

From: [University Affairs](#)
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Sent on behalf of Cal Poly President, Jeffrey D. Armstrong and Cal Maritime Interim President, Michael J. Dumont.

To the Cal Poly and Cal Maritime Community:

Following a national search, we are pleased to announce the appointment of two new leaders who will help shape Cal Poly, Solano Campus and the Cal Poly Maritime Academy's next chapter and play a vital role in the success of our integration efforts. Both roles are effective July 1, 2025.

- **Dr. Corey Cook** has been named vice president & chief executive officer of the Cal Poly, Solano Campus
- **Rear Admiral (Retired) Eric C. Jones, USCG** has been named superintendent of the Cal Poly Maritime Academy

These leaders will work closely with colleagues across both campuses to advance our shared mission, champion Learn by Doing and deepen our commitment to maritime education and regional impact.

As vice president and CEO, Corey will play a vital role in leading Cal Poly, Solano Campus, providing strategic vision, executive leadership, and operational oversight for all programs and initiatives.

Corey brings deep experience in academic planning, public engagement, and transformational leadership in higher education and is widely respected for his leadership in student success, inclusive innovation, and institutional transformation. He most recently served as executive vice president and provost at Saint Mary's College of California. He has led strategic planning, accreditation, and academic reform initiatives, and he previously served as founding dean of the School of Public Service at Boise State University. Corey holds doctorate and master's degrees in political science from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a bachelor's in political science and peace and conflict studies from UC Berkeley.

As superintendent, Eric will play a critical role as the administrative leader and chief academic officer of the Cal Poly Maritime Academy, responsible for the administration of the merchant mariner license-track programs, the training vessels,

the Corps of Cadets, the port facility, and other associated programs and entities.

Eric brings decades of leadership in maritime operations, higher education, and public service, along with a deep commitment to academic excellence and cadet development. He joins Cal Poly after more than 35 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Coast Guard, during which he held senior roles including assistant commandant for human resources and commander of the Seventh District. In these positions, he led operations across the Southeastern U.S. and the Caribbean managing workforce systems for over 57,000 members, and coordinating complex, multi-agency responses for major crises, including Hurricanes Dorian, Irma and Maria as well as the COVID-19 pandemic. He also served as military advisor to the secretary of Homeland Security. A graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Eric holds a master's degree from MIT and is a fellow of Harvard's National Preparedness Leadership Initiative and MIT's Seminar XXI on Foreign Policy and International Relations. He brings exceptional experience in maritime leadership, higher education, and emergency response.

We want to thank the members of both search committees and everyone who participated in the interview processes for these two critical positions.

Please join us in welcoming our new colleagues. We are confident they will be outstanding additions to the Cal Poly team.

Last, but certainly not least, I, as president of Cal Poly, want to thank Mike Dumont for his outstanding leadership as Interim President of the California Maritime Academy. Thank you, Admiral!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Armstrong

President

Cal Poly

Michael J. Dumont

Vice Admiral (Retired), USN and Interim President

Cal Maritime