Poly fire department faces closure

Threatened budget cuts may force university to contract city service

By Julie Pacheco
Staff Writer

Beginning next fall, Cal Poly's fire department may be terminated and fire protection services contracted out to the City of San Luis Obispo.

The measure would be made to cut university costs in anticipation of deep budget cuts, said Frank Levens, vice president of Business Affairs.

"In order to come up with the necessary cuts, we are looking at all the options," Levens said.

Levens said the university currently budgets about $375,000 per year to maintain the fire department as it is now, said Cal Poly Fire Chief Bob Neumann confirmed that the city had engaged in talks with Cal Poly about fire protection but refused to comment any further. Neumann also refused to say how much the University would have to pay to contract with San Luis Obispo for fire protection.

"The details of any such arrangement would have to be ironed out before we eliminate the fire section," Levens said.

Levens said he hopes the university doesn't have to contract with the city, but because of the budget situation, it may have to.

"It may well be that we're not able to reach resolution, but contracting with the city is a possibility being discussed at this time," Levens said. "We have a lot of issues to resolve. Obviously the health and safety of this campus is of paramount importance before we make a decision of this nature."

Without a fire department, Paulsen said, response times to emergency calls on campus may increase.

"Response times may take a little longer if the university decides to contract with the city for fire protection," Paulsen said. "The people contracted for fire services will not be familiar with this campus as our staff is."

The fire department at Cal Poly takes about 500 calls each year for all types of emergencies on and off campus, Risser said.

"The fire department responds to medical emergencies on campus as well as helps with out local fires in the community," Risser said. "Approximately 300 of the 500 calls the fire department receives are for medical calls alone."

Risser would not confirm that any final decision has been made concerning the future existence of the fire department.

Levens said Cal Poly's fire department also offers a wide range of affiliated services to the campus.

"The programs this department provides include training for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), blood pressure monitoring and safety training for beginning aquatic classes," he said.

Paulsen said he is concerned about the fate of the fire department, but said he understands the position the administration is in.

"It's unfortunate that it has come down to this," Paulson said. "I guess if there is anything we should blame, it should be our Legislature or whoever is controlling the purse strings."

Faculty committee shies away from report findings

By Francine Stewart
Staff Writer

The academic review committee report that recommended the elimination of the agricultural engineering technology program and the merger of several other programs on campus was "acknowledged" by the Academic Senate, but all the findings were not "implicitly endorsed."

The Senate's executive committee voted unanimously at its meeting last Thursday to accept the report "as is," but thought it was beyond the committee's powers to fully support all the findings.

Some of the report's controversial findings included recommendations for the elimination of the agricultural engineering technology program and the merger of many departments that had less than nine faculty members.

Senior member Craig Russell said the committee's six-week research timetable was too short to request material, evaluate the material, consult with faculty and draft the report. He suggested "to accept the report as a report" and nothing more.

"The report will be used by the administration so it can "gain less," Koob said. But, he said, he will be forced to take some actions in the event of a budget cut greater than 8 percent. "I honestly don't know what is going to happen on the budget front," Koob said.

"The people contracted for fire services will not be familiar with this campus as our staff is."

The report was sent to the administration, who requested the report in order to help it plan for likely future budget cuts.

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Director of ASI files libel lawsuit against lecturer

By Katherine Gill
Senior Staff Writer

ASI Executive Director Roger Conway has filed a $1 million lawsuit against Cal Poly lecturer Gail Wilson as a result of an article she authored this year in The Poly Review.

Conway is suing Wilson, a part-time chemistry professor, for libel, intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress and invasion of privacy.

In the lawsuit filed on June 30, Conway alleges that Wilson made several false statements in an article she wrote for the Feb. 19 edition of The Poly Review, a students' newspaper.

The article, "The Wasteful Management of ASI," accused Conway of dishonesty, mismanagement, violations of statutory and contractual obligations, misuse of corporate funds and violations of employer policies.

The lawsuit also alleges that in February, Wilson circulated a flyer and a petition calling for a student body vote on the renewal of Conway's job contract.

