Report by faculty committee calls for program changes

By Francine Stewart
Staff Writer

A faculty committee is considering going to the administration with recommendations for the elimination of the agriculture engineering technology department and the merger of several other departments.

The recommendations, part of a report evaluating every department on campus and put together by the Academic Senate's Program Review and Improvement Committee. The report's findings, once passed on to the administration, may play an important role in determining how departments will fare during the expected next round of budget cuts.

The committee discussed its findings with the Academic Senate on Tuesday at a chaotic meeting in U.U. room 207. The Senate was unable to finish discussion about the report and called a recess until 1 p.m. today.

During the meeting, several faculty members criticized the report and the committee's procedures.

Several members of the review committee itself also questioned whether its intent included making recommendations calling for the elimination of departments.

Committee member James Vilkitis said the report was written only to provide information on strengths and weaknesses of programs. He said the committee went too far when it recommended to eliminate a program.

Vilkitis said that the committee was not dealing with the issue. He said, "How can you strengthen a program by eliminating it?"

He said the committee should have simply identified areas in which programs are weak.

Lee Burgunder agreed with Vilkitis and said, "To say that a program should be eliminated is a step beyond the committee."

But committee member Flagband Gooden disagreed. He said if a program in a department could be strengthened by eliminating another program in the department, making the recommendation was fine with him.

Much of this discussion came after the senate tried to close the second half of the meeting to the public so it could discuss the report privately.

See REPORT, page 6

Task force tackles ASI insurance issue

By Romina Vitols
Staff Writer

Accidents involving Cal Poly students and increases in ASI's insurance costs have led to a newly established task force designed to help students better understand existing policies and procedures for student clubs.

The Student Activities Risk Management Task Force, comprised of ASI President Kristin Barnett, Vice President of Student Affairs Hazel Scott, and advisors from other campus organizations, comes as a result of what Barnett referred to as "a breakdown in communication."

Confused by differing guidelines from several sources, students involved in high-risk club activities often aren't aware of what they can do to limit their risks of injury, Barnett said.

Some of the student activities considered to be of high risk are snow skiing, water skiing, rock climbing and sailing.

"Some clubs don't know they must fill out forms or that they aren't allowed to do certain types of activities without supervision," Barnett said. "So we need to find ways of enforcing this type of communication."

As a result, ASI and the university are researching existing policies and combining them into a manual that will be made available to students and club advisers.

Barnett said the manual will provide details of how certain activities should be conducted, what guidelines should be followed, and what is expected of students and advisors.

Barnett said that two accidents during the last school year increased the visibility of high-risk activities.

In the more drastic of the two accidents, three members of the Cal Poly Sailing Club were lost at sea in May during an outing on a catamaran.

In the other incident, a student was injured while attending an architecture club activity in the fall of 1991.

Scott said that the university and ASI periodically review issues that are important to both organizations. In this year's review, risk management was identified as a high priority, Scott said. "We need to find ways of enforcing this type of communication."

As a result, ASI and the university are researching existing policies and combining them into a manual that will be made available to students and club advisers.

The new task force will establish guidelines explaining risk and insurance for activities like climbing the Escape Route wall.
China resumes border trade with India after 30-year ban

BEIJING (AP) — China resumed border trade Wednesday with India after a 30-year suspension, an official news report said.

Burning, a Tibetan county located where China, India and Nepal meet, will be open for crossing each year from June to September, the Xinhua News Agency said. It did say why it would be closed the rest of the year, but the region is likely to be cut off by snow.

The Chinese-Indian border has been officially closed and heavily guarded since the nations fought a border war in 1962. Intermittent skirmishes have continued since.

Relations have improved in the past three years, however, with an exchange of visits by prime ministers and agreement to resolve the border dispute peacefully.

The border opening is not expected to create an immediate trade boom for Tibet, which is China's poorest region with a per capita income of less than $100 a year. Tibetans have engaged in illegal cross-border trade for years, slipping through snow-covered mountain passes to sell animal skins in India.

