3. Goal 3: Discipline-based and career knowledge
- 4. Goal 4: Numerical literacy
- 5. Goal 5: Students will become engaged citizens.
- 6. Goal 6: Students will develop a well rounded skill set.

**Learning Outcomes Display (show only)**

| Course Code | PLO 1 | PLO 2 | PLO 3 | PLO 4 | PLO 5 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| GEOL 2010   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 2020   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 2050   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 2069   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 3010   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 3080   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 4010   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 4050   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |
| GEOL 4200   | #     | #     | #     | #     | #     |

|                  |   |   |   |   |   |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>GEOL 4928</b> |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>ERM 4110</b>  | # |   | # | # | # |
| <b>INST 4200</b> | # |   |   | # | # |
| <b>BIOL 2010</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>BIOL 2110</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>BIOL 2120</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>CHEM 1000</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>CHEM 1010</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>MATH 1060</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>MATH 2010</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>MATH 2310</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>MATH 2510</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>PHYS 2110</b> | # | # |   |   | # |
| <b>PHYS 2210</b> | # | # |   |   | # |

Download the Curriculum Map PDF from the CIM Program Homescreen

**Attach Curriculum Map**

Curriculum Map Matrix.pdf

**Attach 5 Year Assessment Plan**

Comprehensive Assessment Plan and 5-yr Schedule.pdf

**Does the program use courses offered by other programs?**

Yes

**Affected Departments**

**Department**

Biology

Chemistry and Biochemistry

Mathematics

Physics and Engineering

Public Health

Economics

Computer & Electrical Engr & Computer Science

**Attach letter of support from relevant department(s)**

Letters of support from relevant Departments .pdf

**The total number of units required for graduation (not just the total for the major):**

120

**Does this baccalaureate program require more than 120-semester units?**

No

**Does this program have any concentrations or emphasis planned under the proposed major?**

No

List any new courses that are: (1) needed to initiate the program or (2) needed during the first two years after implementation. Include proposed catalog descriptions for new courses. For graduate program proposals, identify whether each new course would be at the graduate- or undergraduate-level.

NONE

Attach a proposed course-offering plan for the first three years of program implementation, indicating likely faculty teaching assignments.

3-yr Teaching Plan.pdf

Please specify the total number of prerequisite units required for the major. Note: The prerequisites must be included in the total program unit count.

0

For undergraduate programs, specify planned provisions for articulation of the proposed major with community college programs.

The proposed BS in Environmental Science relies entirely on existing courses in Geology, as well as cognate courses in Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Mathematics. Articulation agreements with local community college programs already exist for many of the lower division and cognate courses required for the BS in Environmental Science. Requests for credit based on community college coursework, when an articulation agreement is not in place, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Additional articulation agreements will be negotiated with community college programs as appropriate and will follow existing campus procedures.

#### Academic Roadmap Attachment

Roadmaps Environmental Science.pdf

Does this program change create new alignment with an ADT?

No

Is this program:

Currently accredited

Describe how accreditation requirements will be met, if applicable.

No specialized accreditation is required for this program.

#### Student Demand

Provide compelling evidence of student interest in enrolling in the proposed program. Types of evidence vary and may include (for example), national, statewide, and professional employment forecasts and surveys; petitions; lists of related associate degree programs at feeder community colleges; reports from community college transfer centers; and enrollments from feeder baccalaureate programs.

Included among other strong evidence for student interest in a BS in Environmental Science is the data from a similar program that was recently launched at the CSU campus closest to CSUB: CSU Northridge, 99 miles to the south of CSUB. The Department of Geological Sciences at CSU Northridge started a BA in Environmental Science in Fall 2022. They proceeded to triple the number of majors in the department over the next three years, from 46 total majors in Geology (31), Geophysics (6), and Environmental Science (9) programs combined in Fall 2022, to 144 total majors (104 in the Environmental Science program) in Fall 2024. Applicants to the program increased from 75 in Fall 2022 to nearly 300 in Fall 2024. The enrollment data are shown in the figure below. The BS in Environmental Science at CSUB is anticipated to have similarly high student demand.

