MINUTES

I. Minutes: Approval of the January 21, 1986 and January 22, 1986 Executive Committee Minutes

II. Announcements:

III. Reports:
A. President/Provost
B. Statewide Senators

IV. Business Items:
A. Resolution on Senior Projects - Cooper
B. Resolution on Accuracy in Academia - Kersten
C. Resolution on Lottery Funds - McNeil, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Use of Lottery Funds
D. Resolution on Assigned Time - Lamouria

V. Discussion Items:

VI. Adjournment:
Maria Theodore  
200 N Santa Rosa #311C  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  

January 27, 1986  

Dean Lark P. Carter,  
School of Agriculture  
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  

Dear Dean Carter,  

I am an Agricultural Business major preparing to graduate in June, 1986. I am in the second quarter of senior project, which for me is doing a marketing campaign for a new piece of dairy cow milking equipment. After doing a "real life" marketing campaign in an Ag. Communications class, I knew exactly what I wanted to do for my senior project, and possibly in my future career.  

I contracted with a Dairy Equipment Manufacturer located in my home town, and for the past six months have been working closely with several of the company's employees. Working with people from secretaries to sales personnel, and marketing directors, this experience has enhanced business and communication skills that can't be taught in any other way but by first hand experience. I have also researched the dairy industry as well as equipment dealers and dairymen. The list goes on. This project has allowed me to put to use some of the skills and techniques learned in my classes. It is the most exciting and practical work I have done in my college career. My senior project is the last chapter of a good book. Without this chapter, there would not be any satisfaction of completion.  

My senior project has taught me how to manage my own time and set priorities accordingly. It has also proven to be a test of stamina and assertiveness. As you know, Cal Poly graduates have been looked upon by employers very favorably. Now, I know why.  

I am proud to be a part of the Agricultural program that is offered, and will soon be a very proud alumnus!  

Sincerely,  

Maria Theodore  
Agri-Business Management Student  
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA
ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

AS-_____86

RESOLUTION ON
"ACCURACY IN ACADEMIA"

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of Cal Poly State University consistently has defended academic freedom and responsibility within The California State University system; and

WHEREAS, A new obstacle to academic freedom is an organization entitled "Accuracy in Academia" which has emerged in California and in the rest of the nation; and

WHEREAS, This organization intends to monitor faculty classroom statements "for liberal bias"; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly State University oppose the efforts of "Accuracy in Academia" because it endangers academic freedom and responsibility; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly State University also urge the President of the University to oppose the efforts of "Accuracy in Academia".

Timothy Kersten
February 3, 1986
The graduation requirement for an undergraduate research project at CPSU dates back to 1940 when the California State Board of Education granted the California Polytechnic School approval to award the Bachelor of Science degree and the institution required all students to complete an undergraduate thesis prior to graduation (12). The requirement was known as an undergraduate thesis until the 1953-54 academic year (13) and is currently called a senior project. The early purposes of senior projects were: "to develop the student's ability to recognize important problems, plan a procedure for attack and prepare an accurate, attractive, and concise report" (13); to provide "for project problem solving with every graduating student held responsible for the evidence of his own individual creative participation in completing a Senior Project under faculty supervision" (14); "to test the students ability to apply the competencies acquired in other course work to the successful completion of a specific project, one most often related to the student's intended field of employment" (15).

Today the Campus Administrative Manual defines the senior project as... "a formal report of the results of a study or experiment selected and completed under faculty supervision by each student prior to the receipt of the bachelor's degree..." (16). Expected outcomes include:

1. Ability to reduce a general problem to specific points of analysis.

2. Ability to organize points of analysis into a logical sequence.

3. Ability to apply competencies acquired in other courses to the successful completion of a specific project.
4. Ability to obtain information necessary to the solution of a problem by library study, experimentation, and/or correspondence and personal contact with people who have had experience in the field.

5. Ability to organize, illustrate, and write a clear, concise and correct report of the investigation.

6. Ability to work for a supervisor who desires quality performance with a minimum of supervision (17).