Conway claims in the suit that Wilson has been harassing him since 1986 by writing newspaper articles, distributing flyers and making false and malicious statements about him to his employers and university officials.

Conway claims Wilson's harassment has diminished his professional reputation and has caused him to suffer emotional and physical distress.

The Cal Poly fire station has been a part of the Public Safety department since 1916. "It started as a volunteer fire department," said Paulsen, "but local fire agencies that could respond to this area, so the school started one of its own."

Cal Poly, UC Davis and UC Santa Cruz are the only three universities in the state that have fire departments.

Levens said he anticipates a final decision on the fate of the fire department will be made within 60 days.

Department heads question report

Reasons for merging small departments seem unclear

By Jackie Jones
Staff Writer

After the Academic Senate's academic review committee initially presented its report on Tuesday, July 14, some members of the departments directly involved with the Senate's recommendations went questioning the reasons for merging departments.

"I have no problem merging departments as long as the students are served and the administration is saved money," said Terry L. Smith, soil science and management department head. "But I'm not sure this recommendation is doing just that."

Some added that to merge departments for the sake of
China prosecutes officers for citizen's rights violations

BEIJING (AP) — China said Wednesday that it has increased prosecutions of police officers for illegal detention, torture and other violations of citizens' rights.

The official newspaper China Daily said 4,492 such cases were registered with courts in the first half of the year, up 17 percent from the corresponding period last year.

The newspaper quoted Wang Wenyun, a deputy prosecutor, as saying prosecutors would focus on cases of illegal detention, death and injury caused by torture, official dereliction of duty; and police bending the law for personal gain.

The report did not mention treatment of political prisoners, which has brought China harsh international condemnation.

Many people jailed for taking part in the 1989 Tiananmen Square democracy movement were held without formal charge for far longer than allowed by Chinese law and families were not notified as required by law.

Asia Watch, a human rights group based in New York, claimed this spring that torture and abuse were rampant in Chinese prisons. The human rights group Amnesty International reported in June that thousands of people arrested in the crackdown on the democracy movement were still being detained.

Cartel leader escapes from prison during gun battle

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Cocaine kingpin Pablo Escobar and his lieutenants overpowered officials seeking to transfer him to a military jail and apparently escaped Wednesday after a battle that left at least two dead, officials said.

Sen. Joe Blackburn said after talking with President Cesar Gaviria that Escobar could not be found in a tunnel where he was believed to have holed up with other prisoners on Wednesday after an army raid on the prison outside Medellin.

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Where the wild things are

Student's idea spawns formation of cat care group

By John Cristofano

Quindimil, whose senior project, Quindimil realized that "the way to control the population indefinitely would be to have a neuter the animals, mark them and place them where I had found them." Quindimil organized a small meeting with campus officials to discuss the issue. This meeting included Ellen Notermann, a student services coordinator who had been feeding campus cats on her own for two years.

"We realized at the first meeting that the project was going to be so large that we need campus-wide support," Notermann said.

Quindimil said the group, which now includes about 25 faculty and staff members, is currently focusing its attention on building a kennel behind the campus veterinary clinic.

"Once the kennel is completed, we can focus our efforts on the cat adoption program we're starting," Quindimil said.

You can do a lot in a lifetime if you don't burn out too fast. You can make the most of the distance. First you need endurance. First you've got to last. Then you can do it.

The power of the press...
Corporations occasionally transgress normal business practice and in doing so often forfeit their special legal status.

This is commonly called "a breach of the corporate veil." Simply put, if a business wants to be treated like a corporation, it has to act like one before the law and its peers.

It is painfully obvious that Cal Poly would like to shed its "earlier history" and be treated as a full-fledged university instead of the "technical school that made good."

Mrs. Baker is dreaming of UC Cal Poly.

President Baker is recasting the "UC" as a corporation, it has to act like one before the law and its peers.

"Even more pathetic than making unguided faculty debates?"

Who has President Baker set the tenor for these debates?

Why are department heads -- excuse me...college deans -- making unguided faculty layoffs?

