Plus-minus grades, clearer definitions, before committee

BY SUE BOYLAN

The possibility of plus and minus grading and clearer definitions for grades under consideration by a subcommittee of the academic senate.

The subcommittee—made up of members of the senate's Instruction Committee—has held meetings with each department faculty and is currently studying the academic senate's policy on grading.

Dr. Ron Brown, chairman of the Instruction Committee and member of the subcommittee on grading policy, said there are six issues the subcommittee could consider. Brown said these two issues will receive the most attention: the changing of the grading system to record plus and minus grades, and clarification of the word 'better' grade definitions.

The subcommittee has just begun to consider the question of grading policy and grading system. Recommendations or proposals have been offered yet to the academic senate.

Brown, a member of the physics department faculty, said grading policy is a complex issue with many overlapping areas that directly influence each other. He said he has organized the issues raised about grading policy into six items, including plus and minus grading and grade definition.

The other four are:

Executive Order 320, from the CSUC Chancellor's Office, which would establish policy on grading, grade changes and appeal procedures. Cal Poly already has a Fairness Board. The question here is whether the executive order would require changes in current policy in the wording of the Campus Administrative Manual.

Credit/no credit grading—should courses taken by students be graded on the basis of credit, no credit? Are current regulations adequate? There is currently a resolution before the senate calling for the elimination of one grade in support courses.

Administrative grade changes—should any recording procedure involve changing assigned grades? If current policy is adequate, are there procedural changes that could reduce possible abuses?

Course information—the ASI student newspaper passed a plan that instructors be required to hand out syllabi for courses. Students have previously voiced their support for the grading methods to be used as well as other information about the courses. See Grades, page 3

Credit/no credit grading came under fire Tuesday when the academic senate recommended that better grades be required for support courses.

Proponents of the measure charged that credits given in support courses prevented students from being adequately challenged. Ron Brown of the physics department, who introduced the resolution, said grading is probably the least desirable job; instructors have to do, but is an expected and valuable service to students, never theless.

Mike Wenzl, an English professor, supported Brown's contention that credit/no credit grading is an inadequate means of measuring what a student is learning in support courses.

Most institutions nationally are moving away from credit/no credit grading, he told the senate. "It started out as an experiment and now universities are viewing it as a major experiment that didn't work..."

Delmar Dingus of the soil science department pointed out that prospective employers and graduate schools occasionally check student's grades, and don't look favorably upon credit grades.

"I think it is to the student's advantage to have grades rather than credits on their transcript," he said.

Claiming students want the opportunity to make their own judgments on credit/no credit courses, student representative Brad Bessey introduced a compromise amendment that would require support courses taken for just credit. The amendment was over­whelmingly defeated.

"This can mean that students will be counted as making a better major courses," he explained.

"Most institutions nationally are moving away from credit/no credit grading..."—Mike Wenzl.

Brown added that credits for support courses could create problems if a student decides to change majors, because those courses are required for specific majors. In April of 1979, the academic council unanimously passed a similar resolution recommending that credit/no credit grading be eliminated. The resolution died under the support column on a major curriculum sheet.

"The possibility of plus and minus grading could cause problems if a student wanted to change majors..."—Mike Wenzl.

The amendment, along with the academic senate's resolution, will be transferred to President Warren Baker for consideration.

City welcomes student bus stop plan

By Meg McConahay

San Luis Obispo City Hall workers may be a little drier during next year's rainy season if a senior project plan by two Cal Poly students is given the final go-ahead by the San Luis Obispo Community Development department.

Skip Neville and Chris Gatley presented their design for an improved bus stop to the San Luis Obispo City Council Tuesday afternoon and received a warm response from the five-member board.

Councilman Ron Dunin expressed some doubts about placing the stop near the crowded City Hall intersection at Palm and Osos Streets. The council, however, unanimously voiced its approval of the plan which could have cost the city up to $4,000 if a private firm was contracted for the job.

Neville and Gatley said they could construct the stop for $2,000 in materials and free labor. Both young men assured the council they have extensive experience and they hope to enlist senior-level construction students to help make the bus stop.

Dunin questioned the practicality of building a bus stop at the Osos Street entrance of city hall because of speculation that buses may be rerouted from the spot sometime in the future.

Mayer Lynn Cooper pointed out that the design for the bus stop is held up until rerouting plans are finalized. "If the bus stop might never be constructed..."