At CSUB, surveys of student interest in obtaining a degree in environmental science from CSUB were sent to dual enrollment geology classes at local high schools. Of the 121 dual enrollment students surveyed, 78 (64%) agreed or agreed strongly that they were interested in environmental issues, and 50 (41%) agreed or agreed strongly that they would consider an interdisciplinary major in environmental science. This indicates considerable interest in a BS in Environmental Science from the population of local high school students who are already taking courses to earn college credit. The same survey was distributed to students in GE Physical Geology and Natural Disasters courses at CSUB, most of whom were non-STEM majors. Of the 87 respondents (out of a total of 134 students in the courses), 62 (71% of the respondents, 46% of the total surveyed students) agreed or agreed strongly that they were interested in environmental issues, and 31 (36% of the respondents, 23% of the total surveyed students) agreed or agreed strongly that they would consider an interdisciplinary major in environmental science. This interest in the BS in Environmental Science even from students who have already chosen a different, non-STEM major suggests there will be substantial interest in students changing majors to join the program.

Identify how issues of diversity and access to the university were considered when planning this program. Describe what steps the program will take to insure ALL prospective candidates have equitable access to the program. This description may include recruitment strategies and any other techniques to insure a diverse and qualified candidate pool.

As with most of the undergraduate degree programs at CSUB, the proposed BS in Environmental Science is designed to serve the local community by covering topics relevant to Kern County and California, as well as training students to enter a growing workforce. We intend to recruit primarily from the Kern County and broader southern California region. Recruitment activities will

build on successful approaches used for attracting a diverse community of students into the BS in Geology program. These activities include hosting department and university tours for students and their families; running a career day for local students to explore opportunities; public outreach events and activities, e.g., at local museums and at community events; giving presentations and Q&A opportunities at regional community colleges; and by networking and outreach through the Department of Geological Sciences' extensive dual-credit program at regional high schools. These activities are targeted to recruit from the regional population, which is composed of over 65% from minority backgrounds, primarily of Hispanic origins. Similar activities have been successful in growing a diverse student population within the Department of Geological Sciences and more broadly at CSUB. The demographics of the CSUB student population, including most CSUB STEM majors, generally reflect the demographics of the regional community.

#### **Describe professional uses of the proposed degree program.**

Graduates from the proposed BS in Environmental Science program will be well prepared for jobs in government, industry, and education. Professional roles for those with a comparable bachelor's degree in currently open job positions in California include environmental remediation, environmental historical preservation, water permitting, environmental data science and analytics, site assessment, ecological impact assessment, hydrogeology, health and safety, and more. All students graduating from this program will be generally prepared for a variety of available jobs.

We have built substantial flexibility in the elective courses a student can take for earning a BS in Environmental Science. The specific direction a student chooses to take with their elective courses will make additional, more specific types of jobs available to them. Students focusing on elective courses in Geological Sciences will be better suited for jobs in hydrology, land use, erosion, and hazards. Students taking elective courses in Biology will be better suited for jobs in ecosystem analysis, ecological impacts, and wildlife preservation. Students taking elective courses in Chemistry will be better suited for jobs in water quality and contamination issues. Students taking elective courses in Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, or Computer Science will be better suited for jobs in environmental data analytics and modeling.

All these job positions come from a search of open jobs in California for environmental scientists and related fields.

