

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

Academic Senate Executive Committee Agenda
September 17, 1974 Ag. 111 3:00 P.M.

I. Minutes

Executive Committee Minutes - August 21, 1974

II. Business Items

Optional Senior Projects - Scott Plotkin

III. Discussion Items

A. Use of Credit - Weatherby (Attachment III-A)

B. Steady State Staffing - Olsen

IV. Announcements

A. University Committee Appointments - Weatherby

B. Constitution Update

C. Senate Resignation - Weatherby

D. Faculty Manual - Weatherby

Memorandum

To : Academic Senate Executive Committee Members

Date : July 12, 1974

File No.:

Copies : Fisher-Jones

L.V.
From : Larry Voss

Subject: Policy Statement on Evaluation and the Use of Credit

President Kennedy asked me to distribute copies of the attached memo from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges to members of the Academic Senate Executive Committee for information purposes.

Attachment III-A

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities

MILLS COLLEGE, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

(415) 512-3333

June 28, 1974

MEMORANDUM

TO Chief Executives of Member Institutions

FROM Kay J. Andersen

SUBJECT Evaluation and the Use of Credit

During the course of our June meeting, the Commission approved the attached policy statement on Evaluation and the Use of Credit. This is a revision of an earlier statement entitled the Assignment of Credit.

This statement was felt to be necessary in view of widespread complaints from around the country which suggest alarming abuses in the assignment of credit. In some instances large concentrations of credit are being offered for "life experiences" and poorly planned educational activities, including some domestic and foreign travel. While these may be billed as non-degree credit, the student signs up with the assurance that they provide bona fide credits, many at the graduate level, fully recognized by accrediting agencies.

The Commission appeals to the integrity of your institution and your staff in analyzing every type of educational experience on and off campus in order to maintain the quality of programs. Whenever it is deemed advisable, the Commission authorizes the staff to conduct an immediate investigation and to bill the institution for expenses incurred in the investigation. If serious weaknesses are found, the Commission may issue an immediate order to show cause why accreditation should not be withdrawn.

KJA:emt

Evaluation and the Use of Credit

While each institution must justify its particular approach to the evaluation of educational experiences and the symbols used, the assignment of credit at the undergraduate and graduate levels should have reasonable currency within the academic community and the many publics served by it. Assignment of credit for special activities or experience, independent study, and intensive contact with an instructor should be compatible with regular practices throughout the country. Likewise, credit for courses offered by summer sessions, extension divisions, and institutional affiliates, as well as workshops, field work, travel study, and off-campus centers or activities should be consistent with generally recognized standards or practices. A reasonable norm would appear to be not more than one semester unit or its equivalent for a week of full-time study (e.g. approximately six semester units for a six-week summer session).

Approved June 1974

Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges & Universities
Western Association of Schools & Colleges