CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California
ACADEMIC SENATE
ACADEMIC SENATE - MINUTES
May 27, 1986
U.U. 220, 3:00 -5:00 p.m.

Chair: Lloyd H. Lamouria
Vice Chair: Lynne E. Gamble
Secretary: Raymond D. Terry

Members Absent: Not recorded

I. Minutes

A. The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.
   after the Secretary had verified the presence of a
   quorum.

B. The minutes of the May 13, 1986 Academic Senate meeting
   were approved as mailed.

II. Announcements

A. The Chair announced that at 4:30 p.m. each 1985-1986
   caucus chair would be called on to introduce newly-
   elected senators from his /her school (or from the PCS)
   and to announce the identity of the 1986-1987 caucus
   chair.

B. The Chair announced that at 4:45 p.m. Bill Kellogg
   (Chair: Elections Committee) would conduct the election
   of officers.

C. The Chair noted the lengthy agenda for the day's meet-
   ing and announced that the Senate would be asked to de-
   cide whether to recess at 5:00 p.m. (and reconvene on
   Tuesday: June 3 at 3:00 p.m. to complete action on the
   remaining business items) or to empower the Executive
   Committee. The decision would be made at 4:30.

D. The Chair recognized Clarissa Hewitt who announced that
   the survey made by the Instruction Committee concerning
   whether senior projects should be optional and /or how
   to make them more meaningful had not been responded to
   by enough persons to make the comments statistically
   valid. She indicated that the Instruction Committee
   did not wish to make any recommendations now concerning
   senior projects, that it would conduct another survey
   in the fall, and report to the Senate thereafter.
III. Reports
   A. President /Provost: None
   B. C.S.U. Senators: None

IV. Business Items
   A. GE&B Report

1. The Chair recognized George Lewis (Chair; GE&B) who moved the report to the floor. The motion, seconded by Robert Bonds, was followed by a motion to move the Report to a second reading. This was done with one abstention and no negative votes.

2. George Lewis then moved the adoption of the GE&B Committee's recommendations. Tim Kersten moved to divide the questions so as to permit separate discussion and separate votes on each of the three parts of the report.

3. Discussion of ART 208 commenced with Clarissa Hewitt (who spoke on behalf of the Art Department which proposed the course for inclusion in Area C.3 of the GE&B requirements) and terminated when she requested that the course be referred back to committee for further consideration of the broad issue as to whether Area C would be strengthened by the inclusion of skills, studio and/or performance courses.

4. Discussion commenced on the inclusion of HUM 302 in GE&B Area C.3.
   a. Speaking against inclusion of the course for inclusion in GE&B Area C.3 or F.2 were Reg Gooden, Mike Wenzl (Chair of the Area C GE&B Subcommittee), George Lewis and others.
   b. Speaking in favor of inclusion of the course in GE&B Area C.3 or F.2 were Jim Ahern, Clarissa Hewitt, Diane Michelfelder, Bill Forgeng and Stan Dundon (proposer, developer and teacher of HUM 302).
   c. Stan Dundon distributed a six-page hand-out which amplified his arguments in favor of approving the course and included a table of contents of the text used and two highly-laudatory evaluations of the course by members of the Chancellor's Office which supported the development of the course through an Academic Program Improvement Grant. The course content
is agricultural ethics which, by its nature, involves some technical topics. However, the method, integration of topics, the principles and purposes of the course are derived from ethics. The course is inter-disciplinary in nature and deals with the social and humanistic aspects of technology.

d. Arguments opposed to inclusion of the course in GE&B Area C.3 include:

(1) The course deals with applied ethics, not pure ethics;

(2) The course, like other courses of its ilk, will get sidetracked on controversial subjects which inflame the emotions rather than promote scholarly study of abstract issues;

(3) The course is of the type that may not receive GE&B credit if a Cal Poly student were to transfer to a sister campus of the C.S.U. system.

(4) For the course to be acceptable, it should have a course in pure ethics as prerequisite;

(5) The course has a narrow focus as demonstrated by a flyer circulated last year advertising the course to potential registrants.

(6) The course is an attempt by the School of Agriculture to circumvent GE&B requirements;

(7) If this course is approved for inclusion in GE&B, we may be opening a "Pandora's Box" of similar requests.

e. Counter-arguments to those in d are:

(1') Ag students need such a course.

(2') Each year the course emphasizes a key area, e.g., world hunger; social and political aspects of ag research; the death of the family farm. Looking at the course over a period of years, the range of topics is quite broad. Moreover, the character of the course is so broad that one may administer a standardized ethics
pre-test and post-test each year with marked improvement noted in the students upon completion of the course.

(3') Many courses don’t receive transfer credit when a student changes institutions.

This course has the support of and good evaluations by the Chancellor’s Office.

We should approve /disapprove the course on its own merits, not because we think it is (is not) acceptable system-wide.

(4') Ideally, a prerequisite course in pure ethics would be desirable. Ag students do not have the time in their program to take both.

