

Adopted: January 31, 1989

ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California

Background statement:

Evidence is mounting that interest in student participation in community service is growing rapidly throughout the nation.

And California is no exception. In Fall 1987, Assembly Bill 1820 was signed into law, creating the California Human Corps. The Bill mandates that, beginning Fall 1988, all students in the CSU and the UC shall be "strongly encouraged and expected, though not required" to contribute their time and talent to addressing some of the pressing human needs that our communities currently are facing.

Universities in both systems are responsible for developing a wide variety of attractive avenues to service. Students can choose to serve as volunteers, receive academic credit for service/learning, or obtain financial compensation for their work.

By 1993, it is expected that the CSU and UC campuses will significantly increase community service so that participation will approach 100% of students contributing an average of 30 hours for each year they are enrolled.

Both the California State Student Association and the Statewide Academic Senate have endorsed the Bill (while lobbying strongly and successfully against making service a requirement of students). However, no funds have been allocated to implement this Bill. Therefore, the Statewide Academic Senate has expressed great concern that the Bill not add to faculty workload without providing adequate compensation for faculty.

AB 1820 makes some specific requirements of CSU and UC including surveys of levels of participation. The survey will be included as part of the Student Needs And Priorities Survey (SNAPS) in February 1989. Provisions for surveying progress on an ongoing basis have not been developed. At Cal Poly, a survey of academic departments and of student clubs to identify existing service activities was conducted in Fall of 1985. The information is being updated during Fall 1988.

AB 1820 also requires each campus to establish a Human Corps Task Force to spearhead campus efforts. Cal Poly has established a Task Force composed of campus faculty, student and administrative leaders, city and county chief administrative officers, directors of the local United Way/Neighbors Helping Neighbors and of the Private Industry Council, and the Program Director from the County Superintendent of Schools' office.

This Task Force has developed a definition of community service to be used in developing the Human Corps program (see attached) as well as recommended to President Baker a statement of university commitment to the program. Subcommittees are being formed to address several issues and to make recommendations, including the relationship of Cal Poly's academic program to the Human Corps.

Cal Poly has in place a broad-based service program of instructionally-related and of student directed programs. (See attached brochure for details.) They presently involve at least 25% of Cal Poly students. Therefore, to increase participation, the initial approach is to utilize existing opportunities more fully.

Currently, one-half of all Cal Poly academic departments offer senior projects and/or internships or class projects that regularly result in service to the community.

Academic Affairs and Student Affairs have joined to create the Community Action Bureau (CAB), a computerized database of more than 300 community service opportunities. It is used by students to identify needed projects and to obtain referral to appropriate agency staff. Supervising senior projects, internships, or class projects that result in service need not be more time consuming to faculty nor more expensive than other types of senior projects because help in finding projects is available through CAB.

The Cal Poly Student Senate passed Resolution #88-08-Community Service endorsing Human Corps on November 28, 1987.

AS-307-89/IC

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN CORPS AND OF SERVICE/LEARNING AT CAL POLY

- WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of Cal Poly, SLO has not gone on record as supporting Human Corps; and
- WHEREAS, No vehicle exists for providing faculty input to the Human Corps program or for providing support to interested faculty through the exchange of ideas, sharing of resources, seeking of grant funds, or development of interdisciplinary service activities of faculty from different schools; and
- WHEREAS, The senior project requirement, as well as internships and class projects, provides the University a unique opportunity for service/learning; and
- WHEREAS, There is no mechanism for measuring student service on an ongoing basis; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate support student participation in community service that is beneficial to the community AND to the student; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That a faculty network similar to that employed in the Cooperative Education program be formed in support of Human Corps; that is, one individual in each department to be selected annually by his or her colleagues to serve as the Human Corps contact person; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That, from this network, a Human Corps Task Force Academic Issues committee, composed of interested faculty from each school/Professional Consultative Services, be formed which will identify possibilities for new or interdisciplinary service/learning activities and will seek information and financial resources in support of faculty interested in developing service/learning activities; and be it further

RESOLVED: That students be encouraged to conduct senior projects, internships, and class projects that also provide service to the community; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Registrar's Office be asked to develop a way to measure the level of student community service in conjunction with Fall Quarter Registration each Fall beginning Fall 1989.

Proposed By:
Instruction Committee
6-0-1
November 3, 1988
January 31, 1989

Memorandum

RECEIVED

FEB 28 1989


CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO
CA 93407

To : Charles T. Andrews, Chair
Academic Senate
Academic Senate

Date : February 27, 1989

File No.:

Copies : M. Wilson
H. Scott

From : 
Warren J. Baker, President

Subject: Academic Senate Resolution 307-89 Regarding the Human Corps

On February 15 I acknowledged receipt of the subject resolution from the Academic Senate and indicated that I was referring the matter to Vice President Wilson and Dean of Students Hazel Scott for their review. I have now received a report from the two of them strongly supporting the content of the resolution adopted by the Academic Senate and I am pleased to approve the resolution. I am hopeful that the Academic Senate resolution will provide a framework for continued cooperation and support of the faculty in the further implementation of the Human Corps program as envisioned when Assemblyman John Vasconcellos authored AB 1820.