

May 30, 2025

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
1102 Q Street
Sacramento, CA 95811



Dear Chancellor Sonya Christian and Members of the CA Community Colleges Chancellor's Office,

On behalf of the [Community College Baccalaureate Association](#) (CCBA), I am pleased to offer our national-level support for Long Beach City College's proposal to establish a Baccalaureate Degree in Library & Information Science.

As the president of CCBA, the nation's only organization dedicated to promoting baccalaureate degrees on community college campuses, I am keenly interested in the development of a bachelor's degree in Library Sciences.

To date, 24 states and more than 200 community colleges offer workforce bachelor's degrees to their communities. However, per the CCBA's [national inventory](#) of community college baccalaureate degree (CCB) programs, there are none in the field of Library Science.

Community colleges, like Long Beach City College, are uniquely positioned to address the urgent need for bachelor level Library Science educational opportunities by capitalizing on existing certificate and AS programs that align with national requirements.

Most importantly, as we regularly see on a national scale, the vast majority of students currently enrolled in LBCC's Library Technician AS program report being "very interested" in pursuing a bachelor's degree in Library & Information Science if it were available at LBCC.

As proposed, the program has the potential to make significant economic impacts by:

- Filling the void and bridging the education gap in mid-wage, high-value library-related roles.
- Supporting the workforce by upskilling and addressing the technological demands required by libraries that use databases, digital archives, and media systems.
- Providing an immediate labor pipeline to fill the 1,300+ annual openings for librarians and library technicians in CA.

Additionally, the LBCC Library & Information Science bachelor's degree will offer students:

- An affordable alternative to graduate school.
- A pathway to level up without relocating or leaving the local workforce.
- Equity in career advancement, particularly for nontraditional students who wish to seek leadership roles in libraries and information institutions.

- The knowledge and confidence to represent and advocate for the linguistic, cultural, and lived experiences of their communities.

A Library Sciences bachelor's degree program will benefit not only the practitioners it produces, but the entire Long Beach community (and well beyond) as librarians provide critical services to the students and residents they serve.

Dr. Williams' proposal exemplifies our shared commitment to advancing open baccalaureate education in community colleges. I endorse his and Long Beach Community College's endeavor and believe it will prove to be a powerful addition to the national community college baccalaureate movement.

Sincerely,

Angela Kersenbrock

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