

CAL POLY

REPORT

SPECIAL EDITION

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Sept. 5, 1990

MEMO TO: University Community
FROM: President Warren J. Baker
RE: Planning for the Next Decade

Cal Poly will experience significant change during the next 10 to 15 years. To prepare for these eventualities the university must face such issues as changing funding patterns, different demographics, a new faculty mix, and societal demands that will be challenging.

It is critical that the university meet these challenges and opportunities head on. As a first step, I have established an Oversight Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by the vice president for academic affairs.

I have asked the committee to develop the framework that coordinates all planning efforts on campus: academic, campus, educational equity and resource and support. To communicate clearly, the campus must have a common vocabulary to use to discuss the issues.

The committee's first tasks must include developing the processes by which all other planning efforts can operate; i.e., a common understanding of the issues explored. It is vital to have a common understanding of what we mean when we use the terms quality, diversity and the like.

In addition to Dr. Koob as chairman, the committee membership includes Hazel Scott, Jim Landreth, Art Gloster, Doug Gerard, Jan

Pieper, Lark Carter, Peter Lee, Sidney Ribeau, Jim Murphy, Jim Conway, and a student representative. Key in the development of a strategic plan to guide our decisions on growth, program emphasis, acquisition and use of resources, admission policy, hiring, etc., will be the activities of the Academic Planning Committee, the Commission on Educational Equity, the Academic Senate Long-range Planning Committee, and the Campus Planning Committee. The coordinated activities of these groups will develop goals and objectives for the university taking into consideration our mission and the external and internal factors which influence our choices.

On Monday, Sept. 10, Assemblyman Robert J. Campbell (D.-Richmond) will present the keynote address at the opening session of Fall Conference. His talk will be one of four major presentations during the 1990-91 academic year to help us examine the major issues facing higher education in the years ahead. Other speakers include Dr. Ira Michael Heyman, recently retired chancellor of UC Berkeley; State Superintendent of Public Instruction William Honig; and William D. Campbell, chairman of the California State University board of trustees.

By the end of fall quarter the oversight committee plans to have the framework to be used to coordinate all campus plans in draft form and distributed to all other planning units on campus. Next spring a progress report and a draft statement of goals and objectives will be issued for initial reaction by the campus community.

The planning process is always an ongoing activity as we respond to external and internal factors. What we need over the coming months is intelligent dialogue to make our transition into the next century a smooth one.