

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

MINUTES OF THE
Academic Senate Executive Committee Agenda
Tuesday, February 28, 1995
UU 220, 3:00-5:00pm

In attendance: Archibeque, Brown, Dana, Dubbink, Gooden, Greenwald, Hale, Hampsey, Hannings, Kersten, Koob, Wilson

This meeting of the Academic Senate Executive Committee was called to discuss the models for governance being reviewed by the Charter Campus Subcommittee on Governance (Reg Gooden, Academic Senate representative to this subcommittee).

In addressing different models of governance, the subcommittee's primary concerns are: timely involvement, mutual responsibility, communication, consultation, openness, and leadership.

The following is a summary of the comments made at this meeting:

Should there be a change in the way constituencies advise the president?

Could a change be made in the regulations between Cal Poly and the Chancellor's Office (versus having an autonomous status separated from the CSU system)?

Possibly a window period could be granted where Cal Poly could try something different without interference.

CAMPUS COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: There's enough committees on campus. Per HEERA, only the faculty have jurisdiction of curriculum/RTP matters. This should remain the same. Vice President Koob felt the Senate did not treat its committees' products seriously enough while at other times a resolution may not have received the deliberation it needed. What slows the ACADEMIC SENATE in providing timely consultation is its composition of many different individuals with many different opinions who are required to digest volumes of information in order to formulate thoughtful responses. It was suggested that a distinction be made between decisions needing a deliberative time span and decisions needing immediate consultation.

It was proposed that a leaner structure be given to the campus' committee organization--form those committees only that are absolutely necessary (a "zero-based committee structure"). People want to be involved where things are happening. There's too many standing committees that faculty have signed up for that don't meet during that particular year.

A new committee organization should have the fluidity to accommodate: (1) constantly changing issues of importance and (2) heavy faculty workloads; and it should (3) avoid any duplication of effort.

Creating a COORDINATING COMMITTEE that would oversee and direct the coordination of committees/issues/timely deliberation was proposed. This coordinating committee would be a planning body composed of key individuals having the authority to represent their constituencies. The committee would operate by consensus; the president would be expected to attend its meetings; the representation of the committee would not be administratively weighted; and the committee would not eliminate the Senate's direct access to the president.