Security Council considers South African intervention

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council is considering what rule, if any, it should play in halting South Africa's violence and getting stalled black-white political talks rolling again.

The United States and Britain fear too much pressure could be counterproductive to efforts to fully dismantle apartheid and settle feuds between rival black factions.

The Security Council's scheduled meeting Wednesday is the first since June 1988 devoted solely to South Africa's problems. The meeting, requested by the Organization of African Unity, should last two or three days.


The five permanent Security Council members are the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China. The other members are Austria, Belgium, Cuba, Ecuador, India, Ivory Coast, Romania, Yemen, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

California delegates urge Clinton to display 'passion'

NEW YORK (AP) — California delegates to the Democratic National Convention say Bill Clinton must use his Thursday evening acceptance speech to convey the passion the nation who he is and to "convoy the passion" inside him.

A large number of California delegates pledged to former Gov. Jerry Brown to use his acceptance speech to acknowledge Brown and embrace the political reform issues he ran on to bring the party together.

Many Clinton delegates said he should focus on the specific jobs, education or health proposals he touted in his campaign.

A couple of California delegates suggested that what Clinton said didn't matter as much as how he said it.

"The main thing is not what he says, it's if he can look and act presidential. People don't hear that much of what he says. It's the feeling they have about him that matters," said Clinton delegate and Santa Ana businessman Richard O'Neill, a former chairman of the California Democratic Party.

"He has to convey the passion that he actually has about the plight of the people of our country," added Clinton delegate Radman Nielsen of San Francisco. "He has to get across to them that he knows what they feel."

Federal appeals court denies release of RU486 to woman

NEW YORK (AP) — A pregnant American woman who brought the French abortion pill to the United States has been denied a federal appeals court release to use the drug.

A federal judge on Tuesday ruled that the government had illegally seized the drug, RU486, and had acted for political reasons. He ordered it returned to Leona Bentine immediately.

But a three-judge panel of the 2d U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted a government request to block the ruling, pending further appeal.

Simon Heller, Ms. Bentine's lawyer, said he would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court today. Justice Clarence Thomas will decide if she has the emergency appeal.

Ms. Bentine, now seven weeks pregnant, must take the RU486 by Saturday, under the French standards for using the drug, Heller said.

RU486, which has been used by some 110,000 women in Britain and France, has not been approved in the United States.

CSU trustees approve higher salaries for new presidents

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — California State University trustees have approved higher starting salaries for two new campus presidents, despite the state budget deficit that is increasing student fees and cutting classes.

The trustees' Finance Committee on Tuesday said the higher salaries are necessary to compete with other universities across the nation.

The trustees approved salaries of $128,300 for the new San Luis Obispo campus president and $134,800 for the new Northridge campus president. The current average campus president's salary is $141,246.

The trustees also promised to raise salaries for existing CSU presidents as soon as the budget permits. The campus chief executives make an average 11 percent less than their counterparts nationwide, according to a May report by the California Postsecondary Education Commission.

"Although right now it's not politically popular, and in fact impossible, at some point we have to adjust those salaries," said Stephen McCarthy, CSU public affairs director. "We are looking at studies showing us falling farther behind, and it's becoming increasingly difficult to recruit executives."

But the vote was criticized by students, faculty unions and lawmakers.

"At this time, when they are asking all of us to share the burden, how can you give our people in the executive level," said Nicole Lauder, vice chairman of the California State Student Association.

Universities stress need for research partnerships

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — University officials acknowledged Wednesday their research partnerships with the federal government have been strained by sequestration, but alliances are still vital in a bid to improve relationships in the future.

Administrators told the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology they're trying to give a better accounting of where the money is going. But they challenged government officials do it by simplifying the bureaucratic process.

The hearing at the University of California at Berkeley was one in a series the council is holding nationwide to improve relationships between government and universities. The panel will report on the status of the 50-year-old alliance in November.

