



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees  
**From:** Shari McMahan, President  
**Date:** February 25, 2025

Board of Trustees Members,

Over the past two years, Eastern Washington University faculty and staff have diligently participated in the comprehensive strategic resource allocation process, and I am grateful for each person's resolve to fully engage toward the betterment of our campus community.

I want to thank members of the Academic Programs Task Force for their extensive work to evaluate and provide recommendations for investments, opportunities to modify, and areas for possible disinvestment. Their time and effort were invaluable to this process. I'd also like to share my gratitude for Provost Anderson's diligence in reviewing the recommendations from the task force, taking campus feedback into consideration, and making final decisions based on his extensive academic experience, enrollment data, and student and workforce needs.

Per Academic Policy 303-35:7.2, I am submitting my recommendations for program discontinuance to the Board for final action.

I concur with the Faculty Organization and Provost Anderson's recommendations to discontinue the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts in Education Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Education in Physics — Secondary
- Bachelor of Arts in Physics (now called Bachelor of Science in Physics, General)

Additionally, I concur with Provost Anderson's recommendation to discontinue the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Science in Physics (now called Bachelor of Science in Physics, Professional)
- Bachelor of Arts in Technical Communication

Although Board approval is not necessary for minors, I also concur with the Faculty Organization and Provost Anderson's recommendation to discontinue the Minor in French and Minor in German.

### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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*Eastern Washington University provides an inclusive, equitable, and transformative learning experience, driving the pursuit of knowledge with affordable academic excellence.*



As stated by Provost Anderson, I would also like to reiterate to the Board of Trustees that the discontinuance of the Physics and Technical Communication degrees *does not* equate to an elimination of the content at EWU. The skills and knowledge should be incorporated into other degrees and continue to support our applied learning initiatives. Additionally, our tenured faculty members will still be retained should the degrees be discontinued.

Low enrollment and low graduation rates are compelling indicators that a degree is no longer effectively serving our students. Maintaining degrees with consistently low demand diverts valuable resources away from areas with higher potential for student success and workforce impact. Although there is an emotional toll throughout the PRD process, we have a responsibility to ensure that our programs are efficient and responsive to both student interests and evolving regional needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shari McMahan".

Shari McMahan, PhD  
President  
Eastern Washington University

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