RESOLUTION ON GIVING OF FINALS DURING FINALS' WEEK

WHEREAS, CAM 484 "Final Examinations" sets forth the California Polytechnic State University policy on the giving of finals during a designated time; and

WHEREAS, This designated time is referred to as Finals' Week; and

WHEREAS, There is an increasing number of finals being given during the week prior to Finals' Week; and

WHEREAS, This practice results in disruption of classes and is in clear violation of CAM 484; and

WHEREAS, Each faculty member is responsible for the administering of his/her finals during the designated time; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate request again that Administration vigorously enforce CAM 484; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a list of all dean-approved exceptions (to CAM 484) for each quarter will be made available to each department head/chair by the fifth week of the quarter.

Proposed by:
Instruction Committee
February 19, 1986
Revised March 4, 1986
Revised April 22, 1986
On April 28 you forwarded to me the subject resolution that was adopted by the Academic Senate at its meeting on April 22. I have subsequently shared that resolution with the Provost, other Academic Affairs staff; and it was in turn shared with the Deans.

In terms of general policy, I am supportive of the resolution, and the administration will do what it can to enforce the provisions of the policy as enunciated in CAM 484. I trust, however, that the members of the Academic Senate recognize that this is an issue which cannot be solved only by the Deans, Provost and the President. Unless students and others make a point of informing the deans with regard to infractions of the policy, there is no way for the administration to be aware that faculty are in fact scheduling and giving final examinations outside the framework of the finals week.

The final "Whereas" clause of the resolution recognizes that faculty members are responsible for administering their finals during the designated time, and perhaps the most effective method of enforcement of this policy is through peer pressure.

Finally, I do have some difficulty with the final "Resolved" clause of the resolution which asks that all dean-approved exceptions for each quarter be made available to each department head/chair by the fifth week of the quarter. It is appropriate to be able to share information on exceptions, and I will ask that the deans be requested to do so. However, I think we must recognize that there are valid reasons for granting exceptions which do not become known until after the fifth week of a given quarter; and department heads/chairs and deans need to be in a position to respond to those instances.