

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  
**Minutes of the Academic Senate**  
Tuesday, February 13, 1996  
UU 220 3:10-5:00 pm

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**Academic Senate**

- I. Preparatory: The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.
- II. Minutes: MSP to correct the minutes of January 23, 1996, page 3. Resolution on Proposal to establish an Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute, as follows:  
  
MSP to approve the Resolution on Proposal to Establish an Urban Forest Ecosystems but with the dollar amounts indicated in the proposal deleted.
- III. Communications and Announcements: 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: Senators will be going to CSU this Friday for an interim meeting.
  - E. CFA Campus President: CFA is sponsoring a speaking engagement by Robert Shear this Friday.
  - F. Staff Council representative: no report.
  - G. ASI representative: no report.
  - H. IACC representative. A possible modem fee is being discussed at the next decision-making level. The IACC recommended that the university go ahead with the fee for modems but that a pool of funds be created to assist students who cannot afford it. An estimated \$11 fee will go into effect in the spring and be collected for the first time in fall 1996.
  - I. Other: Student members gave Senators an update on the status of the Running Thunder student spirit club.
- IV. Consent Agenda: There were no items on the consent agenda.
- V. Business Items:
  - A. **Resolution on Academic Senate Released Time (first reading).** MSP to move this resolution to a second reading status.  
  
MSP to approve the Resolution on Academic Senate Released Time.
  - B. **Resolution on the Reorganization of Academic Senate Committees (first reading)**  
  
Questions and comments included the following: What is the difference between general and special types of committees: Response: Special Committees have specific charges. General committees deal with broader and more substantial issues.

Where does GE & B Committee go? Response: This has been specifically removed from consideration at this time because there is a special GE & B committee which will have recommendations for consideration in the spring.

If the Status of Women committee were not within the purview of the Academic Senate and if there is no university-wide committee, would that mean there would be no committee like this? Response: If we approve this change, we have a commitment from President Baker to establish a university-wide committee. If he does not do so then we will take it up again because we do believe there should be such a committee. This would apply to the Library as well.

What is the controversy with the Library recommendation? Response: It relates to the fact that the library is instruction-oriented and might be better served by the Academic Senate. Also there are a lot of changes in the near horizon that will affect the library (e.g. distance learning). The main thing was having the ear of the faculty which is very important to the library.

Rockman: We believe that we are part of the academic/instructional program of the university and benefit from having direct faculty ear. With pending changes we would prefer not to have a change at this time.

Hampsey: Over the last ten years there's only been one resolution that came forth from this committee. Also, on Baker's desk right now is a resolution from the ASI stating that the students want a university-wide committee.

Rockman: The Library Committee has done its work by consensus and has done a number of things which have been very beneficial even though resolutions were not part of what was needed in order to get the job done.

Dana: A year ago the Library Committee met approximately 3 times and it was chaired by David Walsh who was not even a faculty member.

Greenwald: The Library Committee would still be able to bring issues to the Academic Senate.

If it were a university-wide committee, would there still be college representation on it? Response: No

Regarding the Research Committee: The problem is that the current committee has not been able to do much work on general policy/philosophy because it's members are so busy taking care of evaluating specific State Faculty grants. Response: Without involvement in grant review, the committee will be operating in a vacuum.

It was recommended that the resolved clauses be modified so that some of these items can be taken up separately.

- C. **Resolution on Academic Senate General Committees (first reading).** Questions and comments included the following: Would the committee have to approve the selection of its chair? Response: yes.

In part C, the appointment of chairs to the two types of committees is different.

There would be no training ground for the development of new chairs. Wouldn't the Senate quickly run out of people to be chairs? We could consider adding a chair "in-waiting."

Would there be an opportunity for some of these committees to forward nominations or recommendations before the Senate appoints? Response: yes.

IV. Discussion Item:

- A. **The Cal Poly Plan.** Linda Dalton reviewed the calendar of events which are dictating the pace for the Cal Poly Plan to go forward. The CSU Board of Trustees meets on May 14 and 15. The agenda has to go in five weeks before the meeting so the firm proposal must be ready to go. At the end of the month we will have a report which will outline the recommended plan for the next four to five years. A \$45 per quarter fee increase is planned for the first year with a portion of it earmarked for financial aid. The rest will be split between instructional equipment and technology and instructional programs and advising. This includes \$200,000 for evaluation which addresses the issue of quality. Tomorrow the steering committee will be meeting about the RFP process. A partnership composed of students, state, and the Cal Poly advancement office will be working on funds for scholarships. A multi-year plan will deal with student progress toward degree completion.

The Instruction Committee has been asked to look at academic advising and to make a report this spring.

- VII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Submitted by



Sam Lutrin, Secretary  
Academic Senate