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Fast Contacts
Administration trades 'schools' for 'colleges'
By John Cristofano
Staff Writer

School is out at Cal Poly.

On the recommendation of the Dean's Council and the vice president for Academic Affairs, Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker decided there will no longer be any schools at this campus.

As of July 1, Baker decided that collections of related departments on campus would no longer be recognized as "schools," but as "colleges."

Robert Koob, vice president for Academic Affairs, said the change of titles was "more than anything else, an issue of public perception."

"The title, 'college,' is more consistent with most universities in the nation," Koob said. "But he wasn't comfortable making a change for a single unit of the campus," Koob said.

The idea was then considered and approved by the dean of each school at the university, Koob said. "With the approval of each school, I submitted a letter to the president recommending a change," Koob said.

Baker agreed with and approved the recommendation, Koob said.

As far as its effect on students, Koob said, the change of titles will mean little.

"If anything, the change means that students will spend less explaining to do to interviewers," Koob said. "It should make Cal Poly look more like any other university."

Sabal said the only benefit to students would be "the prestige of having the title, 'college.'"

Weathering the weather
Humid conditions threaten harvest of local strawberry, hay crops
By Julie Paccheco

While lingering clouds and heavy rains made San Luis Obispo residents uncomfortable, patterns are creating more serious concerns for local farmers.

In the last week, hurricanes Darby and Estelle came up off the coast of Mexico and departed in the Pacific Ocean off the Central Coast.

Pete Aleo of the National Weather Service said these storms brought an unusual amount of humidity to San Luis Obispo, much to the concern of local farmers.

"Grape, strawberry and hay are the three main crops in the county that will be affected by the increase of moisture in the air," said Cal Poly crop science professor Jack Foott.

"Mildew caused by moisture is a main concern for most grape and strawberry farmers," Foott said. "Any type of moisture on strawberries this time of year causes them to go bad fast."

Batt said the hay crops should be all right as long as the humidity does not persist over a period of time.

Local grape farmers haven't been able to assess the damage on their crops because it's too soon to tell.

"We've kind of in no-man's-land right now because we've had weather like this before at this time of year," said Jim Efford, president of Pacific Vineyards and Co. "We just have to wait it out," Efford said.

Because the grapes are so

By Julie Paccheco

Cal Poly staff members selected three of their peers to receive the outstanding staff awards for 1991-92.

The recipients were: Joe Sabol, director of Public Safety; Pam Parsons, an administrative analyst for the College of Science and Mathematics; and Wanda Boldt, department secretary for landscape architecture.

Risser started at Cal Poly in 1972 as the director of Housing and Conference Services. He remained in that department until last March when he was hired as the director of Public Safety Services.

"This position is new for me, and I'm extremely excited," Risser said. "The resident staff knew CPR and administered it for 30 minutes before the ambulance got there."

"Unfortunately the student died, but it was then that I realized the importance of CPR training," Risser said. "After that, I began teaching CPR to all staff members in the residence halls."

Risser has been involved with several search-and-rescue operations in San Luis Obispo.

"It can be unpleasant. Searching for a dead body isn't fun," Risser said. "But helping people in what makes it worthwhile to me."

The best thing (about the award) is that my peers selected me," Parsons said. "It's nice to know people have noticed my work.

Parsons began her career at Cal Poly after graduating from San Luis Obispo High School at age 17.

She began as a clerical assistant in 1971 for the School of Business and has worked her way up over the past 22 years.

"I look forward to my job," Parsons said. "The minute I get on campus, I'm focused completely on my work."

Parsons said the best part of her job is working with students and her co-workers. Her least favorite part is dealing with budget problems.

"We're a real team in this school, even though some parts are being broken up because of the budget situation," Parsons said.

