MINUTES OF
The Academic Senate
Tuesday, April 11, 2006
UU 220, 3:10 to 5:00 pm

I. Minutes: The minutes for the Academic Senate meeting of February 28, 2006 were approved.

II. Communications and Announcements: Report from Joe Grimes on CSU Workshop on RPT held February 24, 2006.

III. Reports:
A. Academic Senate Chair: (Hannings) Thanks to Harvey Greenwald and the Academic Senate Sustainability Committee for their involvement in the coordination of Dr. Peter Raven’s participation during Cal Poly’s Earth Day 2006. Dr. Raven is a professor of Botany at Washington University in Saint Louis and President of Missouri Botanical Gardens. The Provost Search Committee continues to make progress and hopes to identify candidates for video interviews this week. A reminder to all Academic Senate committee chairs that the deadline to submit resolutions in order to be included in the last Executive Committee agenda of the year is Friday, April 28, 2006. Ballots for the vote on CSU Senate Constitution Amendments were mailed out yesterday to all faculty members. Hood encouraged everyone to vote against the amendment based on the fact that the workload of the Senate has increased without any budget increases since 2002 and the fact that there are other ways to solve budget shortfall problem for instance, having each individual campus contribute to fund the budget shortfall. The Social Hour, co-hosted by the President’s Office and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, will be held Thursday, April 27 from 4-6 pm at Veranda Conference Room.

B. President’s Office: (Howard-Greene) On Sunday, May 7, 2006 at 4:30 pm the President’s Office will be sponsoring a public a talk in the Spanos Theater by Dr. David Goodstein, Caltech’s Vice Provost and professor of Physics and Applied Physics. The title of the talk is “Out of Gas: the End of the Age of Oil” and considers the issue of the search for renewable sources of energy.

C. Provost Office: (Detweiler) Enrollment for spring quarter 2006 is right on track. The admissions outlook for fall quarter is good and consists of a strong pool of applicants but encountering a lot of competition from the University of California system, particularly in the science area. Cal Poly is making progress on the goal for summer enrollment which is to have 25% of total FTE, last summer enrollment was at 13% of total FTE. This year, Cal Poly has a goal of hiring 45 tenure track faculty, which will be achieved, but it’s uneven across departments. Linda Halisky has been appointed dean of the College of Liberal Arts, effective April 3, 2006. The search committee for a Library dean has completed its interviews and will send a report to President Baker next week. The search committee for the Vice President for Advancement will begin interviews of finalists next week. The search for a Provost is underway and making progress. Most on-campus construction projects are proceeding as scheduled, with a good outlook, and with minimal delays despite to the spring rains. Vice President Ogren and President Baker are well into the implementation of the Cal Poly Foundation and have set a campus wide fundraising goal for this year of $41 million.
D. Statewide Senators: (Hood) had an interim meeting last Friday but there is nothing definite to report. (Menon) Next week a group of statewide senators are going to the State Capital to lobby the legislators.

E. CFA Campus President: None.

F. ASI Representatives: (Swanson) The annual State of the Student address will take place on April 12 at 5pm, in the Performing Arts Center Pavilion. President Baker will address the student after opening remarks by Cornel Morton, Vice President for Student Affairs. The event will conclude with closing comments by ASI President Tylor Middlestadt. (Vaccaro) President Baker’s remarks will not limited to students’ interests given that he will be discussion the future of Cal Poly and how it is preparing to meet future challenges and changes that affect both students and faculty. ASI election campaigns will begin Sunday, April 23, after open house, and will conclude with student voting on May 3 and 4. Faculty is asked to encourage all students to vote.

G. Other: None.

IV. Consent Agenda: None.

V. Business Item(s):
   A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2006-07: Bruno Giberti from the College of Architecture and Environmental Design was approved by acclamation as Chair. Frank Vuotto from the Library was approved by acclamation as Vice Chair.
   B. Resolution on Course Syllabi: Hannings, Chair of the Academic Senate, first reading. This resolution discusses the availability and requirement of a written course syllabus including all information deemed necessary to assure the student’s understanding of the nature and requirements of the course. Hood presented a substitute resolution which was discussed and will return as a second reading item at the next Academic Senate meeting.
   C. Resolution on Grade Forgiveness: Schaffner, chair of the Instruction Committee, first reading. This resolution addresses the conditions and eligibility for grade forgiveness and encourages advisors to proactively contact and advise students who receive a failing grade. This resolution will return as second reading item at the next Academic Senate meeting.
   D. Resolution on Textbook Pricing: Foroohar, chair of the faculty Affairs Committee, second reading. This resolution encourages faculty to consider price and the need for new editions when selecting textbooks as well as submitting their textbook requests by the set deadline to ensure their availability. Due to the lack of time, this resolution was not discussed.

VI. Discussion Item(s): None.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Submitted by,

Gladys Gregory,
Academic Senate