Memorandum

May 6, 1986

To: Lloyd Lamouria, Chair
   Academic Senate

From: Long Range Planning Committee

Subject: Revised Enrollment Recommendations

These enrollment management recommendations were developed by the Long Range Planning Committee in response to your request of 6 January 1986. The Resolution on Strategic Planning adopted by the Academic Senate in April 1985 also identified enrollment as an area with several key issues related to Cal Poly's future over the next decade.

There is strong consensus on the Long Range Planning Committee to hold the size of Cal Poly at 14,200 FTE until such time as the current shortages of facilities (e.g. classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices) are corrected (see Figure 1). This would suggest that any increase in enrollment beyond our authorized 14,200 should only occur when currently planned physical plant expansion projects are completed in 1990-91. We understand that 1985-86 enrollment is already somewhat greater than the 14,200 FTE for which we are funded. This suggests some short term decrease in the number of students is needed.

The 1990-91 completion of the adequate facilities needed to serve our current enrollment level coincides with a projected short term decline in the number of students graduating from California high schools (see Figure 2). The committee understands that the CSU is likely to expand considerably over the next ten years due in part to changing eligibility standards. It is important to note, however, that although the total number of high school graduates in 1994 will be nearly equal to the number in 1987, the ethnic mix of these students will be very different. This factor may actually decrease the number of applicants to Cal Poly.

Before the committee can support an increase of 800 FTE students we feel that two issues must be carefully considered: (1) How will these additional 800 students be distributed among new and existing programs? (2) How and when will the whole range of additional staff and facilities be added to handle these new students? The committee strongly recommends that any such expansion should only occur after a detailed expansion plan is developed. Such a plan would address the number and timing of new students, their level (freshman, transfer, or graduate) and their school and area. It would also address the timing and location of facilities to serve these students. Such facilities would include not only classrooms and laboratories, but also faculty offices (at least 50 at present student-teacher ratio on campus), parking, recreation (land and facilities), housing and support staff. The committee reiterates its recommendation that such facilities should be in place before students.
The committee understands even with limited expansion careful scrutiny of both new program proposals and existing programs is needed. The committee feels that such limits need not preclude curriculum adjustments to the changing economic, technological, and population trends. It does, however, suggest such adjustments must be made by shifting enrollment and resources within the university. We feel that such adjustments can only be made in consultation with individual departments and faculty.

In terms of the mix of first time freshman and transfer students for the campus as a whole, the committee recognizes that the current mix at Cal Poly (approximately 60% first-time freshman, 40% transfer) is nearly the reverse of the CSU as a whole. The committee also recognizes that Cal Poly and the CSU system have a unique responsibility in providing community college students an opportunity to complete their educations. It should also be noted that transferring from the community college system provides increased access to the increasing proportion of minority and ethnic students. The proportion of these students among California high school graduates will increase dramatically over the next fifteen years. We also note that an increased proportion of graduate and transfer students should place less demand on the currently overstressed areas of general education. The smaller size of upper division classes allows more focus on individual students, but greatly expands faculty loads in the major departments. However, the committee also recognizes that the effects of radically different admission ratios for first time freshman and transfer students are not clear, particularly as they may affect already heavily impacted departments. More careful study of this issue is needed.

To make informed decisions on detailed enrollment management issues such as growth areas and possible program reductions, the committee suggests that three things are needed:

1) The faculty at all levels (i.e. the Academic Senate, the Executive Committee, the faculty at large) needs to be better informed on the consequences of various enrollment policies;

2) a more structured process for faculty involvement in the decision-making process must be developed; and

3) proposed enrollment management decisions should be discussed with the affected departments before they are finalized.
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
COMPARISON OF AVAILABLE CAPACITY TO
PLANNED ENROLLMENT GROWTH BY CAMPUS
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS (IN THOUSANDS)

CAPACITIES ARE BASED UPON
CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY
EDUCATION COMMISSION ADOPTED
UTILIZATION STANDARDS
February 3, 1986

Figure 1

Cal Poly's facilities are 2300 FTE short of 1985 - 1986 enrollment

a 1986/87 TO 1991/92
b CAPACITY DEFICIT OF SURPLUS COMPARED TO 1985/86 ENROLLMENTS (FTE)
Figure 2

ACTUAL AND PROJECTED GRADUATES

350
(THOUSANDS) PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS

340

330

320

310

300

74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94

Total Grads

Source:
The Long Range Planning Committee
State of California, Department of Finance
Population Research Unit (6/25/85)
May 20, 1986

State of California

Projected
To: Lloyd Lamouria, Chair
   Academic Senate

From: Warren J. Baker
   President

Subject: Academic Senate Resolution AS-220-86/LRPC
      (Revised Enrollment Recommendations)

I concur with the recommendations contained in the statement submitted by
the Long Range Planning Committee.
Date: April 9, 1987

To: Malcolm Wilson
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

From: Lloyd H. Lamouria, Chair
Academic Senate

Subject: Academic Senate Revised Enrollment Recommendations, AS-220-86

A. On the first page of the above-referenced policy statement, two important questions were raised:

1. How will these additional 800* students be distributed among new and existing programs?

2. How and when will the whole range of additional staff and facilities be added to handle these new students?

B. In order to make informed decisions, AS-220-86 further emphasized the following:

1. The faculty at all levels (i.e., the Academic Senate, the Executive Committee, the faculty at large) needs to be better informed on the consequences of various enrollment policies;

2. A more structured process for faculty involvement in the decision-making process must be developed; and

3. Proposed enrollment management decisions should be discussed with the affected departments before they are finalized.

Would you or your representative, in conjunction with the Academic Senate Long-Range Planning Committee, advise as to your plan of action for implementation of the policy statement approved by President Baker on June 23, 1986?

Attachment

*Reference to changing our enrollment ceiling.
Date: June 10, 1986

To: Warren J. Baker, President

From: Lloyd H. Lamouria, Chair
Academic Senate

Subject: Proceedings of the Academic Senate, June 3, 1986
REVISED ENROLLMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
(AS-220-86/LRPC)

The above-referenced recommendations were adopted unanimously on June 3, 1986 and are herewith forwarded for your consideration and approval.

The Academic Senate is firm and united in its position to hold at 14,200 FTE students pending:

1. Development of enrollment policies.
2. Structured process for faculty involvement in the decision making process.
3. Involvement of affected department faculty in the enrollment decision process.

In short, we need to develop a shared decision making process before the faculty can meaningfully support increased growth.

Attachment