#### **Anticipated Student Demand (Majors)**

|                                         | <b>At Initiation</b> | <b>After 3 Years</b> | <b>After 5 Years</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Number of Majors (Annual)</b>        | 10-20                | 50-100               | 100-150              |
| <b>Number of Graduates (Cumulative)</b> | 0                    | 10-20                | 40-80                |

#### **Attach documentation as needed:**

Student demand graph.pdf

#### **Societal and Public Need for the Proposed Degree Major Program**

List other California State University campuses currently offering or projecting the proposed degree major program; list neighboring institutions, public and private, currently offering the proposed degree major program.

| <b>Institution(s)</b>                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------|
| CSU Channel Islands (driving distance from CSUB: 119 mi) |
| Chico State (368 mi)                                     |
| Cal State East Bay (256 mi)                              |
| Fresno State (117 mi)                                    |
| Cal Poly Humboldt (549 mi)                               |
| Cal State Long Beach (139 mi)                            |
| CSU Monterey Bay (210 mi)                                |
| CSU Northridge (99 mi)                                   |
| Sacramento State (287 mi)                                |
| Cal State San Bernardino (163 mi)                        |
| Cal State San Bernardino (163 mi)                        |
| San Diego State (251 mi)                                 |
| San Francisco State (284 mi)                             |
| San Jose State (237 mi)                                  |
| Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (123 mi)                        |

CSU San Marcos (213 mi)

Sonoma State (317 mi)

**Describe differences between the proposed program and programs listed above.**

The proposed BS in Environmental Science is unique within the California State University system and more broadly across institutions in California. There are two primary features of the proposed program that set it apart from other similar programs:

- Focus on the geoscience aspects of environmental science. Many of the required courses in the proposed degree program are geological science courses (e.g., covering hydrogeology, soil science, geochemistry, energy issues). In contrast, the existing environmental science programs include geosciences but often focus more on the biological, chemical, and/or social science aspects of the field. To emphasize the focus on geoscience, CIP code 30.4101 (Environmental Geoscience) is suggested for the proposed program. According to [nces.ed.gov](http://nces.ed.gov), the only other institution in California using the Environmental Geoscience CIP code for their program is University of the Pacific.
- Flexible choice of interdisciplinary elective courses. Environmental science is an extremely broad, interdisciplinary, and applied field. The curricula for existing environmental science programs are likewise broad, but often include only a narrow suite of course offerings, limiting student choice and disciplines covered (see the previous point). However, having the option to explore a wider array of appropriate scientific topics related to environmental science beyond the core requirements can enhance student interest and result in a more broadly trained cohort. To accommodate the interests of as many students as possible and to generate a broadly trained workforce with a rigorous core of skills and training, the proposed program allows students to select from a wide list of elective courses in related fields. This program design allows students to customize their experience to best achieve their career goals, match their topical interests, and enhance their individual strengths, while having robust interdisciplinary qualifications for environmental science jobs and graduate programs.

Below is a comparison between the proposed program and those offered at other CSU campuses. For the sake of space, we only compare to the three nearest CSU campuses (see attached table on page 7 in attachments).

**List other curricula currently offered by the campus that are closely related to the proposed program.**

**Curricula**

BA and BS in Geology; BS in Environmental Resource Management (Dr. Aaron Hegde, head of the BS in Environmental Resource Management program, provided a comparison between that program and the proposed program, demonstrating limited overlap; this comparison has been provided in as an attachment (5c).

**Describe community participation, if any, in the planning process. This may include prospective employers of graduates.**

The Environmental Science Program Planning Committee reached out to community members to solicit their opinions and perspectives on the proposed program, as well as the potential for graduates of the program to be hired. Several positive responses were received, including the following:

“CalGEM hires many graduates from CSUB’s geology and engineering programs. In fact, more than 40% of the technical staff in CalGEM’s Bakersfield office hold degrees from these departments, and many more CSUB alumni work throughout our organization. We consistently see the value of CSUB’s educational programs in preparing students for science-based roles in public service.