(5') The course has a wide focus. Cf. (2').

(6') The course has a HUM prefix, not an AG prefix.

(7') There are only three HUM courses that can be taken for GE&B credit. This course is very specialized. Other courses like it do not now exist.

f. M/S (Gooden /Terry): That HUM 302, if approved for inclusion in GE&B Area C, shall be appraised by the Student Affairs Committee to determine the need for a warning label concerning transfer credit upon a student’s transfer to a sister institution.

Charles Dana suggested a generic warning label for all GE&B courses.

Tim Kersten moved to close debate and vote on the amendment.

The amendment failed on a voice vote with 2 abstentions.

g. The GE&B Committee’s recommendation to include HUM 302 in GE&B Area C was upheld by the Senate with 3 abstentions.

5. Discussion of Math 201 commenced.

a. It was established that the course is more general than Math 114. Like Math 114, Math 201 will have Math 113 as prerequisite. The course
will be more rigorous than Math 100. The Math 113 prerequisite is often met on entrance to Cal Poly.

b. George Lewis explained the content of Math 201; Charles Dana gave the course his blessing.

c. The Senate upheld the GE&B Committee's recommendation to include the course in Area B unanimously.

B. Resolution on Distinction between Options and Concentrations

1. The Chair recognized Dan Williamson (Chair: Curriculum Committee) to present the content of the Resolution.

2. M/S/F (Andrews /Bonds) to advance the Resolution to Second Reading status.

3. The Senate adopted the Resolution with no negative votes and only one abstention.

C. Resolution on Free Electives

1. The Chair recognized Dan Williamson (identified above) who noted that the Curriculum Committee could not resolve the issue of whether the rule requiring 9 units of free electives should be enforced, or not. As a result, the Curriculum Committee prepared two rival Resolutions and is requesting the Senate to decide the matter.

2. The Chair opened the discussion on both Resolutions, but indicated that the first resolution in the agenda package would be voted upon first.

3. Charles Dana spoke in favor of the first resolution provided. He noted the enormous difficulty that many departments (especially in the School of Engineering) have in trying to meet the demands of program quality (XX units in one's major and/or support courses), GE&B requirements, free electives and stay within the 210 unit limit for graduation.

4. Other speakers in favor of Resolution #1 were Mike Botwin, Bill Howard, et. al.

5. George Lewis emphasized the need for a cap on the number of support courses a department may require its majors to take. Doing this would permit the 9 free electives under discussion.
6. Tim Kersten moved that the Resolution be advanced to Second Reading status, since the merits of the Resolution were already being discussed at length. This motion was seconded by several persons in unison. The motion carried on a voice vote.

7. M/S (Dana /???): To adopt the primary Resolution on Free Electives offered by the Curriculum Committee.

8. M/S (Gooden /Cooper): To amend the primary Resolution on Free Electives by deleting the given Resolved clause and replacing it with the following:

"RESOLVED: That support courses be limited so as to protect a minimum of six units of unrestricted electives."

9. The Chair ruled that the amendment was improper and could not be considered. The Parliamentarian upheld this interpretation of Robert's Rules of Order.

Reg Gooden challenged the Parliamentarian's ruling. A roll call vote on the propriety of the amendment was taken. The Chair was upheld: 30-14-2-9.

10. A motion to limit debate was made, seconded and passed with one abstention.

11. The motion to adopt the primary Resolution on Free Electives carried on a voice vote.

V. Special Business and Announcements

A. The Chair asked the Senate to choose between an extra session (Tuesday: June 3, 1986) or to leave the unfinished business items to the Executive Committee's discretion this summer.

The Senate chose an extra session. The Executive Committee meeting, originally scheduled for June 3, 1986, will now take place on Tuesday: June 10, 1986 at 3:00 p.m..

B. The Chair called upon each present caucus chair to announce the identity of the new ('86-'87) caucus chair and to introduce newly-elected senators from his/her school or unit.

In the following list an asterisk will indicate that the person named was an incumbent and was reelected to
the Senate.

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<td>[One PCS Senator to be appointed]</td>
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C. The Chair turned the meeting over to Bill Kellogg (Chair: Elections Committee) to conduct the election of Senate officers.

1. Bill Kellogg announced the nomination of one senator, Lloyd H. Lamouria, for the position of Chair.

   M/S: To close nominations and elect by acclamation Lloyd H. Lamouria.

   Thundering applause shook the Senate chambers.

2. Bill Kellogg announced the nomination of one senator, Lynne E. Gamble, for the position of Vice Chair.

   M/S: To close nominations and elect by acclamation Lynne E. Gamble.

   Thundering applause shook the Senate chambers.
3. Bill Kellogg announced the nomination of one senator, Raymond D. Terry, for the position of Secretary.

M/S: To close nominations and elect by acclamation Raymond D. Terry.

Thundering applause shook the Senate chambers.

VI. Recess

The Senate recessed at 4:50 p.m.; the second session of this meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 1086 at 3:00 p.m. in U.U. 220.