ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California

Background Statement: Cal Poly currently has a number of activities designed to encourage personal and academic growth of women. Survival of these activities is dependent on permanently established programs with institutional support.

Women's Programming ("Women's Week") is a case in point. This annual event began in 1982 and has been funded since 1986/87 through lottery proposals. The event has been well-attended; participation rose between 1982 and 1988 from 500 to 3,000. While successful, Women's Programming is now beginning to suffer from volunteer exhaustion, since the funding has not included faculty or staff release time. Moreover, funding itself is problematic as the event no longer qualifies for lottery seed money. University commitment is now needed to ensure the future of this event.

Several other groups provide services and programs of interest to women, among these the Academic Senate Status of Women Committee, the Afro-American Women's Support Group, and the Hispanic Women's Support Group. However, each of the groups works independently and without coordination; their activities would be enhanced by increased cooperation and communication.

The need for coordinated services is increasing as the number of women grows. One important aspect of women's services is the need for greater attention to issues of diversity. As the composition of students and faculty changes, it is important to have institutional structures in place to meet the needs of these groups.

Cal Poly is not alone in recognizing a need for coordinating services to women. Of the 20 CSU campuses, 17 have already established a Women's Center and/or Reentry Center. Not surprisingly, the Board of Trustees, in adopting the CSU Educational Support Services Master Plan in 1989, designated these centers as "basic services" to be provided on each CSU campus.

WHEREAS, Cal Poly is committed to providing an environment which would encourage and support the personal and academic growth of women on campus; and
WHEREAS, In particular, an important aspect of women's services is to provide a supportive environment for underrepresented groups such as returning students and ethnic minorities; and

WHEREAS, Current programs such as Women's Programming are in need of permanent staff and funding to ensure their continuation; and

WHEREAS, The changing composition of students and faculty at Cal Poly is resulting in an even greater need for services for women; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly needs a Resource Center to provide information to the growing population of women; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees has designated Women's Centers as a "basic service"; and

WHEREAS, 17 of the 20 CSU campuses have already established such centers; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly needs a full-time professional to:
(1) direct the Resource Center;
(2) continue the Women's Week tradition by planning and coordinating the various activities on campus of interest to women, with a particular focus on ethnic diversity;
(3) work with the Coordinator of Women's Studies to encourage the integration of women's material into the curriculum;
(4) work with existing campus groups to more effectively implement the sexual harassment policy; and
(5) represent the university as a campus governing board member on the Women's Council of the State University; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate support the proposal for a Women's Resource Center and a Women's Resource Center Coordinator to provide support and networking primarily for women and which may extend to other underrepresented groups such as ethnic minorities and returning students; to plan and coordinate Women's Programming; and to serve as a visible hub for communication with other groups on campus, in the Cal State system, and in the community.

Proposed By: The Status of Women Committee
April 24, 1990
Revised May 22, 1990
The primary functions of the Coordinator for Women's Resources and the Women's Center will be to provide an environment which encourages and supports the personal and academic growth of women on the Cal Poly campus, and to sponsor and co-sponsor programs which will assist in this growth. A Women's Center, with a full-time professional director, will send a visual, positive message to the campus and community that Cal Poly is interested in the well-being and education of its women.

The Coordinator of Women's Resources will be responsible for evaluating the needs of women on campus and for developing a coordinated program to meet these needs. Examples include: to work to increase cooperation and communication among different on-campus groups who provide services and programs of special interest to women; to work with the Coordinator of Women's Studies to encourage the integration of women's material into the curriculum; to work with existing campus groups to more effectively implement the sexual harassment policy; and to be a campus governing board member of the Women's Council of the State University (WCSU).

While not wishing to be segregated from the university mainstream, women welcome opportunities for interaction and interchange with other women; such informal relationships and signs of recognition, which are so much a part of university life for the scholar, whether student or faculty member, are often not available to women in a polytechnic university setting. The concept of a Women's Center with a coordinator is not new. 17 of the 19 CSU campuses have a Women's Center and/or Re-entry Center; 14 of these programs have their own operating budgets, and most have existed for 10 to 20 years.

The attached budget summary includes funding for the Coordinator, student assistant help, Women's Week programming, and operating expenses for the Center. The Center will need to include office space for the Coordinator and a reception/meeting area. An annual stipend is requested for honoraria for distinguished speakers; additional funding will be sought annually through lottery proposals. In-state travel funds are needed for the Coordinator to attend four WCSU meetings/year.

* Where priority number one signifies the greatest need.
# General Fund - Budget Proposal for Support of Unmet Needs

**Budget Summary**

**Fiscal Year:** 90 - 91

## 1. Personal Services:

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<th>Proposed Position Classification</th>
<th>Person-Years</th>
<th>Effec. Dates</th>
<th>Proposed Dollars</th>
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<td>Student Services Professional</td>
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<td>Overtime (<em><strong>hrs @ S</strong></em>__/hr)</td>
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## 2. Operating Expenses and Equipment:

- Supplies and Services: $2,000
- Chargebacks (Monthly calendars, Women's Week Schedules): $2,000
- Travel In-State: $700
- Contractual Services (Speakers): $2,000
- Equipment (PC & printer, one-time purchase): $6,000
- Other: Printing (posters): $2,000

Totals, Operating Expenses and Equipment: $14,700

## 3. Grand Total Proposed:

$57,821

*If budgets in subsequent fiscal years differ from the first year (other than salary cost-of-living adjustments), please attach additional Budget Summary sheets. Subsequent year costs of non-faculty position reclassifications are the financial responsibility of the program administrator that receives the allocation.*
Memorandum

To: James L. Murphy, Chair
   Academic Senate

From: Warren J. Baker
   President

Subject: ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLUTION REGARDING WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER -- AS-337-90/SWC

This will acknowledge receipt of your May 23 memo with which you transmitted the subject resolution adopted by the Academic Senate on May 22. The proposal for providing support for a Women's Resource Center and a Women's Resource Center Coordinator within the fiscal constraints which the campus faces for 1990-91 is under consideration by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Student Affairs. I appreciate the attention which the Academic Senate has given to this issue.