Baker appoints two administrators to fill posts in Academic Affairs

President Baker has appointed two administrators to fill key positions in the Academic Affairs Division.

Paul Zingg, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, has been named interim vice president for academic affairs, and Linda C. Dalton, former City and Regional Planning Department head, has been appointed interim associate vice president for academic resources.

Zingg will succeed Robert Koob as the campus’s No. 2 administrator Aug. 15. Koob is leaving Cal Poly to become president of the University of Northern Iowa.

Dalton will succeed Charlie Crabb July 24. Crabb has accepted a position as a regional director of the University of California’s Cooperative Extension program.

Harry Sharp, associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts, will assume the role of interim dean. He will be assisted by associate dean Susan Currier, who returns to the college after a year’s leave as an American Council on Education fellow at UC Davis.

As chief academic officer, Zingg will manage daily academic operations and assist President Baker with key university initiatives.

Dalton, who will report to Zingg, will oversee the Academic Resources area of the Academic Affairs Division, which has an annual budget of approximately $80 million and about 14,300 students, 800 faculty members, and 370 staff members.

Zingg, who has been dean at Cal Poly since 1993, is a historian specializing in higher education and sports history. He has been in higher education since 1970. He served as dean of the School of Liberal Arts at St. Mary’s College in Moraga from 1986 to 1993 and was special assistant to the vice chancellor for undergraduate studies and the provost of UC Berkeley in 1986.

As a professor at the University of Pennsylvania from 1978 to 1986, Zingg served in various administrative positions including vice dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and assistant to the president.

He has published numerous books and articles on American higher education, sports history, the American South, and the relationship between athletics and academics.

Zingg is a member of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges’ Commission on Human Resources and Social Change and the Council of Fellows of the American Council on Education’s Policy and Priorities Committee. He has served as an accreditation reviewer for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges since 1991.

The historian earned a bachelor’s degree from Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina, a master’s from the University of Richmond in Virginia, and a doctorate from the University of Georgia. All his degrees are in history.

Dalton has been a member of the City and Regional Planning Department since 1983 and served as department head from 1989 to 1994.

She, along with Currier, was one of 34 academic professionals from around the country named American Council on Education (ACE) Fellows for the 1994-95 academic year.

Dalton recently returned from the year-long mentoring program, having served in the office of the provost at Arizona State University in Tempe. The ACE program is designed to strengthen leadership in American higher education.

She has served on Cal Poly’s Charter Task Force, the group charged with creating a vision of what Cal Poly would be like if it became a charter university.

A former chair of the Instructional Department Heads Council, Dalton also was chair of the Academic Senate’s Long-Range Planning Committee and was a member of the Academic Senate and the Long-Range Planning and Assessment Committee of the President’s Cabinet.

Dalton previously taught at Seattle University’s Institute of Public Service.

She has worked with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on long-range campus planning and with Boston’s Redevelopment Authority on architectural and historic preservation.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in art history from Radcliffe College/Harvard University, and a master’s and a doctorate in urban planning from the University of Washington.