"I endorse the plan 100 percent," Cooper said. "If we wait for a final determination on the bus route, the project will never get done, and this way, we'll get some use out of it no matter what happens..."

For Neville and Gatley, June is the deadline for completion of the project. Both young men are graduating then.

Councilwoman Melanie Billig said the project "looks great." Cal Poly student services director Dave Romero, the important of a senior project plan, could construct the stop for $2,000 and will send endorsements of the project to the city council along with the design review board for careful study.

Chris Gatley, a construction management major, explained, "If we finish the model before the deadline..."

"New day to be on all day at KCPR:

Campus radio station KCPR will feature "Newday" this Thursday, March 6. Newday is an annual KCPR feature featuring an all-news format for one day. Beginning at 7 a.m., news, sports, public affairs, interviews and features will be aired until 6 p.m.

Said Co-News Director Mike Medvedoff, "It is an opportunity for all people connected with KCPR to get a taste of what it's like to work in an all-news format..."

Extension offers whale-watching trip

Extension offers whale-watching trip

Those wishing to observe the migrating gray whale and hike on Anacapa Island can enroll in a Cal Poly Extension course beginning March 21 through 23.

"Channel Islands National History Excursion" will take participants by boat around as many of the Channel Islands as time and weather permits. The birds, mammals and plants seen during the trip and hike on the island will be discussed in on­board lectures.

A list of suggested items to bring will be provided during an orientation meeting on March 20. Fee, including boat transportation and food is $152 for those with guaranteed berths and $142 for those without.

The course offers one unit of academic credit an prerequisite is required by March 14. For more information, call 546-2053...

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Hallett’s cutting mood

As the June 3 election draws closer, so does a decision on the lucrative "Jaws II" proposal, as Proposition 9 is so aptly referred to. Sponsored by Howard Jarvis, the initiative would cut state property taxes in half.

If Jarvis II does pass, as recent opinion polls have indicated it will, the money belt would be tightened throughout the state with education being especially hard hit. Tuition for state universities and colleges, including Cal Poly, will be the most viable alternative to replenishing any budget cuts.

In light of these recent developments it is maddening to hear that Assemblywoman Carol Hallett heartily supports the Jarvis II initiative.

At a press conference last week, the Republican Assembly Leader said the passage of Proposition 13 a year ago last spring hasn’t taught state representatives to be frugal with tax revenues.

Said Hallett: "It has become obvious to me that the only way to cut back is to hit the mule over the head with a 2-by-4 again."

Perhaps Hallett does not realize that by supporting the tax cut she is hitting some of her own constituents with that same 2-by-4.

Hallett serves a constituency of approximately 250,000. Of that number, 36,292 are students. Should Jarvis II pass, these students will probably have to pay tuition to continue their education. Although a figure hasn’t been set, tuition estimates for Cal Poly have ranged from $750 to $1,000 per year. Many students simply cannot afford such high sums—they may be forced to discontinue their education.

Consider another group affected by any tax cut—state employees. When Proposition 13 was passed all state salaries were frozen except for a 10 percent inflation increase. Many of Hallett’s constituents are employed by Cal Poly, Cuesta College and other state offices. Passage of Jarvis II could once again freeze their wages, meaning no raises in the near future.

Did Hallett consider these problems when she decided to support Jarvis II?

Said Hallett, "I believe we can insure that education does not suffer and that state employees do not have to go without raises or live in fear of massive layoffs."

Supporters of Proposition 13 made the same claims a year ago to no avail, education budgets were still cut and wages were fixed.

By supporting Jarvis II, Hallett has shown she has no consideration for students or state workers—that if cutting education budgets were fixed.

Said Hallett, "It has become obvious to me that the only way to cut back is to hit the mule over the head with a 2-by-4 again."

I believe we can insure that education does not suffer and that state employees do not have to go without raises or live in fear of massive layoffs.

The United States, the USSR, or any other country for that matter, doesn’t want to destroy the world. But it is about time that the United States sticks up for itself and starts showing the world, especially the USSR, that we’re still the best and the strongest nation on the face of the earth.

He seems to think that it is wrong to be supportive of American patriotism by saying, "Let’s realize what it is and not make it out to be something it isn’t." What is his definition of patriotism? Patriotism is the support and belief of your country.

For someone like Brown to reap the benefits of a country like ours and then not only refuse to protect it, but also criticize it as he has, is not patriotic in my view. As far as I’m concerned, if he doesn’t think the United States’ rights and privileges are worth fighting for, he can renounce his citizenship and move to a ‘better’ country.

