



Academic Senate
Professor Kenneth Barish
Division Chair

February 11, 2026

To: Juliann Emmons Allison & Erith Jaffee-Berg, Co-Chairs
Peace & Conflict Studies (PCST) Minor

Re: Moratorium on Accepting Students into the Peace and Conflict Studies Minor Program

Dear Juliann and Erith,

I write to convey the Academic Senate's approval of the subject moratorium as approved by the Committee on Educational Policy. This moratorium takes immediate effect and will be reported to the Division at the Spring 2026 division meeting.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth Barish".

Ken Barish
Academic Senate Chair

Cc: Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Watkins
Undergraduate Division Vice Provost & Dean Rodriguez
College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Dean Williams
Registrar Dailey
College Faculty Executive Committee Acting Chair Aguirre
College Faculty Executive Committee Liaison Brewer
Marketing & Communications Manager Salcedo (Catalog)
Senate Analyst Beatty
Senate Director Cortez

Enclosure



Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

February 9, 2026

To: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Annie Ditta, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Moratorium on Peace and Conflict Studies Minor

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) reviewed and voted to support the proposal for a moratorium on the Peace and Conflict Studies Minor at their February 6, 2026 meeting.



Academic Senate

December 9, 2025

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: Special Review Committee (SRC) for the proposed moratorium on accepting students into the Peace & Conflict Studies minor
Eric Schwitzgebel, Chair, Professor of Philosophy
Amy Litt, Member, Associate Professor of Botany & Plant Sciences
Neftali Watkinson Medina, Member, Associate Professor of Computer Science & Engineering
Jason Weems, Member, Associate Professor of History of Arts

RE: Moratorium on Peace and Conflict Studies (PCST) Minor

The Special Review Committee decided unanimously to recommend a moratorium on accepting students into the Peace & Conflict Studies (PCST) minor. Faculty interest in sponsoring student research in the context of the minor has been described as “currently nonexistent”. In the past 15 years, only ten students total have graduated with the minor, most of them in the first five years of its existence. Continuing to list the minor as an option in the catalog risks misleading students into expecting faculty support and a peer group of other interested students.

We recommend that the committee in charge of this minor consider disestablishing the minor entirely and discontinuing the courses PCST 190, PCST 197, and PCST 198I.



July 31, 2025

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: Juliann Emmons Allison & Erith Jaffee-Berg, Co-Chairs
Peace & Conflict Studies (PCST) Minor

RE: Moratorium on Peace and Conflict Studies (PCST) Minor

Following consultation with members of the faculty Committee in Charge of the Peace & Conflict Studies (PCST) Minor, the CHASS Faculty Executive Committee, which includes the CHAAS Dean, and the program's academic advisors, we request a moratorium be placed on the minor. Student interest in the major has always been weak, and faculty interest in sponsoring student research on "peace and conflict" in the context of the minor is currently nonexistent. Since 2010, only 10 students have graduated with minors in Peace and Conflict Studies, most of them during the first 5 years of the program's existence. We feel that other, better-resourced, UCR programs, including the University Honors Program and capstone courses, such as those required by Global Studies, provide comparable, perhaps even more impactful, opportunities for students to pursue specialization in topics concerning peace and conflict.

Cc: Cherysa Cortez
Beth Beatty