

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Minutes of the Academic Senate

Tuesday, January 23, 1996

UU 220 3:10-5:00 pm

Members and Guests present: Bowker, Dalton, Dana, Gooden, Greenwald, Hale, Hampsey, Hannings, Lutrin, Martinez, McQuerrey, Wilson, Zingg,

- I. Preparatory: The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm.
- II. Minutes: The minutes of November 28 were approved as submitted.
- III. Communication(s) and Announcement(s): none
- IV. Reports:
 - A. Academic Senate Chair: no report
 - B. President's Office: no report
 - C. Vice President for Academic Affairs: no report
 - D. Statewide Senators: Gooden alerted Senators that the March ballot will include a proposition which, if passed, would provide significant funding for higher education. The Statewide Senate also is in the process of drawing up what it feels would be an appropriate policy for the fair use of copyrighted materials. Currently there is no systemwide policy on how to protect ownership of copyrighted materials but the CSU has taken a position in a paper that urges the broadest possible fair use of copyrighted materials.

In regard to the issue of remedial instruction, Hale noted that the original document has been cleaned up to address a great many concerns. It advocates strongly the idea of working with other segments of education rather than closing the door to remedial instruction out of hand. The Statewide resolution stated support for this. In regard to the student fee policy item: the Academic Senate resolution was going to be amended because the Trustees have other materials to look at. Finally, Hale recommended that Senators read the document, "California Pathways" which deals with English as a second language. This is at a first reading status.
 - E. Vice President for Academic Affairs: In regard to student fees the university is still using the guide of one-third to be paid by students but this is not a policy set in stone.
 - E. CFA Campus President: The CFA will soon begin negotiating with CSU on how to prioritize and distribute money available in next year's budget for salary enhancement.
 - F. Staff Council representative: The Staff Council continues to focus on the Cal Poly Plan.
 - G. ASI representative: The ASI also is continuing to focus on the Cal Poly Plan.
 - H. Instructional Advisory Committee on Computing: The RFP is out for central computing system with award to be made in April or May. Current topics of discussion include a proposal for student charge for modems; the Computer Center and where it fits in the university hierarchy; and distance learning and where does it fit in the organization. No decisions have been made yet.
- IV. Consent Agenda: none

V. Business Items:

A. **Resolution on Guidelines for Experiential Education-second reading.**

The Curriculum Committee chair explained that an examination of grades awarded for these kinds of courses during one time period revealed that of 190 grades submitted, over 150 of them were A's. This ongoing concern about grade inflation was the key reason for submitting the resolution.

The Chair of the Curriculum Committee accepted as friendly the following amendments:

1. to add to last resolved clause the words, "the general policy on...;" 2. to limit the resolution to undergraduate courses, 3. to provide for an appeals procedure for faculty who want to award grades; i.e. that while C/NC would be the standard policy for experiential education, individual faculty would be able to appeal for exemption to this policy on a case by case basis. (He indicated that Curriculum Committee would be the appropriate body.) and , 4. to substitute "practica" for practicum in the first whereas clause.

MSP that the Resolution on Guidelines for Experiential Education be approved.

B. **Resolution on Proposal to Establish an Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute.** First

reading. Concerns included start up funding. It was noted that the institute would not ask for a budget until 1996-1997 and that this proposal calls for comparable support for start up costs that have been given to other institutes. It was clarified by Zingg that approving the institute does not constitute approval of the budget. This would be taken up by deans. In regard to reporting structure, it was noted that the Dean of Agriculture suggested that this institute report to him.

MSP to move this item to second reading status. MSP to approve the Resolution on Proposal to Establish an Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute.

C. **Cal Poly Plan:** A Los Angeles Times article of January 15 entitled, "For Colleges, the Future Isn't as Rosy as the Present," was distributed. Zingg outlined what he sees the state budget increase will and will not do for Cal Poly. Budget increases will be going to salary increases. A second funding category is facilities and the remainder will be used for technological investments in teaching and learning plus support for the newer campuses. What the budget does not do is renew.

Dalton explained where the university is in the process of developing the Cal Poly Plan and distributed materials that show how the Cal Plan plan links with past campus efforts like the Strategic Plan. The materials distributed included a diagram showing the four main purposes. The principles found on page 26 are still being looked at. They include the mutual understanding with the Chancellor that system funding to Cal Poly not be reduced because the university has a new funding base (i.e. increased student fees).

She outlined the next steps in the process which include a steering committee retreat to decide where the money will be going. The Deans are also developing their input. She noted that these funds will not be portioned out on a prorata basis. The steering committee seems to be leaning in favor of an RFP process which allows an opportunity for input for faculty and staff at all levels in order to foster innovation.

When questioned about the link of the campus-based fee with the other CSU fees, she said that the intent is for the two to be separate.

She noted that financial aid is an explicit priority and staff are looking at how to provide the same level of financial aid. One benefit of the plan is that we can set new rules and fund ceilings that currently are limited by CSU. In other words Cal Poly can design a campus specific financial aid plan.

At the request of the Senate steering committee representatives, a special meeting of the Academic Senate Executive Committee is planned for Thursday, January 25 in order to provide the representatives with some direction prior to the steering committee retreat.

V. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Submitted by



Sam Lutrin, Secretary, Academic Senate