I’m just damn glad we had patriotic forefathers who had the guts to stand up for what they believed in or we wouldn’t be where we are today, enjoying the things we enjoy today. It is my obligation to fight for America so that my children can enjoy the kind of America that I have enjoyed, albeit no thanks to Justin Brown.

Kirk Peterson
Latent left-handers thought to be illness prone

BY TOM KINSELLA
Daily-only Writer

Although only 10 per cent of us are left-handed, a retired Cal Poly professor says another 12 percent of the population writing with their right hands are latent southpaws who, as a result, are susceptible to higher rates of anxiety and heart trouble.

Dean Trembly, 72, who worked 16 years on the faculty of the testing and counseling center, said this is his conclusion drawn from the theory of "cross-dominance," which states some normally left- or right-handed people are instead using the opposite hand.

Trembly's idea on the adverse effects of this received publicity in the July 8, 1979 Los Angeles Times and the February 11, 1980 People magazine.

Regarded as the world's leading expert in his field, according to the People magazine article, Trembly became famous for his research and study during a research of 98 young polo victims at the University of Illinois in 1961.

In a normal amount—36—of the polo victims were discovered to be left-handed, but used their right hands for most tasks.

The correlation enabled Trembly to write his dominance thesis, which stated: "Cross-dominance appears to be a contributing factor because nervous tension produces a weaker body, a body more susceptible to the virus of polo."

In recent new tests Trembly conducted, nearly one-third (39) of the people in the studies with polo were discovered to be left-eyed, a left-sided, yet right-handed writers.

Another study cited by Trembly showed cross-dominant people incur twice as many broken bones as normally dominant people.

"Cross-dominant children are often slow readers, produce more illegible handwriting, are more prone to falters during life-stammering and stuttering," said Trembly.

Trembly believes the subconscious strain of trying to cross-dominance has an adverse effect on the nervous system, leading to illness.

The cross-dominant children afflicted with polo, according to Trembly, expended more energy, possibly played harder, which resulted in fatigue that influenced the contraction of the disease.

The nervous tension itself might have increased their vulnerability to polo, said Trembly.

While there have been no independent studies to verify Trembly's stress theory, he has received criticism.

Dr. Richard Trafton, a Boston psychologist, said in the People article, "It's true that a large proportion of people who have emotional and medical problems also suffer from cross-dominance, but it does not necessarily cause those problems. Both are probably results of another cause—heredity, or neurological development, or being dropped on the head as a child."

When asked for a response to Trafton's criticism, Trembly replied, "I know the man. He troubled, had high nerves at all. He's merely done some reading—his view is based on ideas, not research."

Trembly has been testing people for eye dominance since 1947, when he began working for the Human Engineering Lab, a career guidance firm in Fort Worth, TX. The procedure he uses is called the hole-in-card method which is both simple and reliable, according to another left-handed researcher, M.M. Clark, who was quoted in the August 1976 issue of Research Report magazine.

The test involves using two 2½-inch-square cards, one which has two diagonal lines that cross the other that has a hole in it. One person holds the card with both hands, arms extended and lowered. Another person holds the card with the crossed lines on the other side of the room. The test subject keeps his eyes on the hole at the end of a child.

"Almost at once, I began to feel that I was thinking more clearly and somehow faster than ever before, rather like driving down a super highway after being on unpaved roads all my life," wrote Trembly.

"The left side of my face..."


text cut off
Wildlife Club planting

The wildlife club is going to Big Sandy Wildlife area Saturday, March 8 at 9 a.m. They will be planting saltbrush. People are welcome to bring their own garden tools. People who like to watch birds, wildflowers or other types of wildlife are urged to attend.

For further information call John Burns at 541-2186 between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Thursday or Friday. Or call Cathy Rebis at 544-6242.

...
Outings Committee does it all

BY TOM FULKS

The Outings committee is also trying to get a permit from the forest service in Oregon for a four-day rafting trip down the Rogue River. According to Rod Neubert, advisor for the Outings committee, the Rogue has a "tremendous amount of wildlife" along its shores. He said bears, osprey and wolves all might be observed on this trip. The tentative date for this trip is between spring and summer quarter.

The ASI Outings Committee plans spontaneous trips during the Tuesday night meetings at 7 p.m. in UU 220. All students are invited to attend these meetings and get involved with the committee.

