ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

AS-129-82/LRP
February 23, 1982

RESOLUTION ON THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

WHEREAS, The early semester academic system provides substantial advantages for students:

a. there is better access to summer jobs with a spring term ending in May;

b. because of decreased pressure, there is more time available for participation in student affairs, cultural activities, co-curricular activities, and intramural sports;

c. course subjects can be explored in greater depth, with time not just for gathering information, but for analysis and synthesis as well;

d. there is more time at the beginning of a term to get into a subject, and more at the end to review course work before exams (dead week);

e. there is less pressure to choose a research topic or term paper subject in a hurried and uninformed way, and more time for substantive library and laboratory investigations;

f. there is more time to do collateral readings and more time for reflection on them;

g. less time proportionately is spent in taking exams and more in learning;

h. there is a significant reduction in administrative procedures and red tape involving add/drop, CAR, schedules, grades, etc., with a consequent reduction in the possibility for error; and

WHEREAS, The early semester academic calendar system provides substantial advantages for faculty:

a. there is more time to get to know individual students, to structure class material to meet individual needs, and to grade more perceptively;

b. there is more time to develop subject material, to allow application of the information, and to reinforce it throughout the course;

c. there is less pressure and more time to prepare ahead for lectures;
WHEREAS,

The early semester academic calendar system provides substantial advantages for administrators:

a. there are reduced costs in administering a two-term academic year;

b. there is improved articulation with other components of California's higher education system (86 to 104 community colleges use a semester system; as do eleven of nineteen universities, and, after 1983, U.C. Berkeley) and with other universities across the nation (55% use a semester system, 48% the early semester);

c. with more lead time, there can be more accurate and complete schedules and bulletins;

d. less time proportionately is spent in starting up and concluding terms and more in administering programs; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the university calendar be converted to the early semester; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a fully-funded summer term be continued; and be it further

RESOLVED: That savings derived from operating the new calendar be used for improvement of instruction.
I. Minutes. Minutes of the March meeting were approved as distributed.

II. Announcements

A. Kersten reported that candidates for VPAA are being interviewed at present. He also announced that the selection of a Chancellor is proceeding without formal or official faculty consultation and that the selection procedure has become a matter of public controversy. Finally, he reported that there is some confusion regarding whether or not the administration can mandate which faculty members are to be reviewed this year under the new Peer Review of Tenured Faculty program adopted by the Trustees.

III. Reports

A. Administrative Council: Brown summarized the last meeting of the Council.

B. CSU Academic Senate: Riedlsperger reported on the Sacramento meeting of the Statewide Senate.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Distinguished Teacher Award Committee. Dingus (for Ruehr) reported on progress.

B. Election. Mosher reported that nominees are still needed for the PRC. In most schools there will be uncontested elections. Corwin Johnson said notice of elections had been inadequate and suggested that nominations be reopened. Mosher reviewed the notice procedure. Discussion continued.

C. Faculty Library. Barnes reported on journal subscription reductions.

D. Personnel Review Committee. Johanna Brown announced that the committee had received eight cases from individuals not recommended for promotion.

E. Research. Dingus announced that CARE grants totaling $19,000 had been awarded. Eleven of twelve proposals were funded at least in part.

V. Business Items

A. Faculty Professional Record Form. Brown presented the resolution.

B. Academic Calendar. Simmons presented the proposal for a semester system. Most of the meeting was devoted to this first reading item.

M/S/P (Sharp, Johnson) to recess until April 20. Recessed at 4:55 PM.
Meeting of April 13, 1982 recessed to April 20, 1982.

The Chair called the meeting to order noting that it had been recessed to this date and would take up the agenda at the point of recess. Since Simmons had not yet arrived, the Senate took up the next item.

I. Business Items

A. Curriculum Calendar. Butler presented the resolution which provided the calendar recommended by the committee. After brief consideration it was M/S/P (Dingus, Johnson) to advance it to second reading status. Debate proceeded. M/S (Riedlsperger, Henry) to amend by setting the date for departmental submissions at February 15. M/S/P the previous question. The motion to amend failed.

M/S to revise the April 1 to June 15 period to provide for a single track review system with the Senate as the last reviewing body before submission to the President. Withdrawn.

M/S/P (Hill, Sharp) to amend by striking the first sentence in the section under April 1 - June 15 and to add the words "the Academic Senate" to the section on the period March 1 to April 1. M/S/P (Johnson, Simmons) to refer the resolution back to the Curriculum Committee for revision with instructions to report back at the May meeting of the Senate.

B. Academic Calendar. The Senate returned to the resolution (first reading). M/S/P (Riedlsperger, Johnson) the agenda.

C. Honors at Graduation: Scriven presented the resolution. M/S/P (Carnegie, Johnson) to advance the item to second reading status. The resolution was passed by a voice vote.

D. CAM 619. Gooden presented the resolution. Discussion continued. First reading status was presented, second reading will occur on May 4, 1982.

M/S/P to adjourn at 5:00 PM.