

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California 93407
ACADEMIC SENATE

MINUTES OF
The Academic Senate Executive Committee
Tuesday, July 21, 1998
38-114, 3:00-5:00pm

Preparatory: the meeting was opened at 9:10am.

- I. Minutes: none.
- II. Communications and Announcements:
Chancellor Reed will be the guest speaker at Cal Poly's Fall Conference. The format of the General Session may be modified. Instead of addresses by key individuals, a panel would be organized to ask Chancellor Reed specific questions. The Executive Committee objected to a panel in lieu of individual addresses and a motion to support Chair Hood in taking whatever action he felt appropriate in this matter was M/S/P by consensus.
- III. Reports:
 - A. Academic Senate Chair:
 - B. President's Office:
 - C. Provost's Office:
 - D. Statewide Senators:
 - E. CFA Campus President:
 - F. Staff Council Representative:
 - G. ASI Representative:
 - H. Other:
- IV. Consent Agenda:
- V. Business Items:
 - A. **Approval of the 1998-1999 Calendar of Meetings:** was M/S/P unanimously.
 - B. **Formation of an ad hoc committee on Foundation:** President Baker has indicated his acceptance of an advisory committee on the Foundation that would advise him regarding the use of Foundation funds. The committee would report to him not to the Foundation. Policy and priorities of discretionary funds would be items of advisement.

Possible committee membership would include: the two faculty representatives to the Foundation Board of Directors; the two student representatives to the Foundation Board of Directors; one representative each from the Budget and Long Range Planning Committee, Grants Committee, and Academic Senate Executive Committee; the President or designee (ex officio position); a Foundation representative (ex officio position); and a staff representative.

Discussions by this committee may have to be implemented in a more timely manner than the Senate allows. When this occurs, the committee should bring matters to the Executive Committee for its discussion. Kersten stated the membership should be reviewed by legal counsel since there may be restrictions on the number of committees certain Board officials can serve on. This committee should be put into effect via a resolution. The charge to draft the resolution will be sent to the Budget and Long Range Planning Committee. Chair Hood asked to be the Executive Committee's representative to this committee. M/S/P by consensus that Chair Hood appoint the members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Foundation.

C. Issues to address during the 1998-1999 AY:

- a. faculty/staff morale: President Baker is concerned with the low morale of faculty and staff at Cal Poly. He has asked the Academic Senate for assistance on this matter. Provost Zingg has suggested a special meeting or discussion group to focus on this issue. Focus groups might be beneficial and could include faculty, staff, and administrators. Groups might be divided into (1) merit pay (what form of merit pay will work?), (2) presidential leadership, and (3) Academic Senate leadership (the Senate's role in faculty concerns). Hood also wanted to join forces with other campuses in passing certain types of resolutions that affect faculty and staff. Other suggestions included email correspondence and/or chat room with other campus chairs, use of the quarterly campus chair meetings to discuss resolutions, and use of our statewide senators to make system contacts.
- b. campus communications: suggestions included (1) President Baker attending one Academic Senate meeting per quarter, (2) more reports from the President's office at Senate meetings, (3) more Senate communications to the campus, (4) the Senate's web site to be kept current, (5) regular articles in the *Cal Poly Report*, (6) regular transmissions to the full campus, (7) an email distribution setup similar to the one established by the former Staff Council, (8) reports by the caucus chairs to their college constituents the day after each Senate meeting, (9) more use of agenda discussion items as a place for faculty members to bring their concerns. In order to provide these avenues of communication, creating a "communication liaison" position within the Academic Senate will be discussed at a future Executive Committee meeting.

In addition, resolutions drafted by Senate committees should be forwarded by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee should review resolutions for proper format and wording but not for the merits of the resolution.

- c. communications to faculty/decision making processes within Foundation and University Advancement: What questions do we want to ask of Foundation and University Advancement? Another campus-wide meeting where specific questions can be asked of these two entities may be planned by the Budget and Long Range Planning Committee.

D. Assuming responsibility for the former Staff Council Cultural Awareness Committee: This was an active Staff Council committee. It had no set membership format, attendance was by all individuals interested in cultural awareness. The desire is to remain an open committee. (There are presently five committees that deal with diversity matters on campus. Provost Zingg may be considering a redefinition of the missions of these committees.) M/S/P by consensus that Chair Hood do what he can to continue the Cultural Awareness Committee.

E. Request for President Baker's attendance at some portion of one Academic Senate meeting per quarter: President Baker has agreed to do so as his schedule allows.

VI. Discussion Item(s):

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

Submitted by:

Margaret Camuso
Academic Senate