For more information about the trips and meetings go to the Escape Route in the University Union and talk to the people involved.
ENGINES

American Air Filter will be on campus Tues. March 11. We will be interviewing those engineers who are interested in a career opportunity with a company that manufactures and develops sophisticated environmental control systems. American Air Filter is located in St. Louis, Missouri.

Individuals we are seeking will be working in design engineering, development engineering, and test engineering. Preference will be given to environmental engineering grads.

We will be interviewing in Admin. 213 between 8:30 and 4:45.

Saddle making

The Cal Poly Cutting and Roping Club will feature Roger Hunt, horse instructor, at its 7:30 p.m., March 6 meeting in the Boel Pavilion. He will give a demonstration on saddle making. The club yearbook picture will also be taken.

50s dance

The North Mountain Halls are holding a 50s dance in Santa Lucia Hall, March 7, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost is 25 cents with any hall card, 50 cents without. Dress in 50s style clothes. Refreshments will be served.

Bike ride

Meet March 9 at 10 a.m. in front of the Main Gym for a free, casual co-op bicycle ride around the San Luis Obispo area, possibly to Lopes Lake. All are welcome.

Coffee House

The ASI Special Events Committee plans a Coffee House March 6 at 9 p.m. in the Mustang Lounge. Enjoy fine music and exquisite taste treats in a warm atmosphere. Admission is 50 cents.

Speakers Forum

The Speakers Forum meets Tuesdays at 11 a.m. in UU 218. All are welcome.

Hair-Cut-A-Thon

All Cuts $7.00

From: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, March 9th
Place: Victorino's Plaza Salon 2037 Parker St. SLO
Sponsors: San Luis Obispo Child Development Center Parents and Members Group Teach School 175 Ferrini Rd. SLO Phone: 544-4400

Environment Club

The Environmental Services Club plans its first meeting March 8 at 11 a.m. in Science North 201. All E.S. students are encouraged to attend.

Concert/dance

Yosemite Hall plans a concert and dance featuring The Contagious Bop Band on March 7 from 8:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. in Yosemite Hall Lounge. All general admission. 50 cents for Yosemite hall card holders.

Pong-a-thon

Delta Tau fraternity plans a 1 week charity pong-a-thon starting at 6 p.m. March 7. Six percent of the proceeds will go to the Loma Vista Development Center of the handicapped. Hourly pledges are welcome.

Design Club

Women in Environmental Design plans a meeting to discuss Poly Royal preparations, future club events March 6, 7, 8 p.m. in Computer Science 235.

MECHA

MECHA plans a meeting to reorganize the Latino organizations on campus into one, also discussed will be the Chicano Commen cements Committee. Cinco de Mayo, Poly Royal and next year's budget. Meet at 7 p.m., March 7 in UU 219.

Wildlife Club

The Wildlife Club plans to help the California Department of Fish and Game in planting a triplex at the Big Sandy Wildlife area. If interested, meet in H parking lot behind Fisher building March 8 at 9 a.m.

Silent Ruminating

ASI Films is showing Silent Ruminating, starring Bruce Dern, in Chumash on March 13 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Price is $1.

Getting Married?

If you can't find the wedding ring that's exactly right for you, be a maker! You've been helping couples design their own wedding rings for over eight years. Your wedding ring should be very special to you. After all, it's the most personal piece of jewelry you'll ever wear.

LOOK-FOR US ON CAMPUS

March 7

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory

We've got a future for you.

If you're a recent graduate with a basic or advanced degree in engineering, computer science or a computational discipline, see us on campus at your placement office, or contact us for more information about our many career opportunities by sending your resume to: Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, Attn: Employment Division, P.O. Box 806, Dept. JCN, Livermore, CA 94550. U.S. citizenship required. An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/N/V.

THE GOLD CONCEPT

Designers of Fine Jewelry

in the San Luis Obispo area.
**Mustang Corral**

Junior guard Jim Schultz, Cal Poly’s record holder in assists, has been named to United Press Coast team as an honorable mention, it was learned today.

Schultz, one of three players from NCAA Division II schools named on the squad, broke the school single season assist record this season. In 29 games, the 5-9 junior accumulated 257 assists for an average of 8.9 assists per game.

Last week Schultz was selected as co-most valuable player of the CCAA as he led the Mustangs to their fourth conference title in the last nine years.

The women’s tennis team will host UC Irvine Saturday at 10 a.m. and try to break a five-game losing streak.

Saturday’s match against Irvine will be on the courts behind the main gym

The Mustangs, coached by Sonja Murray and Ocean Yeast, lost Saturday to Cal Poly Pomona, 9-0, by Sonja Marray and Linda Enemark.

