

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

**ACADEMIC SENATE**

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT TO**

**THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

**AP-004-178**

**DISCONTINUE IRRIGATION SCIENCE OPTION, AGRICULTURE, M.S.**

**Academic Programs Committee**

**Date: 11/09/2017**

**Executive Committee  
Received and Forwarded**

**Date: 01/24/2018**

**Academic Senate**

**Date: 02/14/2018  
First Reading**

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Plant Science has put forward a referral for the discontinuation of the Irrigation Science option in the Agriculture, M.S. program. The program is no longer required. The M.S. in Plant Science covers this information and provides ample opportunity for students to learn and conduct research in irrigation science within that degree. This M.S. option in irrigation science was implemented when Cal Poly Pomona had an Agricultural Engineering department, which was discontinued in the 1980's and is now under the Plant Science department umbrella. There are no dedicated tenure track/tenured faculty in Plant Science with specific irrigation science expertise. Faculty have this knowledge, but teach it as part of a greater view of agriculture. The demand for an M.S. is now in the broader area of plant science rather than a specific degree in irrigation science. While there is a great demand for knowledge and experience in irrigation science, this is covered under the greater umbrella of the Plant Science M.S. degree. This will not affect the employment of faculty and staff because the last irrigation science specific faculty retired. Students learn this topic under Plant Science. All students enrolled in the Irrigation Science M.S. option have graduated so this can be closed as soon as possible.

**RESOURCES CONSULTED:**

Deans  
Associate Deans  
Department Chairs  
All Faculty

**DISCUSSION:**

Before reaching the Academic Programs Committee, this program was reviewed by the College Curriculum Committee in the College of Agriculture as well as the Dean of Agriculture and the Office of Academic Programs. All concerns raised at those levels were addressed. The Academic Programs Committee then conducted campus-wide consultation, as well as its own review of the program. No concerns were raised.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Academic Programs Committee recommends the discontinuation of the Irrigation Science option within the Agriculture, M.S. program.