

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
ACADEMIC SENATE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - AGENDA
February 1, 1983

FOB 24-B

3:00 PM

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

- I. Minutes
- II. Announcements
- III. Business Items
 - A. Resolution Regarding the Fiscal Crisis Facing Higher Education in the State of California (Budget Committee)
 - B. Mission Statement for Cal Poly (Simmons)

ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

AS-146-83/BC
February 1, 1983

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE FISCAL CRISIS FACING
HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Rationale and Background Material: Currently the State of California is facing a serious fiscal crisis due to a shortfall in revenue created primarily by the depressed economic climate of the nation in general and California particularly. The dollars from surpluses of past better years have finally run out. Imprudent management of state resources has also compounded the fiscal problem we are facing now. We can only hope that prudent state leadership will win out in the struggle to keep the State of California from operating at a deficit, which is constitutionally forbidden. We hope you will consider the following issues and the attached resolution in your deliberations concerning the 1983-1984 state budget.

The operations budget, which covers most state services offered to the public without direct legislative mandate including Cal Trans, Highway Patrol, U.C. and C.S.U. systems, Division of Motor Vehicles, California Department of Forestry, etc., has been cut every year since the passage of Proposition 13 to help provide bailout funds for county and municipal governments and boards of education. The state operations budget and the agencies funded by it have had to bear the brunt of cutbacks to alleviate the decline in revenues brought about by the passage of Proposition 13.

The state agencies covered by the operations budget have received significant cutbacks in travel, equipment, personnel, and salaries. At the University of California and the California State University campuses, student fees have been increased, and more increases have currently been proposed to meet budgetary cutbacks. Aside from denying access to needy and middle income students, these increases will affect student access at the C.S.U. level more than at other levels of higher education according to the California Postsecondary Education Commission. We hear talk of cutting the fat out of government as a solution to our fiscal woes. If you put the State of California on a strict fiscal diet, the hardest bit of fat to remove will be that of bureaucratic waste. The bureaucracy always finds ways of protecting itself. Bureaucratic waste will not end just by cutting budgets or making across the board cuts. We have seen the failure of Proposition 13 in cutting bureaucratic fat and waste, and it was based upon the same theory: cut revenues/budgets and waste and fat will disappear. State programs in higher education have been and are being harmed by the cutbacks that have already been made, and those that are being proposed. What is needed is a temporary increase in revenue sources until the economy becomes stronger.

Lending institutions have indicated that if the State of California ends the year with a deficit, that California's credit rating will further decline. The Governor's budget projects a deficit of 750 million dollars, and that is a conservative estimate. Taxpayers in the future will pay the cost of higher interest rates charged to the state by lending institutions. What is needed

is a temporary increase in revenue sources so that the state will end the year without a deficit and regain its AAA credit rating.

Why should higher education suffer the brunt of the cutbacks? (The Highway Patrol and the State Prison System have not been included in the cutbacks.) To maintain quality higher education in the state additional sources of revenue need to be found.

It is with these thoughts in mind that we offer the following resolution.

- WHEREAS, The State of California is currently facing a fiscal crisis; and
- WHEREAS, State programs in higher education have had funding cutbacks ever since the passage of Proposition 13, and these cutbacks have harmed the effectiveness of these programs; and
- WHEREAS, Higher education should be especially strong in difficult economic times; and
- WHEREAS, The State of California faces a financial crisis and if it finishes the year with a deficit, which is constitutionally forbidden by law, lending institutions have predicted a further deterioration in the state's credit rating. As the credit rating deteriorates taxpayers pay for the added cost of lending in increased interest charges; and
- WHEREAS, The State of California has always prided itself in providing low-cost, tuition-free higher education to its residents; and
- WHEREAS, This educational system has in the past kept up with changes in technology, and has provided trained and educated manpower to meet the demands of new technology; and
- WHEREAS, California's high technology industries have helped stave off the effects of the national recession longer than in other states, until now; and
- WHEREAS, Many people who are currently unemployed will have to be retrained to fill jobs with higher educational and technological demands; and
- WHEREAS, Higher education in California can help retrain individuals, who are unemployed to fill new jobs that are currently going begging, it would be inappropriate to cut funding of higher education programs; therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That higher education in California be exempt from any current or future budgetary cutbacks because in the long run higher education can help alleviate the economic crisis the state now faces better than stopgap spending cutbacks which curtail educational programs, and that the Governor and the legislature find additional revenue sources (by increasing sin taxes and by

an Ad Valoum tax) to meet the deficit the state is now facing, and to restore high quality education to the people of the State of California.

