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CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO
ACADEMIC SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - MINUTES
August 06, 1985
FOB 24B 1:00 p.m.

Chair, Lloyd H. Lamouria
Vice Chair, Lynne Gamble
Secretary (Acting), Raymond D. Terry

Members Absent: Robert Bonds, Lynne Gamble, Reg Gooden, Barbara Hallman, Ken Riener

I. Minutes :

Approval of the minutes of the July 16, 1985 Executive Committee meeting were carried over to the September 24 Executive Committee meeting. [Although the Senate Secretary submitted an accurate version of the minutes to the Senate Office on July 22, subsequent additions and changes could not be effected prior to this special meeting due to the lack of summer office staff.]

II. Announcements

- A. As a result of changes in the Fall Conference schedule of Academic Senate activities, the program becomes:

1:00 p.m. Academic Senate Reception for Teresa P. Hughes
2:00 p.m. Academic Senate Committee meetings
2:30 p.m. Academic Senate General Session

- B. The July 24 memo from Marlin Vix to the Chair of the Academic Senate (distributed with the agenda for this meeting) was discussed. The Chair emphasized that, in Marlin Vix's opinion, things were now proceeding satisfactorily on the Environmental Health & Safety Subcommittee. No further action by the Executive Committee is needed at this time. We will be kept informed of future developments.
- C. The Executive Committee's attention was directed to a copy of a June 13, 1985 memo from President Baker to the Foundation Board of Directors and to a copy of another memo (dated August 2, 1985) from President Baker to an assortment of persons. Both memos address the subject of funds for University services support. The subject of Foundation funding will be a topic on the agenda of a subsequent Executive Committee meeting.

III. Business Items

A. Search Procedures for the Position of Associate Provost for Information Systems

The Chair reviewed the facts concerning the genesis of this agenda item. He called the Executive Committee's attention to his August 5, 1985 memo to President Baker. Since the President was not on campus and the Provost would be leaving for Europe this weekend, it was decided to call a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee for August 6 so that the Provost could be present to respond to questions concerning the search procedures that were in effect. The Chair indicated that he had met with the Provost Monday (8-5-85) morning and again Tuesday (8-6-85) morning in an effort to obtain information and exchange views on the impending appointment of David Walch to the position of Associate Provost for Information Systems. The Provost was asked to comment on the situation.

The Provost confirmed that he had spoken twice with the Senate Chair, with Jens Pohl (Chair of the Senate Budget Committee) and with others. He acknowledged the Senate's grave concerns about the procedures leading to Walch's selection. The Provost announced that he would take no action independent of the President. As a result, the appointment would not be announced until after Friday (8-9-85) by which time the President will have returned to campus.

The Provost then shared information concerning the background of the action. The Search Committee had reviewed the files of more than 70 applicants for the position. Four candidates were invited for an on-campus interview. Of these two were found acceptable by the Search Committee. The Administration made a superhuman effort to hire first one, then the other, of the two candidates recommended by the Search Committee. But, alas, without success. At that time, it was decided to divide the one (advertised) position into two (non-advertised) positions: one managerial in nature, the other requiring technical expertise.

The following four points were made by the Provost in his discussion and subsequent response to questions:

- (1) The Administration was not creating (and filling) a new position, but rather was expanding the duties of an existing position (Library Director).
- (2) Frank Lebens, Director of Operations, who holds the position on an interim basis, is unable to

continue with the job and would like to be relieved of it as soon as possible.

- (3) The Curtis Gerald Report, made many years ago recommends precisely this integration of the library, audio-visual services, computing center and communications network.
- (4) David Walch is qualified for the position and is a credible and reasonable person. While at SUNY at Buffalo, Walch had responsibility for computing activities.

The following additional facts / opinions / impressions surfaced during the question period:

- (1) The position to which Walch is to be appointed is a new position with a new job description. Affirmative action requirements have not be met. It is not known how many of the applicants for the original position would apply for this position nor how many new applicants a new search might uncover. Walch himself did not apply for the advertised position of Associate Provost, had to be persuaded to accept the appointment and may not apply for it if a new search is undertaken.
- (2) The Search Committee was not dismissed after submitting its list of names to the Administration; however, members of the Search Committee and staff of the Computing Center were briefed concerning Walch's appointment and seemed to be relieved by it.
- (3) Walch was present when input was being sought from various affected groups concerning his impending appointment.
- (4) Proceeding with the appointment of Walch raises questions of the legal liability of Affirmative Action. There were no female or minority applicants among the four persons invited to campus. There may have been one or two minority or women applicants among the more than 70 applicants for the position.

The Provost had to leave the meeting at 2:00 p.m. to attend another meeting. After his departure, the Executive Committee wrestled with the following two questions:

- (1) Should the Executive Committee advise the President now before the appointment is to be announced? Or wait until the appointment is made

and react with disapproval?

The Executive Committee decided to act now.

- (2) Should the Executive Committee recommend that the Search continue and that Walch be invited to apply for the new position?

The Executive Committee decided not to endorse the application of any individual.

After suitable discussion the following resolution was moved, seconded and passed:

"The Executive Committee of the Academic Senate objects to the current procedures being used in filling the position of Associate Provost for Information Systems. The Executive Committee recommends that normal national search procedures be utilized in filling this position."

Prior to the vote, the Chair announced that because of the short notice given for this Special Meeting telephone-authorized proxies would be accepted. Two proxies were cast in the balloting.

B. Appointment Nominations

1. Nominations were solicited from the caucus chairs for a quarter-by-quarter Senate-appointed non-voting representative of the temporary faculty.

Nominations received prior to the meeting were: Marsha Epstein (Computer Science) and Gail Wilson (Chemistry).

During the meeting the additional nomination of Sandra M. Dills (English) was received by the Chair.

The Chair requested additional names and indicated that the position would be finalized at the Sept. 24 meeting of the Executive Committee.

2. Nominations were solicited from the caucus chairs for the seat left vacant on the Student Affairs Committee by the resignation of Ellen Horgan (Social Sci.). The Executive Committee approved the nomination (by Ellen Horgan) of George Suchand (Social Sci.).
3. Nominations were solicited from the caucus chairs for a Parliamentarian. Nominations received prior

to the meeting were: Tom Hale (Mathematics) and John Phillips (Crop Sci.).

Additional nominations received during the course of the meeting included: Leslie Ferreira (Dairy Sci.), Reg Gooden (Political Sci.), Richard Pimentel (Bio. Sci.), Terry Weinbrenner and Mike Wenzl (English).

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.