Why are certain faculty leaders mailing mock layoff notices to faculty suggesting they send them to their "favorite" administrator?

Is this the faculty and administration of a first rate university?

It's long past time that we put this behind us.

I don't want to see sheepish administrators smiling back at me with open palms from the front page of Mustang Daily.

No more shell games with this department hiding under this "college" and now that one.

No more closed-session hatchet jobs.

Walking a bike is not a crime

Today while walking my bike from the doors of the U.U. to the Craft Center for some needed repairs, I was confronted for the third time by the U.C. employee-curmudgeon and ordered to "get your bike Outta here!"

I refused this time, and he grabbed my bike.

An argument ensued and provided not only entertainment for the crowd that formed, but a mini-trial over the issue.

The Public Safety officer who eventually arrived acted as mediator, and a fair one I might add.

So the issue was settled. Walking one's bike through the U.U. in order to get to the Craft Center is an OK thing to do.

So if that employee-curmudgeon power trips on you too, the only thing to say to him is "boo-hoo!"

Michael Nutile

Undeclared

Letters to the Editor

Commentaries and reporter's notebooks are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Summer Mustang. Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial staff.

Letters to the editor should be typed, less than 250 words, and should include the author's name, phone number and major or occupation. Because of space limitations, shorter letters have a better chance of appearing in Summer Mustang.

Commentaries should be between two and three pages, double-spaced, and turned in to the opinion editor's box at Summer Mustang. Commentaries are welcome from students, faculty and members of the community. Summer Mustang's opinion staff reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, accuracy and clarity. Submissions to the opinion page or inquiries about Summer Mustang can be made at the Summer Mustang office, Graphic Arts room 22b.

Summer Mustang Policies

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Annual festival features myriad of Mozart

Composer's melodic magic crosses county with comprehensive schedule of concerts, lectures

By Romina Vitols
Staff Writer

Eighteenth century composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart started writing music when he was five years old. The first of his 40 symphonies and 22 operas was composed when he was five years old. Mozart started writing music when he was five years old. The event, said the celebration will feature a variety of ear-opening experiences for both the serious and not-so-serious listeners of classical music.

Highlighting this year’s festival will be two performances of Mozart’s opera, “Cosi Fan Tutte.” As for a show that appeals to a younger crowd, the festival will also hold an “Ear-Opener” concert. This is a special performance geared towards children and those new to classical music.

Included in the main schedule, a series of Festival Fringe concerts will be held throughout San Luis Obispo and surrounding communities. These performances are free to the public and present music in less formal settings.

The first of the 17 fringe concerts will be held at the opening ceremonies in Mission Plaza on July 31. As for a show that appeals to a younger crowd, the festival will also hold an “Ear-Opener” concert. This is a special performance geared towards children and those new to classical music.

The concert will be held Aug. 6 in the Cal Poly Theatre.

Tickets are available online or through our box office. Contact the festival office at 543-4560 for information about additional events, concert locations or tickets, contact the Mozart Festival offices at 543-4560.

In past years, various ensembles have performed at the Mission Plaza Amphitheatre.

The Galerie is about the size of a large rectangular classroom.

Include in that space a stage, 40 chairs and a coat of more than 20 people, and the area becomes very close and personal.

Usual, "Hamlet" is set on a stage in front of a castle. This production, however, used a backdrop made of boxes, carts, bricks, and miscellaneous, cleverly assembled items sprayed with bronze and blue metallic paint.

The set was simple, but it worked.

The first act opened in darkness with a bang. "Hamlet" is set on a stage in front of a castle. This production, however, used a backdrop made of boxes, carts, bricks, and miscellaneous, cleverly assembled items sprayed with bronze and blue metallic paint.

The costumes were simple — patterned clothes with bright ribbon or fur added. They were not detailed, but that did not take away from the play. Though the costumes were simple — patterned clothes with bright ribbon or fur added. They were not detailed, but that did not take away from the play.

Throughout the play, the audience could practically reach out and touch the performers. For this production, the emphasis was placed on the individual dramatic abilities of the actors and not on props or elaborate sets.

