March 16, 2012

From: Graham Archer Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee
To: Cal Poly Academic Senate
Re: Committee Report, Winter Quarter, 2012

During the winter quarter 2012 the Faculty Affairs Committee revised (twice) its resolution on shared governance. The final draft resolution was passed on to the Academic Senate Executive Committee and is attached to this report. Also attached are the two primary reference documents the committee relied upon for the resolution: The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) “Statement on Governance of Colleges and Universities” 1990; and Academic Senate California State University (ASCSU) “Shared Governance Reconsidered: Improving Decision-Making in the California State University” 2001. The committee feels that these documents characterize the best practices of shared governance.

The committee also investigated impact on faculty of the Chancellor’s edict that “all employees who travel internationally on CSU business are required to use the Foreign Travel Insurance Program (FTIP) (March 7, 2011 RM 2011-03). The committee intends to complete its investigation and send a report to the Exec Committee next quarter.

Committee members:
Archer, Graham (CH) Arce CAED
Brar, Navjit Library PCS
Brown, D. Ken Philos CLA
Willmar, Landa Student ASI
Liddicoat, Al AcadPersl Admin
Lund, Ulric Stats CSM
Olsen, Eric IndTech OCOB
James, Jennifer Agribus CAFES
Wu, Xi MechEngr CENG
Minutes of the Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting

1/24/12

Present: Ulric, Ken, Eric, Jenny, Al, Graham

- Revisions to the Shared Governance resolution:
  - Add staff and students to be more inclusive
  - Add “explicitly” to the 4th whereas in order to try to show why we are doing it...seems obvious
  - Rewrite 4th resolved clause as a whereas...it fits better this way
  - Change governing board to trustees

- International travel insurance
  - No one is aware of any issues
  - Al has not seen anything come up in the Provost’s office
  - Graham says the CO has backed off from making the faculty pay
  - Maybe not a big issue
  - More investigation needed
Minutes of the Faculty Affairs Committee eMeeting

2/14/12

Present: Ulric, Eric, Al, Graham

- International travel insurance
  o Eric reports that in the OCOB it appears that the faculty are not aware that the insurance is required (or understood).
  o Ulric reports that in the Statistics Dept. several colleagues were reimbursed for international travel recently, none of them were aware of the need to purchase international travel insurance
  o Graham reports the in ARCE, two faculty who recently traveled abroad both had the insurance; one was paid by the department and one paid for it through a research grant (although later it was kicked back and paid through the dept., the Admin Asst. didn’t know why that happened)
  o Al suggested the committee contact Dave Carol in Risk Management to see what the current policy is.
Minutes of the Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
3/13/12

Present: Ulric, Ken, Eric, Jenny, Al, Graham

- Revisions to the Shared Governance resolution:
  - Ken reported on the presentation the Exec Board
  - Mostly clarifications
  - What problem is this addressing (new Administrators clause added)
  - Committee unanimously accepted Ken’s revisions

- International travel insurance
  - The Chancellor’s edict that “all employees who travel internationally on CSU business are required to use the Foreign Travel Insurance Program (FTIP) (March 7, 2011 RM 2011-03).
  - University Counsel memo (2/13/12) to PERB states that “the CSU campuses are expected to pay the costs of the premiums for insurance coverage”
  - Seems clear that all faculty need the insurance and it should not come out of their research grants (or pocket)
  - Faculty seem to be unaware of this
  - Graham will investigate the current policy
  - Cont. Ed maybe an issue because you can’t use state funds...maybe indirect costs will cover it
  - Graham spoke with Melissa Swanson in Risk Management. She reports that the cost is low ($60 for 2 weeks) and that the dept. usually pays. However she says that sometimes it is run through a Corporation account which might indicate that the faculty member’s grant paid.
WHEREAS, One of the key tenets of quality higher education is shared governance in which responsibility for the running of the university is shared by faculty, staff, students, administrators, and trustees; and

WHEREAS, The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) “Statement on Governance of Colleges and Universities” 1990 and Academic Senate California State University (ASCSU) “Shared Governance Reconsidered: Improving Decision-Making in the California State University” 2001 characterize the best practices of shared governance; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly has a long history of participation in shared governance; and

WHEREAS, Our new President, Provost, along with various other new higher administrators and Deans newly or soon to be hired may be unfamiliar with the implementation of shared governance at Cal Poly, and

WHEREAS, The faculty, for their own sake, also have an interest in explicitly articulating what shared governance means at Cal Poly; therefore be it

RESOLVED: The faculty affirm its primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and student educational processes; and be it further

RESOLVED: On matters wherein faculty has primary responsibility, decisions of trustees and the President should concur with faculty judgment except in rare circumstances, and for reasons clearly communicated to the faculty; and be it further

RESOLVED: The faculty should, following such communication, have opportunity for further consideration and further transmittal of its views to the president; and be it further

RESOLVED: The faculty should strive to apply the model of shared governance detailed in Appendix C of the ASCSU report in The Constitution of the Faculty and the Bylaws Of The Academic Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Academic Senate revise the preamble to the Constitution of the Faculty to include shared governance in the definition of the functions of the Academic Senate as follows:

We, the faculty of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, in order to meet our academic responsibilities, hereby establish this Constitution of the Faculty for our governance. The responsibilities of the faculty, the powers necessary to fulfill those responsibilities, and the collegial form of shared
governance are based on historic academic traditions that have been recognized by the people of the State of California through their legislature.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Faculty Affairs Committee
Date: March 13, 2012