See AWARDS, page 6
Hacking up hairstyles over San Luis Obispo housing

By Joe Tarica

Campus security needs improving

I have been at Cal Poly for almost three quarters of a school year, and I have heard talks from students, Cal Poly personnel and other various people about the incidence of crime on campus.

These crimes are concentrated on a few areas here that seems that the lack of security allows unwelcome people to enter the buildings and perform their crimes, ranging from molesting and raping students to stealing students' belongings.

I think that these crimes around it that improvements in the Cal Poly security system be made.

I am concerned about the efficiency of the Cal Poly security system.

It is difficult for me to understand why enough effort has not been made to prevent these incidents of crime from happening in this community of students.

A little more attention to the matter would benefit the students a great deal.

For example, students coming to Cal Poly who wish to live in the residence halls should have their backgrounds checked to help prevent these detrimental situations.

I agree with the way Cal Poly deals with students by turning them into the police when they get involved in campus crimes, but something else has to be done to prevent these crimes from recurring.

Many times, I ask myself, what are the police really doing on this campus where these incidents occur?

Sometimes I think they are more concerned with distributing petty traffic tickets, than with protecting them from students from the crimes that are taking place on campus.

I believe that the police or campus security teams should take continuous walks around the campus, especially at night, in the areas with the highest occurrence of crime.

Something must be done to make this campus a better place to live.

So to the San Luis Obispo landlords, I would like to make a plea.

Don't be so hasty in your judgment and colossal pricing when dealing with students. We are adults, and despite the idiosyncrasy of some of our more childlike members, we can make good tenants.

To those childlike members, I'll make another plea.

Stop messing things up for the rest of us.

Joe Tarica is the opinion arts & entertainment editor for Summer Mustang. He likes to cook, clean and search for good bargains in local super markets.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Renaissance Festival boasts a host of history

Fun garb, fine grub highlight celebration of 16th century fair

By Jackie Jones
Staff Writer

El Chorro Regional Park will leap back to the 16th century this weekend when the 8th Annual Central Coast Renaissance Festival adorns the hills in Elizabethan chivalry.

Venturing back 400 years to Donnegray, the fair will depict a village set in Elizabethan England in the year 1565. The festival occupies a half-mile site filled with shops, gaming booths, food and drink vendors and continuous entertainment on three stages.

Visitors can see juggling, comedy, period music and singing, plays, dance shows, more than five parades, and on Saturday, a real Renaissance wedding.

Heather Burns, a 15-year veteran of Renaissance fairs, will play the role of queen for this year's festival.

"I take my part very seriously," Burns said. "I play Elizabeth I as she was; I restrict my actions to what she would have done on her Summer Progression."

Burns said the Summer Progression was a journey by the queen from town to town as a means of gaining loyalty from the common people.

"Many times, if a fair in a town was occurring, the queen would visit. Mostly, it's keeping with the Elizabethan theme, one of the features of this fair is in the more than a dozen food and drink booths. Delicacies include roasted chicken and beef ribs, sausage, tamales, beef sandwiches, Belgian waffles, strawbery shortcake, corn-on-the-cob, and fresh salads and fruits.

Cold beer or ale, wine, lemonade, fruit juices, teas and sodas will be available to complement the food.

This year, more than 100 vendors will attend the fair offering the finest handmade crafts, all screened to make sure that they are true Renaissance quality. Machine-manufactured or modern wares are not allowed.

"Each craft coordinator has a vision of what they want the fair to be like," said Eric Nicoll, craft coordinator. "I have a conservative period style, where educating people is very important to me."

Some of the unique crafts include clothing, leather goods, wooden toys, tapestries, swords, pottery, stained glass, crystals, and jewelry.

"Demonstrations are important to me," Nicoll said, "I want people to see what it is like to make it by hand."

The Central Coast Renaissance Historical Society, a non-profit educational corporation based in San Luis Obispo, produces the fair.

The group expects more than 15,000 visitors and more than 1,000 costumed participants to attend the two-day event, in addition, Nicoll said this year he wanted to add some new and different crafts.

