

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

University Senate

Memorandum

To: Professor Jenn Capps, PhD
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Humboldt State University

Professor Lisa Bond-Maupin, PhD
Deputy Chief of Staff
Humboldt State University

From: Professor Monty Mola, PhD
General Faculty President & Chair of the University Senate

Monty Mola
08/30/2021

The Senate Executive Committee of the University Senate
Humboldt State University

Subject: Support for Humboldt State University to transition to a Polytechnic Institution

Date: August 30, 2021

On behalf of the Humboldt State University Senate, the Senate Executive Committee offers full support of the submitted prospectus to transform our institution into California's third Polytechnic University. During the past eight months, the proposal was generated through countless hours of collaborative effort by students, staff, faculty and administrators. It details our plan to become an engaging, inclusive, 21st century Polytechnic that supports student and workforce needs of California and beyond.

Becoming a Polytechnic University will help Humboldt State better serve California's students through vital and holistic secondary education, which in turn will provide job-ready, skilled workers for the State of California. With a demonstrated commitment to student access and success, phenomenal faculty, and storied existing infrastructure Humboldt is well prepared to make this historic change.

We are particularly inspired by the opportunity to build on HSU's reputation as an institution that prioritizes research and action on sustainability and social justice. Current

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and future students will benefit from infrastructure and practices that support engaged learning across the arts, humanities, social and natural sciences, and engineering: a signature of the HSU academic experience. This foundation will pave the way for new and exciting academic programs, research, development, and practice in Engineering, and Applied Science and Technology.

From the Redwood Forests to the Pacific Coast, the natural, historical, and social environments that surround HSU, create a dynamic framework for ethical engagement with the natural world and our communities. This rural California North Coast context offers challenging and enriching hands-on learning spaces for student, faculty, and community partnerships. Area tribes and their community leaders, many who are also HSU faculty, staff, and students, have been central to our ongoing work to center, honor, and steward the land on which HSU is built. Traditional Ecological Knowledge informs the unique Humboldt Polytechnic student experience and the frameworks for problem solving they will offer California and the world.

Finally, on behalf of the Senate, we extend our appreciation to all the students, staff, faculty, and administrators who collaborated on the plan through committees and open forums. We look forward to providing a university governance forum, as well as curricular, resource, and policy committee structures, to shepherd developing plans in the coming months and years ahead.