Adopted: May 28, 1996

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

AS-463-96/CLS
RESOLUTION ON
INFORMATION COMPETENCE

Background Statement: It is becoming increasingly apparent that information competence is a bedrock skill for all college students. This is the ability to find, evaluate, use, and communicate information in all of its various formats *[Information Competence in the CSU, A Report submitted to the Commission on Learning Resources and Instructional Technology,* December 1995].

WHEREAS, It is a primary responsibility to foster such information skills among the students at Cal Poly; and

WHEREAS, These skills should be mastered at levels appropriate to entering students, continuing students, and graduating students; and

WHEREAS, Such skills need to be integrated into all levels of instruction, both vertically and horizontally as regards the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Such integration is beyond the purview of any single major or the General Education and Breadth program; therefore,

RESOLVED: That entering students be required to meet basic information competence skills, that continuing college students be required to meet university level information competence skills, and that graduating students be expected to meet advanced information competence skills related to their majors; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That a university-wide committee be formed to recommend appropriate skill levels and methods of assessing skill levels and assuring mastery of skills for entering students and continuing students; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the recommendations be forwarded to the Provost for Academic Affairs, the Academic Senate, and the General Education and Breadth Committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the committee will encourage each major to develop and forward a list of

skills and knowledge relating to the informational competence appropriate for their graduating students; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the membership should represent the key divisions at the university who are involved with information competence. All memberships are for three years, with staggered terms to be determined initially by drawing lots, and the chair shall be chosen annually by the committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the committee be appointed by the Provost for Academic Affairs on the basis of the following recommendations:

1. one member from each college, nominated by the dean of the college in consultation with its Academic Senate caucus;
2. one member from the Library, nominated by the Dean of Library Services in consultation with its Academic Senate caucus;
3. one member from the University Center for Teacher Education nominated by the Director of the UCTE;
4. one member from Information Technology Services, nominated by the Vice Provost for ITS; and
5. a representative of the Provost for Academic Affairs designed by the Provost; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the university-wide committee submit an annual report on the university's status concerning the three levels of informational competence to the following:

1. the Chair of the Academic Senate
2. the Provost for Academic Affairs
3. the deans of the individual colleges
4. the Director for the University Center for Teacher Education
5. the Dean of Library Services
6. the Vice Provost for Information Technology Services

and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the first charge of the committee be a review of the issue of computer literacy in the new terms of information competence.

Proposed by the Computer Literacy Subcommittee
April 23, 1996
Revised May 28, 1996

Memorandum

To: Harvey Greenwald, Chair
Academic Senate

Date: September 12, 1996

From: Warren J. Baker
President

Copies: Paul J. Zingg
Glenn Irvin

Subject: **Academic Senate Resolution (AS-463-96/CLS) on Information Competence**

I am pleased to approve the Academic Senate Resolution on Information Competence (AS-463-96/CLS), and am requesting that Dr. Dan Howard-Greene, my Executive Assistant, begin the process to establish the universitywide standing committee which the Resolution addresses.

Thanks for your assistance on this very important issue.