The Department of Conservation (DOC), including CalGEM and other divisions, regularly hires Environmental Scientists and Environmental Planners. These are professional classifications within the State of California that require a bachelor’s degree in environmental science as a minimum qualification. A new Environmental Science degree from CSUB would make graduates eligible for these roles and provide a direct path into state service. These entry-level positions offer clear promotional pathways, making the degree a strong launching point for long-term careers in environmental protection, planning, and regulation. Additionally, depending on the electives selected, students in the proposed environmental science program can meet the educational qualifications to be hired as Engineering Geologists—a key role at CalGEM.

At CalGEM, our mission is to ensure that oil wells and underground injection projects are operated safely, in compliance with regulations, and in a way that protects public health, groundwater, and the environment. One of the biggest challenges we face is the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which requires environmental review and mitigation for energy development projects. Environmental Scientists and related professionals play a critical role in this work. Increasing the number of qualified environmental science graduates will help alleviate this bottleneck and support California’s broader climate and clean energy goals.

I support the creation of the BS in Environmental Science at CSUB and believe it will be a valuable addition to the region’s academic and professional landscape.”

Matthew Van Grinsven  
Senior Oil and Gas Engineer  
California Geological Energy Management

## California Department of Conservation

"During my student-professional career (1989-current), I have been an officer or member of the San Joaquin Geological Society (GS), New Orleans GS, Houston GS, currently am president of the Los Angeles Basin GS, and happen to be president-elect of the Pacific Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

The creation of an Environmental Sciences BS program is an excellent idea. The need for such a program is manifest and the demand for the skills produced by it will only grow in the future. Land use, surface faulting, environmental remediation & clean up, site restoration, and advisory, just to name the low-hanging fruit, have been live issues in all the areas where we have lived and worked, in particular California.

An Environmental Sciences professional should have a seat at the table for the monumental task of the progressive abandonment and re-purposing of the vast tracts of land currently occupied partially or totally by oilfield operations. This mega project will break into public- and privately-funded efforts, will have innumerable issues to consider, and will take decades to complete. Re-use and re-purposing conversations are happening now as you're no doubt aware.

I am pleased to learn of this development and pledge to advocate for its development, specifically by getting the word out to my professional sphere of influence. I am excited for this planned program and especially for the general good that can come from its future graduates!"

Daniel Steward  
Iron Horse Consulting

"Fifty years ago 7 CSUB science students participated in a 5 year Biology Baccalaureate, with an Environmental Studies Option....The quality of my life has been greatly improved by my following through with that program. The benefits go way beyond job entitlement."

David Hanley  
Adjunct Instructor, University of La Verne  
KRP Nature Center Volunteer

"Looking into Environmental Scientist classification/series [from the California government; calhr.ca.gov]...this new degree would allow graduates to apply to these jobs."

Grant Obenshain  
Senior Oil and Gas Engineer  
California Department of Conservation

## **Provide applicable workforce demand projections and other relevant data.**

Workforce demand.docx

## **Existing Support Resources for the Proposed Degree Major Program**

**List faculty who would teach in the program, indicating rank, appointment status, highest degree earned, date and field of highest degree, professional experience, and affiliations with other campus programs. Note: For all proposed graduate degree programs, there must be a minimum of five full-time faculty members with the appropriate terminal degree.**

Department of Geological Sciences Faculty with primary Environmental Science responsibilities:

- Jason Cotton, Lecturer, MS Geology 2018, BSIT 2004, CSUB faculty since 2019, specializes in data science, geographic information systems
- Robert Crewdson, Lecturer, PhD Geophysics 1976, CSUB faculty since 1991, specializes in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, hydrogeology
- Anna Cruz, Assistant Professor, PhD Geosciences 2016, CSUB faculty since 2021, specializes in environmental geochemistry, paleoclimatology
- Larry Drennan, Lecturer, MS 1979, CSUB faculty since 2017, specializes in petroleum geology, unconventional resource development
- Junhua Guo, Professor, PhD Geology 2012, CSUB faculty since 2014, specializes in sedimentology, paleoclimatology, geohazards
- Matthew Herman, Associate Professor, PhD Geosciences 2017, CSUB faculty since 2020, specializes in geodynamics, seismology, plate tectonics, numerical modeling

