

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
ACADEMIC SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
October 12, 1982

Chair, Jim Simmons
Vice Chair, Ron Brown
Secretary, Barbara Weber

Business Item

I. Procedures for Consideration of General Education and Breadth Proposal

MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Committee

From: Bob Hill

Subject: Procedures for consideration of General Education
and Breadth proposal

I am concerned that with the large number of diverse interests respecting the GE&B requirement it may be difficult for the Senate to give effective consideration to all viewpoints. My fear is (1) that we will get a lot of spur-of-the-moment amendments, with little opportunity for careful thought, and (2) that after much frustration we will simply get tired and give short shrift not only to potentially desirable amendments, but perhaps to the entire proposal.

I therefore propose:

1. That the meeting schedule be revised to (a) eliminate the Executive Committee meeting of November 16, and (b) set back the Executive Committee meeting of November 2 to November 9, and set back the Senate meeting of November 9 to November 16.

Rationale: (1) The Senate needs more than two weeks between first and second readings on the GE&B requirement. This is especially true if the special rules proposed below (requiring advance written submission of amendments to the GE&B proposal) are adopted.

- (2) One executive committee meeting will be sufficient to set the agenda for the November 16 and 30 meetings, since the first will almost certainly deal entirely with GE&B and since not much is likely to happen between the 16th and 30th anyway due to Thanksgiving.

Resultant schedule:	October 12	Special executive committee
	19	Regular Academic Senate
	26	Special Academic Senate--GE&B
	November 9	Executive Committee
	16	Academic Senate--GE&B 2d reading
	30	Academic Senate

2. I propose that the following special rules be proposed to the Senate at its October 19th meeting, to be effective for consideration of the GE&B proposal:
 - (1) Traditional open debate and questioning of committee chair and members during the October 26 meeting (1st reading).
 - (2) Special requirements to be in force during the November 26 meeting, as follows:

- (a) Proposed amendments must be reproduced (___ copies) and delivered to the Academic Senate office by __ p.m. November __, for distribution to all senators. (Try 60 copies by 5:00 p.m. November 8.)
- (b) Debate on each proposed amendment will be limited as follows:
 - ___ minutes for presentation of arguments in favor
 - ___ minutes for response by GEB chair or his designee
 - ___ minutes for open discussion
 - ___ minutes extension at discretion of chair
 - ___ minutes extension by majority vote of body[Time out for legitimate parliamentary inquiry, e.g., points of order]
Try 5 minutes in each slot. If each school proposes one amendment, this could be about one-half hour 7 times, i.e., two nearly full meetings.

- Rationale:
- (1) Most issues involve more or less two opposing points of view. We may have five to ten fairly major controversies to resolve.
 - (2) Given the number of issues that may be brought up, some means should be devised to give the last issue considered similar time and attention to the first one.
 - (3) The time schedule is limited; the Senate must act by the end of the quarter.
 - (4) Hundreds--probably thousands--of hours have gone into producing the committee's recommendation. The issues, and the compromises, are complex. It doesn't seem sensible to try to insert wording hastily put together on the Senate floor.