When a change in the set was needed, an usher in black would quickly add or remove a table or chair between acts.

The costumes were simple — patterned clothes with bright ribbon or fur added. They were not detailed, but that did not take away from the play. Without incredible sets, costumes, and plenty of space, the actors and actresses were challenged to deliver good performances.

Three noteworthy showings were given by David Nevell, Peter W. Malow, and Tonya Hazebroek. Nevell, a Cal Poly political science senior, played the part of Hamlet and did an incredible job with his facial expressions, gestures and speech. His performance made Shakespeare’s words much easier to follow.

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From page 1
merging or just because they are smaller departments does not make sense. Smith said he wanted a department size to be compared with other similar programs on other campuses, rather than compared to the size of dissimilar programs on this campus.

"Cal Poly's soil science department is the largest and strongest undergraduate soils program in the nation and is continuing to grow," Smith said. He said the department's small size promotes a close and interactive relationship between faculty and students. "This is a hallmark of our department," Smith said.

The Academic Senate committee's reason for combining soil science with other smaller departments in the College of Agriculture, namely the ornamental horticulture department and the crop science department, is to allow them to combine curriculum and work together.

Smith said that already the soil science department works with other departments on campus, and this decision might allow soil science to relations with only two agricultural departments.

Smith said that he would ask that any merger be well-documented and include the advantages and disadvantages of combining before any restructuring is recommended for an already successful and strong department.

Construction Management Department Head Jim Rodgers said, "Merging one department with another department would not save money, but merging three or four might."

In the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, the city and regional planning, architectural engineering and construction management any three small departments that the committee asked the administration to consider merging not particularly with one another, but with a larger department.

"It's not going to happen," said Rodgers. "There are too many dissimilar departments to merge, and the decision is up to the individual dean."

Rodgers said that a department shouldn't merge just because it has fewer than 10 faculty members. A department should merge if it will cut costs, he said.

Rodgers gave two reasons See REACTION, page 7
Home, James

Summer Mustang

In Saturday’s 5K run benefiting the Performing Arts Center, James Martin gets double the exercise jogging and pushing his son.

If you're not recycling, you're throwing it away.

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Miscellaneous

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Hamlet

From page 6
University of Wisconsin, played Laertes. He also made his character and speech seem natural and not so foreign to the audience.

Hambrick, a veteran actor of Shakespeare productions, played the supporting role of Rosencrantz.

Hambrick played the complete part, maintaining a detailed portrayal of her character even when aside from the action.

The theater group Artemis is a professional, nonprofit company. It debuted in 1998 with a production called "Silhouettes in Living Color," made up of scenes from several different plays.

Since then, the company has produced "Dango" in 1999, their first Summer Central Coast Shakespeare Festival with "See Our Moonlight Revels" in 1993, and Jean Anouilh's recreation of Sophocles' Greek tragedy "Antigone" in February 1992.

Cal Poly's ASI is a cosponsor of Artemis.

From page 2
Rodgers believes that state construction management is already impacted. Both the program and graduates from the program are in high demand. "If we're small, let us get bigger," he said.

In the College of Liberal Arts several smaller departments were asked to consider merging, including the theatre and dance department, the music department, the journalism department, and the foreign languages department.

Craig Russell, music professor and Academic Senate secretary, said that the program review task was "unyielding."

"This committee is mailed a hand grenade with the pin pulled, and they have the job of assigning which office to put it in," Russell said.

"Combining music with some other division of art could be positive, but the catch is not to combine and cut administrative staff," Russell said.

The music department already needs plenty of staff in order to reserve classrooms, concert halls, rehearsal rooms, and to make appearances at community musical productions, Russell said.

If music was to combine with theatre and dance, Russell said, the result would be a catastrophe, since that department has similar administrative demands as the music department.

"I am not cynical about these recommendations. It is not the committee's fault," Russell said.

"We need citizens to have force and enthusiasm to make this change."
WHY DO MORE CAL POLY STUDENTS CHOOSE TO LIVE AT MUSTANG VILLAGE?

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