Preparatory: The meeting opened at 3:18pm.

I. Minutes:

II. Communications and Announcements:

III. Reports:

   A. Academic Senate Chair:
   B. President’s Office:
   C. Provost’s Office:
   D. Statewide Senators:
   E. CFA Campus President:
   F. ASI Representatives:
   G. Other:

IV. Consent Agenda:

V. Business Item(s):

VI. Discussion Item(s):

   Housing and the Master Plan: A special meeting of the Executive Committee was requested to discuss the current shortage of student housing and the Master Plan provisions for meeting student housing needs in the future.

   (Zingg) Discussions of student housing needs have been ongoing for several years. By fall quarter 2002, construction of a new dormitory providing 800 beds will be finished (while only 572 more students will be added), and by 2004 an additional 1100-1300 beds will be available (with an increase of only 630 new students). So within the next four years, 2100 new residential beds will be on campus to accommodate around 1200 new students.

   (Detweiler) Several studies have been done in the past to determine what the needs for housing are. The most recent campus/community housing assessment was done two years ago (demand for housing, housing trends, what type of units students interested in, etc.).

   (Dalton) Although there is a housing shortage in San Luis Obispo, housing is available in other parts of the county. [On the day of meeting, 8 vacancies were reported among the major student housing complexes surrounding Cal Poly and 48 vacancies were listed on the community assistance board.] (Love) Were these vacancies available at the beginning of the quarter? Also, the rents being asked may be too expensive so these vacancies may not all represent “available” housing.

   (Howard-Greene) The projected increase in headcount for fall 2001 is 270, or a total of 17,154 students. Conversations are occurring with community housing sources to find housing for students during this next academic year since the 800 bed increase will not occur until 2002.
Over the next 20 years, Cal Poly’s enrollment may increase as high as 21,000 students. (Greenwald) Do we want a campus with 21,000 students? Will this in any way be positive? At this time it isn’t evident that there will be protections from the system to fund the mandated increases in enrollment. (Lucas) In Architecture, the students are doubled up in labs. The plan to add space for the college has been postponed indefinitely, and the recent WASC report states that campus facilities are below par. (Waller) In Financial Aid we’ve seen a sharp increase in students leaving because they can’t get housing. This is exacerbated by the increase in Cuesta students.

(Zingg) The Master Plan is clear that there will not be enrollment growth without operational support and capital investments to facilitate the physical growth of the campus. The fact that we have 900 less students now than in 1991 is because funding was decreased. However, we are part of a state system and required to address the issues of the state. The expectation of the system is that all campuses will participate in accommodating the increase. (Howard-Greene) The President feels strongly that Cal Poly needs to assist in accommodating society’s demand for education, especially in the role Cal Poly plays as a polytechnic university.

Greenwald made the following requests:
1. To complete an updated study on housing and to update the information annually;
2. To distribute more broadly, Cal Poly’s student housing advocacy program to make student rights more widely known (student-landlord issues, substandard conditions, high rents, lack of upkeep, etc.);
3. Look into minimizing fall enrollments and increasing summer enrollments. Problems in housing, traffic, etc. are driven by overloads caused by fall enrollments.

The Chair requested that administrators present give their responses to Greenwald’s concerns in writing. (Dalton) The Budget & Long Range Planning Committee can have its responses to Greenwald by the next Senate meeting (November 21).

VII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

Submitted by:

Margaret Camuso
Academic Senate