Adopted: March 6 2012

**ACADEMIC SENATE**

## of

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY**

**San Luis Obispo, CA**

**AS-744-12**

**RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT AND COMMENDATION FOR PRESIDENT**

**ARMSTRONG’S DEFENSE OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

WHEREAS, “Academic freedom is the pillar of our university’s fundamental mission of discovery and advancement of knowledge and its dissemination to students and the public;”[[1]](#endnote-1) and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate CSU encourages development of policies “for the protection of freedom of inquiry, research, expression, and teaching both inside the classroom and beyond;”[[2]](#endnote-2) and

WHEREAS, “Universities have a special obligation not only to tolerate but to also encourage and support the free expression of ideas, values, and opinions, even when they may be unpopular or controversial;”[[3]](#endnote-3) and

WHEREAS, On several occasions, individuals, businesses and/or interest groups have taken actions that potentially threatened freedom of speech and academic freedom; and

WHEREAS, President Armstrong has demonstrated strong leadership in protecting academic freedom and maintaining our campus as a forum for the free exchange of ideas [attached]; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cal Poly Academic Senate commend President Armstrong for his strong leadership in protecting the core principles of academic freedom; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal Poly Academic Senate support the recent joint statement of President Jeffrey Armstrong (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo), President Harry Hellenbrand (California State University, Northridge), and President John Welty (California State University, Fresno) in defense of academic freedom; and be it further

RESOLVED: That Cal Poly Academic Senate distribute this resolution to the CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, CSU campus Presidents, Academic Senate CSU, and CSU campus Senate Chairs.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Executive Committee

Date: February 23 2012

Revised: February 28 2012

1. “RESOLUTION ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM,” Cal Poly (AS-621-04, June 1 2004) [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. “Academic Freedom and Free Speech Rights,” ASCSU (AS-2649-04/FA, March 11-12 2004) [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. CAP-141 “Freedom of Expression” <http://policy.calpoly.edu/cap/100/cap140.htm> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)