- Melissa Frank, Lecturer, JD 2004, CSUB faculty since 2011, Assistant General Counsel – Government Affairs at The Wonderful Company
- Alyssa Kaess, Lecturer, MS Geology 2016, CSUB faculty since 2020, specializes in reservoir analysis, mineralogy, sedimentology
- William Krugh, Professor, PhD Geosciences 2008, CSUB faculty since 2012, specializes in surface processes, tectonics, geomorphology, structural geology
- Katie O'Sullivan, Associate Professor, PhD 2013, CSUB faculty since 2015, specializes in mineralogy, petrology, planetary geology, volcanology
- Anthony Rathburn, Professor, PhD Geology 1992, CSUB faculty since 2016, specializes in micropaleontology, biogeochemistry, oceanography
- Liaosha Song, Associate Professor, PhD Geology 2018, CSUB faculty since 2018, specializes in carbon and hydrogen storage, petrophysics, geochemistry

**Describe facilities that would be used in support of the proposed program.**

CSUB has adequate facilities in place to support the proposed BS in Environmental Science. The Department of Geological Sciences and affiliated groups maintain spaces for faculty and students to perform research and hold teaching activities that will be utilized for the proposed program. These include the following:

- Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) Lab: Modern, multi-purpose lab space for meetings, sample analysis, and computation
- Other Multi-Purpose Labs: Two additional lab rooms contain space for discussions, talks, equipment, sample analyses, and more
- Sample Preparation Lab: Multi-user lab for the preparation and analysis of rock, mineral, and soil samples
- Crushing Lab: Lab for cutting, crushing, and grinding of rock samples to liberate constituent minerals and particles
- Computer Lab: Room with (recently refreshed) computers for teaching and research
- Individual Research Labs: Labs designed for specialized equipment and analyses
- California Well Sample Repository: Well samples and data for applied courses and research
- Environmental Study Area: Outdoor classroom and outreach area on CSUB campus
- Energy Innovation Building: Labs for water and energy research, to be completed in 2027
- Cold Room Core Facility: Archive for sediment cores, used for education and outreach

**Provide evidence that the institution provides adequate access to both electronic and physical library and learning resources.**

See the attached letters of support from the CSUB Library (Attachment 7c).

**Describe available academic technology, equipment, and other specialized materials.**

The Department of Geological Sciences at CSUB has the following technology, equipment, and materials that will be utilized for the proposed BS in Environmental Science:

- Zeiss Sigma 300 Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope and Hitachi S3400N Variable Pressure Scanning Electron Microscope: chemical and microstructure characterization
- Panalytical Empyrean X-Ray Diffractometer: crystallographic and mineralogical analysis
- Rigaku Supermini200 X-Ray Fluorescence Analyzer: elemental characterization
- ICAP RQ Single-Quad Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer with ASX-560 Autosampler: isotopic and trace element analysis
- ABEM Terrameter SAS 300C Electrical Resistivity Meter: subsurface direct-current conductivity/resistivity analysis

