TO: THE ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and GUESTS

A special meeting of the Executive Committee has been scheduled for next Tuesday, November 7, 3-5pm, in UU220. The only item on the agenda is "Resolution on Housing and the Master Plan" (copy attached). Please consider this email the Notice of Meeting as no hardcopy agenda will be sent. Copies of the resolution will be made available at the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or resolution, please contact me.

Thank you,

Margaret
Background: Cal Poly currently has approximately 17,000 students and would be permitted to increase the number of student to 17,900 under the current Master Plan. Cal Poly is in the process of revising its Master Plan to allow for an increase of 3,000 students. This would bring enrollment at Cal Poly to nearly 21,000 students when completed.

Cal Poly is under pressure from both the CSU and the State to increase enrollment to meet the needs for Tidal Wave II. However, the enrollment at Cal Poly represents only 5% of the total CSU enrollment. The 3,000 increase in enrollment would represent less than 1% of the total enrollment in the CSU. This increase would hardly solve the CSU enrollment problems associated with Tidal Wave II.

During the Spring of 2000 the Academic Senate passed the resolution entitled “Resolution on the Growth Component of the Master Plan.” The resolution addressed the failure of the CSU to reimburse Cal Poly for increased enrollment at the marginal cost of adding additional students. Adding additional students would mean a further deterioration of the quality of education at Cal Poly. The resolution called for the removal of the growth component from the Master Plan.

This fall the availability of housing for students was far less than the demand for housing. In an attempt to deal with this shortage of housing, utility rooms in the Cal Poly dorms were converted to living spaces for students. This additional housing was still not nearly enough to meet the demand for housing. There were stories of students bidding against each other for the limited number of housing spaces available in the community. There were further stories of students living on couches. In addition, an unknown number of students chose to leave Cal Poly because they had been unable to find housing.

Compounding the housing problem, Cuesta College has continued to increase its enrollment. Many of these Cuesta students come from outside the area and as a result are competing with our own students for the limited number of available housing spaces.

Cal Poly is in the process of building a new dormitory that would house 800 students. Unfortunately, this dormitory might fail to meet the demand resulting from the increase of 900 students to the current Master Plan ceiling. Furthermore, this new dormitory would not address the current shortage of housing for students nor would it address the continued impact of the rising enrollment of Cuesta College.
Further complicating the housing issue is the impact of the hiring of new faculty to replace those faculty members who will be retiring over the next several years. Young faculty moving to the area will have the dubious distinction of having to pay very high prices for houses. Those who choose to rent will find themselves competing in a very limited housing market with students. The competition for housing will result in extremely high rental costs for our new younger faculty members.

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate has passed the "Resolution on the Growth Component of the Master Plan" which called for the removal of the growth component from the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, The availability of housing in the community is not nearly adequate to meet the demand for housing for our students; and

WHEREAS, The extent of this shortage in housing is not known; and

WHEREAS, The housing shortage is exacerbated by the continued increase in enrollment of Cuesta College; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly will add an additional 900 just to reach the current Master Plan ceiling of 17,900 students; and

WHEREAS, The revision to the Master Plan allows for adding an additional 3,000 students which would bring enrollment at Cal Poly to 20,900 students; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That Cal Poly engage in a thorough analysis of the housing situation in the community similar to that undertaken by the UC campuses at Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara; and be it further

RESOLVED: That Cal Poly create a plan to address the housing shortage; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the presentation of the revised Master Plan to the CSU Board of Trustees be delayed until such time the plan to address the housing shortage is complete; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this resolution be sent to the CSU Board of Trustees, State Senator Jack O'Connell, and Assemblyman Abel Maldonado; and be it further

RESOLVED: That State Senator Jack O'Connell and Assemblyman Abel Maldonado be invited to a meeting of the Academic Senate to address the housing and enrollment issues.

Proposed by: Harvey Greenwald
Date: November 1, 2000