He recruited a juggling school, demonstrators of middle eastern musical instruments, and a fairy artist.

"Demonstrations are important to me," Nicoll said, "I want people to see what it is like to make it by hand."

Wining and dining for public radio

By Romina Vitolo
Staff Writer

Sun, surf and wine will combine for four days of summertime entertainment when the RCBX Central Coast Wine Classic comes to Avila Beach this weekend.

The event, now in its eighth year, will be held at the San Luis Bay Resort and will run from today through Sunday.

Various activities will take place over the four days, including dinners at local restaurants and wineries, wine tours and tastings, a barrel tasting and a wine auction.

The event will close with a Grand Wining and dining for public radio on Saturday night's Vintage Dinner, and auctioneer from Chicago, Fort Lauderdale, and San Francisco are brought in for the live auction.

Proceeds from the event benefit RCBX and basically sustain the radio station, McLaren said. McLaren stressed that "we don't look for Saturday night's Vintage Dinner, and auctioneer from Chicago, Fort Lauderdale, and San Francisco are brought in for the live auction. Proceeds from the event benefit RCBX and basically sustain the radio station, McLaren said. McLaren stressed that "we don't look at this event as only a fund-raiser. It's for the wine community, the food community and the whole central coast."

The weekend began as a simple...
From page 3

In the spring of 1991, Persons considered applying for the job of President Baker's personal secretary. But she decided not to because she was about to have a child. The baby, Rachel, is now nine months old.

"Having a baby really changed my priorities," Parsons said. "I like working where I'm at now. I do my best and continue to grow in this job."

Wanda Bolt was the third recipient of the outstanding staff award.

Bolt began working at Cal Poly in 1979 in the School of Architecture and Environmental Design. She is currently on a two-week vacation.

Each recipient of this award will receive a certificate and $300.

The awards will be handed out during the general session of Cal Poly's Fall Conference in September.

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Petrified opinion never broke a chain or freed a human soul.

---Mark Twain
REPORT

WINE

From page 6

Wine-tasting event, but has evolved into what Manning said is "an international wine event of considerable stature."

For those who may feel a bit intimidated by the jargon and procedures of wine-tasting, McLaren said, "and (students) can come to begin — or continue — the educational process at whatever level."

Tickets for activities throughout the weekend may be purchased separately. Event packages are also available. Call 781-3026 for details.

The report recommended the aeronautical engineering and materials engineering departments merge with other departments.

In the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, the report recommended the architectural engineering, construction management and city and regional planning departments be combined with other departments because of their small size.

In the College of Engineering, the report recommended that the aeronautical engineering and materials engineering departments merge with other departments.

In the College of Science and Mathematics, the report recommended "merging with another department be considered" for the statistics department.

The report also included a number of general findings. They included reducing the number of students in many departments to ensure a high-quality education, reducing the number of curriculum units in general and easing the curriculum substitution process.

The report's findings, once finalized, will be used as an ad hoc tool for the administration if there is more than a 6 percent budget cut in store for Cal Poly when the state budget is approved.

Jack Wilson, chair of the review committee and Academic Senate chair-elect, said that the influence of the report is limited. He said that if there is less than a 6 percent budget decrease when the state budget comes out, no programs will be cut. But even if there has to be more cuts, "not all recommendations (in the report) will be followed by the administration."

Wilson said that all the programs on campus were reviewed in six weeks, although the original plan was to review all undergraduate programs over a five-year period. He said the entire committee worked "hard and diligently" to produce the report.

Wilson also added that recommending program elimination was never the intent of the committee. Each department was allowed to respond to the committee recommendations, and the responses are attached to the report. When the committee felt there was a valid argument from the departments, the recommendations were revised.

A copy of the report is in the Robert E. Kennedy Library for public viewing.

Summer Mustang Managing Editor Jason Foster contributed to this article.