TheMelodrama proudly presents

**RILEYES university square**

**Sports**

Mustang Corral

Cal Poly volleyball coach Mike Wilson terms this weekend’s two home conference matches against UC Berkeley and Stanford as “pivotal.”

“They are pivotal for us in that we want to stay out of the cellar,” explained Wilson.

“We have fallen on our faces at home. We seem to play better on the road,” Wilson continued.

Friday’s match against California’s Golden Bears begins at 7:30 p.m. while Saturday’s match with the Cardinal starts at 5 p.m.

Saturday’s match was moved to a 7:30 p.m. starting time in the Main Gym.

**March 12**

The Melodrama proudly presents JIM POST warmed up by New Blue Moon

Tickets — $5.00
at Cheap Thrills San Luis/Atascadero/Santa Maria Tickets on sale starting Monday, Mar. 12

**We’ve Re-located!**

Footprints Blueprinting has moved to expand our business. We’re now at 1335 Monterey Street.

**Zip-Front Loungers 7.99**

Regularly 12.00: This Thursday, Friday and Saturday you can save on these comfy loungers. Perfect for lounging or as a cover-up for your summertime fun. Assorted colors in sizes S-M-L. Minimum shrinkage.
The Mustangs will take a 2-9 record to Pomona. All of their 11 games were against NCAA Division I schools. Cal Poly Pomona’s first 11 games have also been against Division I competition. The Broncos have a 6-4-1 record to show for it.

The Mustangs have lost eight straight to Division I teams like Stanford, UC Berkeley and Fresno State, while Pomona lost three times to San Diego State State. The Broncos won their first six games before losing four straight and tying one.

Last weekend, Cal Poly blew a pair of leads late in the games against California. The Mustangs led 7-4 after eight innings in the opener, but lost in 10 innings, 10-7, and in the nightcap, the Mustangs blew a 3-1 lead in the seventh, and eventually lost in 10 innings, 4-3.

“I couldn’t ask for our players to play any better,” noted Coach Herdy Harr. “We have committed only two errors in the last three games, and the hitters are doing a good job of making contact with the bat (19 hits in last weekend’s two games against California).

“Cal had a 1.95 earned run average coming into the series, and it went up quite a bit because of our hitters,” said Harr.

About the two late-inning losses last weekend, Harr said, “Our pitching at this point is off because of the weather. In the late innings, our pitchers are running out of gas. They aren’t used to going a full nine just yet.

Consequently, we are leading in the late innings and losing the games, said Harr. “I’m not suspicious at all about our pitchers’ character, depth or abilities, but because of the rain and limited number of games, we’re getting this type of result.

“As the season goes along, our pitchers will be getting stronger and tougher to hit against,” concluded Harr.

Before the season began last month, Harr predicted Cal Poly Pomona would be the team to beat in the CCAA. “They have everybody back, and I anticipate them being the team to beat,” said Harr.

“The Broncos are very well coached by John Scollinos, and they make all the plays,” Harr added. “They are a very consistent team and play well together. They are not awesome in terms of pro potential, but if we play as well as against Cal last weekend, we have a good chance of taking two out of three, or possibly all three games this weekend.”

Two Broncos were first team all-CCAA selections a year ago. Right handed pitcher Alan Fowlkes, who sports a 2.1 record and 5.33 ERA thus far in 1980, and right fielder Chris Clark (.365), three homes runs. Fowlkes, right handed Joe Chance (1-1, 4.84 ERA) and southpaw Randy Schauer (1-1, 10.49) are expected to be on the hill for the Broncos this weekend. Other top Broncos hitters are outfielder Greg Panter (.413) and designated hitter Mike Ashman (.363, 11 RBIs). Shortstop Jim Camacho has four home runs and a .279 average.

Harr is expected to start Mark Bersano (0-1, 4.95) in Friday’s opener, and Bob Yavorsky (0-0, 2.50) in Saturday’s nightcap. Harr will choose between Mark Silva (0-1, 16.39), Stu Hein (1-2, 5.03) and Ken Eriksen (0-4, 8.18) for Saturday’s first game.

Top Mustang hitters include third baseman Bob Weirum (.366), outfielder Paul Hertler (.400) and another outfielder, Bob Parr (.297). Infielder Craig Gerber (.279), designated hitter Bill White (.270) and shortstop Frank Silva (.270) are also hitting well.