Resolution Supporting Alternative Completion of Graduate Culminating Experiences for Spring and Summer 2020

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of all members of the Cal Poly Pomona community and, specifically, has caused major challenges for those graduate students who are attempting to complete culminating experiences in the spring and summer of 2020, and

WHEREAS, these challenges, including restricted access to university facilities, laboratories and, in some instances, faculty advisors and committee members, are the result of national, state, and CSU advice and directives in response to a global pandemic, and

WHEREAS, these circumstances may severely disrupt a student’s ability to complete a culminating experience as it was designed and agreed upon before these restrictions could be considered, and

WHEREAS, these students may have been admitted to graduate programs or offered employment options which are contingent on their timely graduation, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of California State Polytechnic University Pomona strongly urges those faculty supervising or evaluating a graduate culminating experience which was intended to be completed during the spring or summer of 2020, as well as Department Chairs, Deans, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the Associate Vice President for Academic Programs, to exercise the greatest possible flexibility and imagination in accommodating the progress of these students in order, if at all possible, to enable them to complete a revised culminating experience in the originally intended time frame, and be it therefore also

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate requests the University administration to explore creation of a no-cost or low-cost extension of enrollment for those graduate students who require registration in the fall semester of 2020 to complete their culminating experience due to disruption of university operations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and be it also

RESOLVED, that this resolution be distributed to the President of Cal Poly Pomona, all Vice Presidents and Associate Vice Presidents in Academic Affairs and posted on the Academic Senate website.

Adopted by the Academic Senate of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, on Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Phyllis Nelson, Chair
Academic Senate