- Emriver Em3 Stream Table with Adjustable Single-Tilt Base, K500 Advanced Flow Controller, and Color-Coded Media: teaching hydrologic processes including erosion, sediment transport, and deposition
- Wave Maker for Emriver Em3 Stream Table: teaching shoreline/wave processes including longshore drift, sediment delivery, and grain size sorting
- Augmented Reality Sandbox: teaching topography and surface flow processes
- Petrographic & Stereographic Microscopes: mineral, microstructural, and micropaleontological analysis
- Thin Section Lab: samples production for microscope analysis
- Computational Resources: workstations for high-performance computing tasks including image analysis, reservoir simulations, finite element modeling, and data inversion
- Geoscience Software: professional and research-grade GIS, petroleum reservoir, general computing, and other software
- Fossil Specimen, Rock, Mineral, and Map Collections
- Gilson Co. Direct Shear Machine: soil direct shear testing for quantification of soil mechanical properties
- Leica GS18 and GS18T Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Receivers, Leica TS10 Manual Total Station, and Topcon Optical and Laser Levels: survey-grade equipment and software for precise geodetic positioning
- Sensefly eBee X Fixed Wing Unmanned Aerial System with Photogrammetric Camera: advanced 3D surface modeling
- DJI Mavic 2Pro Quadcopter Unmanned Aerial System: high-resolution photogrammetry
- Giddings Trailer Mounted Hydraulic Soil Sampling, Coring, and Drilling Machine: direct push and rotary drilling capabilities
- Malvern Mastersizer 2000: analysis of soil and sediment particle size distributions
- Worden Gravity Meter: subsurface density analysis
- Campus Water Well: hydrological teaching activities and research
- HP DesignJet T1700 PostScript Printer: map and poster printing

## **Additional Support Resources Required**

### **Describe additional faculty or staff support positions needed to implement the proposed program.**

The proposed BS in Environmental Science program does not need additional faculty or staff support positions for program implementation. The program relies on existing courses taught by faculty in the Department of Geological Sciences, as well as cognate and elective courses already taught at CSUB. Letters of support from participating programs have been provided (Attachment 8a).

**Describe the amount of additional lecture and/or laboratory space required to initiate and to sustain the program over the next five years. Indicate any additional special facilities that will be required. If the space is under construction, what is the projected occupancy date? If the space is planned, indicate campus-wide priority of the facility, capital outlay program priority, and projected date of occupancy. Major capital outlay construction projects are those projects whose total cost is \$610,000 or more (as adjusted pursuant to Cal. Pub. Cont. Code §§ 10705(a); 10105 and 10108).**

The proposed BS in Environmental Science program does not require additional lecture or laboratory space at the time of program initiation. Additional lecture and laboratory space is not likely to be required to sustain the program over the next five years. The program review process will be used to plan for lecture and laboratory needs beyond the next five years.

**Include a report written in consultation with the campus librarian which indicates any necessary library resources not available through the CSU library system. Indicate the commitment of the campus to purchase these additional resources.**

Letter from CSUB Librarian.pdf

Indicate additional academic technology, equipment, or specialized materials that will be (1) needed to implement the program, and (2) needed during the first two years after initiation. Indicate the source of funds and priority to secure these resource needs.

No additional academic technology, equipment, or specialized materials will be needed to implement the program, and no additional materials will be needed after two years. All academic technology, equipment, and specialized materials needed for the program are already available.

### Self-Support Program Information

Confirm that the proposed program will not be offered at places or times likely to supplant or limit existing state-support programs.

No

Explain how at least one of the following additional criteria shall be met:

The courses or program are primarily designed for career enrichment or retraining;

No

The location of the courses or program is significantly removed from permanent, state-supported campus facilities;

No

The course or program is offered through a distinct technology, such as online delivery;

No

For new programs, the client group for the course or program receives educational or other services at a cost beyond what could be reasonably provided within CSU Operating Funds;

No

For existing programs, there has been a cessation of non-state funding that previously provided for educational or other services costing beyond what could be reasonably provided within CSU Operating Funds.

No

Specify how all required EO 1099 self-support criteria are met.

Not a self-supported program.

The proposed program does not replace existing state-support courses or programs.

No

Academic standards associated with all aspects of such offerings are identical to those of comparable state-supported CSU instructional programs.

