

Adopted: October 2, 2001

**ACADEMIC SENATE  
Of  
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY  
San Luis Obispo, CA**

**AS-576-01/EC  
RESOLUTION ON  
CALENDAR SYSTEM**

**Background:** Cal Poly is one of six CSU campuses utilizing an academic calendar based on quarter terms. These six campuses were asked by Chancellor Reed to consider changing to a semester system in order to provide systemwide uniformity and to take advantage of any possible cost savings as a result of having fewer reporting periods.

In accord with the Chancellor's request, for the last several months, Cal Poly has examined the pros and cons of changing to a semester system in a comprehensive and objective manner, using multiple criteria, at several organizational levels of the university.

In particular, all academic departments at their 2001 fall conference retreats discussed the advantages and disadvantages of both the quarter system and semester system. Department reports were submitted to the Academic Senate indicating the preference for either a quarter or semester calendar.

WHEREAS, Cal Poly is one of six CSU campuses utilizing an academic calendar based on quarter terms; and

WHEREAS, These six campuses were asked by Chancellor Reed to consider changing to a semester system in order to provide systemwide uniformity and to take advantage of any possible costs savings as a result of having fewer reporting periods; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with the Chancellor's request, the pros and cons of changing to a semester system have been examined in a comprehensive and objective manner, using multiple criteria, at several organizational levels of the University; and

WHEREAS, Analyses by the University's administrative and academic units of the significant costs of conversion to, and subsequent conduct of, a semester calendar system do not support the assumption of cost savings that allegedly would accompany a calendar change; and

WHEREAS, The overwhelming majority of academic departments believe that the academic

quality of the programs at Cal Poly would better be served by remaining on the quarter system; and

WHEREAS, The overwhelming majority of academic departments believe that the institutional mission and distinction of Cal Poly would better be served by remaining on the quarter system; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly endorse the faculty decision to remain on the quarter system; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly request that University President Warren Baker endorse the faculty decision and present the supporting evidence for remaining on the quarter system in his response to Chancellor Reed.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Executive  
Committee

Date: September 25, 2001

Revised: October 1, 2001

Revised: October 2, 2001

## Margaret R. Camuso

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From: Mary K. Fiala  
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2001 3:12 PM  
To: Unny Menon  
Cc: Margaret R. Camuso; Gladys E. Gregory; Bonnie T. Long; Paul J. Zingg  
Subject: Response to AS-576-01 IEC

AS 576-01.doc

On November 20, 2001, President Warren J. Baker responded, via memorandum, to Academic Senate Resolution AS-576-01/EC, Resolution of Calendar System.

I have attached the President's response in its entirety as a Word document; however, I am also providing the text of the memorandum below for those who have e-mail systems that do not handle attachments.

If you have any questions, please call.

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President Warren J. Baker's response of November 20, 2001, to Academic Senate Resolution AS-576-01/EC:

"This will acknowledge receipt and approval of the above-entitled Senate Resolution. As you are aware, I informed Chancellor Reed that I concurred with the strong consensus on the campus and recommended that Cal Poly stay with a quarter calendar.

Please extend my appreciation to the Academic Senate for their assistance in insuring that the academic community was fully consulted regarding the calendar system discussion."