

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN LUIS OBISPO

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 17, 1974

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Chairman Joe Weatherby.
- II. The minutes of the August 21, 1974, meeting of the Executive Committee were approved without amendment.
- III. Those in attendance were as follows:

Bob Alberti	Scott Plotkin
Bob Andreini	David Saveker
Norman Eatough	Harry Scales
Bob Hooks	Bob Sennett
Hazel Jones	Gerald Sullivan
Nancy Jorgensen	Joe Weatherby
Lezlie Labhard	Mike Wenzl
Barton Olsen	

IV. Business Items

A. Optional Senior Projects

Scott Plotkin withdrew "Optional Senior Projects" from a business item to the category of Announcements, stating that the ASI is considering the general degree requirements for senior projects and is in the process of forming a "task force" with representatives of the Academic Administration to review and reflect upon senior projects as requisites for graduation.

B. Selection of Chairman of Grievance Panel and Disciplinary Action Panel

The Chairman read a memo from President Kennedy requesting that the Academic Senate designate a faculty member to serve as Panel Chairman to conduct the selection process for grievance and disciplinary action committees. The Chairman cited the need for an impartial faculty coordinator to aid both the grievant and in the establishment of grievance panels to review cases as they arise. He recommended that the outgoing chairman of the Personnel Review Committee be the coordinator acting to assign qualified faculty to grievance panels and advising grievants regarding the grievance procedures and their rights. The Chairman stated that Thomas V. Johnston had provisionally agreed to act in such a role if asked by the Senate and if acceptable to the administration. The Committee unanimously endorsed this idea and requested the Chairman to carry on with preparations to establish this assignment.

C. Use of Credit

It was moved by Harry Scales and seconded by Dave Saveker that the June 28, 1974, memorandum of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges entitled "Evaluation and the Use of Credit" be circulated to all members of the Academic Senate. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Steady State Staffing

It was moved by Dave Saveker and seconded by Lezlie Labhard to refer the June 19, 1974, Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Study Steady State Staffing to the Personnel Policy Committee for review and recommendations regarding the policy that the Academic Senate should adopt on Steady State Contingency planning. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that the report failed to address faculty career planning and that there is a wide divergence between the several schools hiring policies as presently practiced.

E. Grade Processing Procedures

It was moved by Bob Sennett and seconded by Harry Scales that a memo to the registrar be prepared suggesting that the computer enter a "no grade received" category to help alleviate the grade processing workload. This memo would be drafted by Sennett and prepared for the signature of the Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Textbook Selection

A letter from Brad Smith concerning textbook selection and recommending a boycott of the campus bookstore was referred to the Instruction Committee for their consideration in their study of textbook selection.

V. Discussion Items

A. Ryan Act

A memo from Cal State L.A. objecting to the implementation of the Ryan Act was presented and discussed. It was decided to refer this memo to the Coordinating Committee for Teacher Education and to attach copies of the memo to the Executive Committee minutes.

VI. Announcements

A. University-wide Committee Appointments

The Chairman presented a list of nominations for University-wide Standing Committees.

B. Constitution Update

A memo from President Kennedy endorsing the amendment of Section 1.3(2)(c) of Article 111 of the Constitution to remove the instructional deans as ex officio voting members of the Academic Senate was presented. The Chairman stated that the President is holding other recommendations the Academic Senate made during 1973/74 in abeyance at the present time.

C. Senate Resignations

The Chairman noted the resignations of Sara Behman and Wes McCormac in the School of Business and Social Sciences and the resignation of Harry Markos in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Bob Hooks stated that James D'Albro would replace the latter.

D. Faculty Manual

The Chairman reported that President Kennedy is not opposed to the concept of a Faculty Manual and has requested that 3 or 4 persons be appointed to work on the idea with Don Shelton and Larry Voss. The Chairman asked for suggestions both for content of such a manual and for people to work on it.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

Statement on the Ryan Act

The Teacher Education Subcommittee endorses the substance of the Cal State, Sacramento Statement on the Ryan Act as it pertains to the prescriptive and rigid manner in which the Act has been implemented. Recent actions of the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing, however, have vitiated certain criticisms in the Statement, necessitating a revised statement by this Subcommittee. After four years of working with the Ryan legislation and the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing, the Subcommittee must express its concern regarding three prevalent issues: (1) rigidity/conformity, (2) delay, (3) budgetary impact.

First, there is an obvious discrepancy between the intent of the Act and the manner in which it has been implemented. In Section 13102, it is stated that "the legislature finds that highly complex, detailed and prescriptive regulations governing the preparation and licensing of teachers and administrators frustrate imagination, innovation, and responsiveness" and "require licensing regulations which are flexible, realistic, responsive, and simple." Instead, the Commission has adopted detailed guidelines for each credential, outlining completely the curricular content, and the manner in which and by whom it is to be developed.

"Manuals" have been developed which must be followed slavishly in content and format to receive "approval" of credential programs by the Commission. The institution must show evidence that each individual element in the guidelines has been met, or indicate a "plan for compliance." When (if) the program is approved (and all programs so far have received "conditional approval" at best), the President of the institution must sign a legalistic document acknowledging the "conditions" and agreeing to remove them in order to receive continuing program approval. Programs so approved may not be changed appreciably without Commission approval; minutes of the Commission show that a mere one-unit change in course value requires their action and approval. Significantly, the Commission has recently shown moderation in applying such curricular controls to areas other than Education. The Teacher Education Subcommittee is appreciative of this action, but deplors its continuance with any University department or program.

Second, we are concerned that delays in implementation were caused by Commission attention to detail and prescription. We hope that the intent of the legislature rather than the technicalities of the bill will be followed, and that there will be no need for further delays. At this juncture advisement of students in development of both degree and credential programs is an insurmountable task, particularly in view of the requirement that they make continual progress toward stated objectives.

Third, we are concerned with the degree to which the Commission's interpretation of the Ryan Act will require resources neither provided for by the Act nor presently budgeted. The doubling of student teaching and the expense of follow-up evaluation of graduates, to cite two particular items, will require supplemental funds. It should be noted that this will be true regardless of the size of credential programs, given current staffing formulae.

The University urges the Legislature and the Commission to change their thrust. Any attempt on the part of the Commission to impose a uniform curriculum in any discipline upon all institutions in the State is abhorrent and denies each institution its traditional right and responsibility to determine the curriculum appropriate for its students, its service area and the community it serves.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by the Academic Senate
California State University, Los Angeles
August 20, 1974