No

### Basic Cost Recovery Budget Elements (Three to five year budget projection)

Student per-unit cost:

0

Number of units producing revenue each academic year:

0

Total cost a student will pay to complete the program:

0

#### Revenue

|                             | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | 4th Year | 5th Year |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Student Fees                | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Projected Attrition Numbers | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Totals                      | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |

**Additional Revenue Sources**

|               | 1st Year | 2nd year | 3rd Year | 4th Year | 5th Year |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Grants</b> | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Other</b>  | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b> | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |

**Direct Expenses**

|                                                   | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | 4th Year | 5th Year |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Instructional costs</b>                        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Operational costs</b>                          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Extended Education costs</b>                   | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Technology development and ongoing support</b> | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b>                                     | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |

**Indirect Expenses**

|                                          | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | 4th Year | 5th Year |
|------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Campus Partners</b>                   | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Campus reimbursement general fund</b> | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Extended Education overhead</b>       | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Chancellor's Office overhead</b>      | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b>                            | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |

**Additional Questions**

Is this program an accredited educator preparation program?

No

Do you want email notification when the course is fully approved?

No

**Supporting Documentation**

ENVI New Degree Proposal w Attachments - FINAL.pdf

Environmental Science BS.pdf

Support letter for BS in Environmental Science.pdf

Key: 518

**From:** Melissa Danforth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 7, 2025 9:01 PM  
**To:** Zachary Zenko; Senate Executive Committee Group  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Senate business from Provost's Council

Hi all,

When talking to Katie earlier, I realized I may have misheard when Chris said the current Qualtrics license cost, and maybe it was only a 10k increase, instead of the massive increase I thought I'd initially heard. In any case, the Tableau license renewal proposal is more than 3x the cost of the Qualtrics one, and talking to Chris, it sounded like he's asking for more budget to keep Qualtrics as academically necessary for the March 2026 renewal. That gives us time to discuss alternatives with a wider audience, if ITS can renew through March 2027.

For the online SOCIs, I only received the summary report for my summer online class. I did not receive the individual responses for Summer 2025, although looking further back, I did receive the individual responses for my Fall 2024 class. We'd requested that both the summary report and individual reports be returned to faculty members when we ok'd the new paper forms, but it looks like there are still issues to work out with that process.

Melissa

---

**From:** Zachary Zenko <zzenko@csub.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 7, 2025 7:53 PM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth <mdanforth@csub.edu>; Senate Executive Committee Group <executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Possible Senate business from Provost's Council

Hi all,

That is very concerning regarding Qualtrics. Dr. Marianne Wilson would know more, but I would estimate that about 80% of research with human participants (including graduate student research) involves Qualtrics. Maybe more. Most of my research would come to a halt.

Perhaps there are other options to explore, like different license types, or open source statistical analysis software (e.g., JASP, Jamovi, r) instead of SPSS. I am not sure if that is a csub license or chancellor's office license.

Regarding online SOCIs, I thought ITS is now in the practice of sharing individual responses as well as the overall summaries?

Just some thoughts. I am sure some of this can wait as we address other pressing concerns.

Thank you

**ZACHARY ZENKO, PH.D., FACSM, PAPHS**

He/Him/His

Associate Professor  
Graduate Program Director, [MS in Kinesiology](#)  
Department of Kinesiology  
(661) 654-2799  
Office: EDUC 149  
[Zoom Link](#)

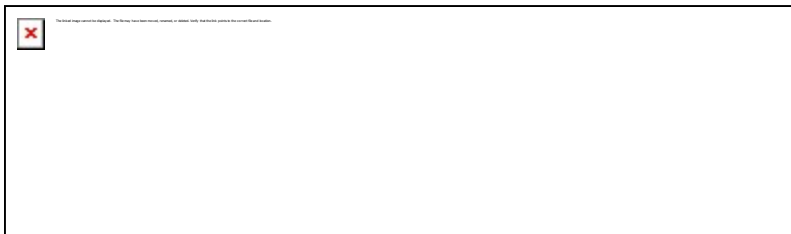
### Fall 2025 Office Hours

Mondays: 2:30 to 3:30 pm  
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 1:30 to 3:30 pm  
or by appointment

### California State University, Bakersfield

Mail Stop: 22 EDUC  
9001 Stockdale Hwy  
Bakersfield, CA 93311

### [Essentials of Exercise and Sport Psychology: An Open Access Textbook](#)



I am a proud member of the California Faculty Association; if you are not already a proud member of CFA, [join here](#).