Resolution to be sent to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, Chairs of Finance, Ways and Means, Education Committees in the Assembly, and Senate, Eric Seastrand, Henry Mello, or our current representative.


Memorandum

To : Jim Simmons, President
Academic Senate

Date : January 19, 1983

File No.:

Copies : Committee Members

From : Lynne Gamble, Chair 
Long Range Planning Committee

Subject: MISSION STATEMENT

The Committee supported the first three objectives as written but felt that the fourth objective needed to be rewritten in clear, concise terms.

Specific changes have been noted directly on the draft itself. We would add the phrase "creation of innovative teaching techniques and instructional materials" and further suggest that the last paragraph be deleted. (A commitment to professional growth, intellectual and personal growth is not necessarily a sign that the individual is concerned with the improvement of the human condition.)

Basically, we felt that a statement of Cal Poly's mission should be clear and direct.

Attachment


Memorandum

: Long Range Planning Committee

Date : January 7, 1983

File No.:

Copies :

From :  James E. Simmons
Chair, Academic Senate

Subject: Mission Statement

Attached is a memorandum from Vice President Fort regarding the Mission Statement for Cal Poly. Please review this proposal and forward any comments/recommendations to the Academic Senate Office no later than January 20, 1983. If Senate action is needed, this deadline will ensure inclusion on the January 25, 1983 Executive Committee agenda.

Memorandum

RECEIVED

James Simmons, Chair
Academic Senate

DEC 9 1982

Academic Senate

Date : December 7, 1982

File No.:

Copies :

From : Tomlinson Fort, Jr.
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Subject: Mission Statement

Following up on our several conversations, this memorandum formally transmits to you a Mission Statement for Cal Poly. This Statement was drafted by the Academic Planning Committee last year. It has, subsequently, been reviewed by my office. I endorse this Statement and recommend similar action by the Academic Senate.

Attachment

Tomlinson Fort

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN LUIS OBISPO

Mission Statement

(Revised Draft)
December 1, 1982

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, is committed to the following fundamental objectives:

1. Promotion of excellence of academic and professional endeavor
2. Continuation of a polytechnic program emphasis within the university

It is recognized that all degree programs have a common base in the arts, humanities, and sciences. The polytechnic program emphasis at Cal Poly means a continued commitment to programs which:

- (a) are derived from the basic sciences
- (b) make extensive use of the scientific method
- (c) involve the application of knowledge of the basic sciences to the solution of technical problems.

Examples of such programs are within the fields of agriculture, applied science and mathematics, architecture, engineering, and business. As science and technology evolve, new academic programs and new emphases within existing programs will come into being. Others, becoming less significant or even obsolete, will be altered or eliminated.

Another equally important manifestation of the polytechnic emphasis at Cal Poly is that many of the university's academic and professional programs are imbued with a sense of the applied and the practical. In essence, Cal Poly's programs emphasize the applied without neglecting the importance of principle and theory.

A polytechnic university recognizes the important roles played by the arts, humanities and sciences and has a special responsibility to ensure that its students are intellectually broadened and challenged by exposure to them. While emphasizing polytechnic programs, the university affirms the importance of offering and sustaining selected programs of high quality in the arts, humanities and sciences.

3. Continuation of an emphasis on undergraduate education

Believing that it is appropriate for some institutions to emphasize undergraduate education and that Cal Poly, by virtue of historic development and present resources, is especially capable of doing so, this

university chooses to give primary attention to its undergraduate programs. Selected graduate programs are offered to enrich and supplement the undergraduate experience and to further the mission of the university.

4. Promotion of a lifetime commitment to intellectual, professional, and personal growth within our faculty and students

The university is committed to establishing and maintaining an educational environment wherein its faculty and students are encouraged to pursue continual intellectual, professional and personal growth.

Faculty are stimulated to challenge their professional standards of excellence via basic and applied research, professional consultation, participation in professional organizations and other forms of development. The university will seek to create conditions where these activities are the natural outgrowth of the faculty's value of excellence.

Commitment to inquiry and the search for truth is a foundation for intellectual and personal growth. The university is committed to the principle that continuing personal and professional development is crucial to the success of its graduates. Graduates and faculty, needing to adapt to an ever-changing societal and professional environment, should have a growing ability to appreciate and deal with the complexity and uncertainty surrounding the human condition. They also should be able to make well-reasoned judgments about the appropriate use of the knowledge and skills acquired at the university and throughout later life.

Professional growth goes hand in hand with intellectual and personal growth. A commitment to all three is a sign that the individual is concerned with the improvement of the human condition.

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Creation of innovative teaching techniques and instructional materials