---

**From:** Melissa Danforth <[mdanforth@csub.edu](mailto:mdanforth@csub.edu)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 7, 2025 3:45 PM  
**To:** Senate Executive Committee Group <[executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:executivecommittee@CSUB.onmicrosoft.com)>  
**Subject:** Possible Senate business from Provost's Council

Hi all,

I just came out of Provost's Council and there were several items we'll need to discuss in future EC meetings to see if a referral is needed.

#### SOCI modality:

Paper SOCI are becoming increasingly expensive, both in terms of costs for purchasing the materials and people-hours in processing the materials. I said that online SOCI aren't a substitute for paper SOCI since the individual responses are not preserved. ITS will look into the SOCI report to see if they can generate the individual responses along with the summary. There was also discussion about the low response rate for online SOCI, and how that would need to be addressed.

#### Rising software costs:

Multiple software packages up for renewal are having drastic increases in costs. The full group primarily discussed Qualtrics, which is quadrupling in costs for the March renewal. I spoke with Chris afterwards and he also said that the costs for Slack and Tableau are going up. Along with this would probably need to be a discussion with the Library about database costs.

#### Email limits:

I spoke with Chris after the meeting, and he said that students are limited to 50 recipients on an email, but there are no limits for faculty members. Chris said the idea has been brought up before to address cybersecurity concerns (such as someone's account being compromised and use to mail out spam), but there was push-back on limiting how many recipients could be on an email from a faculty member. We discussed certain cases where a faculty member might need to email a large group, such as emailing a large class or all students in a specific major. For the later, Chris was open to ITS creating mailing lists for students in each major, similar to what they have created for colleges to facilitate academic administrator reviews.

On a purely informational front, WASC did change their accreditation standards to remove DEI language. And there have been some inconsistencies with how ASCs have done schedule build (putting specific section information into myCSUB), which includes inconsistencies in overriding the default CS#, so they're looking into providing more training for ASCs in this area.

Melissa

--

Dr. Melissa Danforth (she/they)  
Chair, CSUB Academic Senate  
PI, CSUB's S-STEM Scholarship Program  
Professor of Computer Science  
Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering/Computer Science  
California State University, Bakersfield  
Website: <https://www.cs.csub.edu/~melissa/>

**Katherine Van Grinsven**

---

**From:** Tiffany Tsantsoulas  
**Sent:** Monday, October 13, 2025 9:19 AM  
**To:** Melissa Danforth  
**Cc:** Katherine Van Grinsven  
**Subject:** Discussion item for EC

Hi Melissa,

I would like to add to the EC agenda a discussion of “AAC workflow and efficiency”. I’ve noticed that most of the curriculum proposals we receive have errors, typos, and other problems that could have been caught by the curriculum committees before coming to us. AAC is then spending a lot of time looking for and fixing those errors rather than having higher level discussions about the curriculum itself.

Dr. Adams and I have floated the idea of having a preliminary meeting with the AAC chair, Dean of Academic Programs, and the appropriate Assoc. Dean where we could go over the pending curriculum proposals and catch any errors early on before they are referred to committee. Another idea is to reaffirm the duties of the college curriculum committees and perhaps suggest some training so that their QC will be improved.

Before moving forward with these ideas, I thought EC should weigh in.

I’ll be zooming into the meeting tomorrow.

Thanks,  
Tiffany

--

**DR. TIFFANY TSANTSOULAS**

She/Her/Hers  
Director of Interdisciplinary Studies  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies  
661-654-2408

**California State University, Bakersfield**

9001 Stockdale Hwy  
Bakersfield, CA 93311