

MEMORANDUM

To: Steve Rein
Academic Senate, President

Date: December 14, 2012

From: Andrew Schaffner
Academic Senate Curriculum Committee, Chair

Filename:

Copies:

Subject: Quarterly Report, Fall 2012

The ASCC met eleven of the twelve weeks (no meetings during Thanksgiving break) meeting five hours per week all weeks except for the first week of the quarter where we met for two hours, and finals week meeting six hours. Because of the extensive work involved with catalog review, not all members met each week.

2013-15 CATALOG REVIEW

The focus of this very busy quarter was the review of the 2013-15 catalog proposals. The set of proposals this cycle was much more extensive than those received during the 2011-13 cycle most likely because during this cycle departments had a normal time for proposal development as compared to a 4-month proposal period in the 2011-13 cycle. Nonetheless, we have nearly completed our reviews (initial review, feedback to departments, response to feedback) for CLA, CSM, OCOB, and CAED. We are still conducting initial reviews of material from CAFES and CENG. Material for these two colleges was delayed as departments within these colleges made last minute efforts to address pressures from the chancellor's office to reduce units to a maximum of 180 quarter-units with exceptions permitted for accredited programs.

Recommendations for the Senate Consent Agenda will be forthcoming during the first weeks of Winter Quarter. The recommendations will include a summary of our progress prepared by the registrar's office (whose administrative support is instrumental in this review process) and will be made available at <http://registrar.calpoly.edu/curric-handbook/index.html> when the first college package of recommendations is ready for submission to the Academic Senate Consent Agenda.

It is worth noting that the expediency of our review efforts have been severely hampered by the copious errors in the documents we review. For example, unit values for degrees do not add to the listed values, required courses have hidden prerequisites or include courses no longer offered by other departments, consultation memos are missing. Errors of this magnitude should not be present in proposals reaching the university level of review, but rather addressed at the departmental and college levels. To address these problems the ASCC will look at ways to involve members in more substantive ways at the lower levels of review. We also anticipate that moving to an electronic workflow along with soon to be implemented CourseLeaf Catalog tool, some of these problems will be diminished.

CONTINUOUS REVIEW (EXCEPTIONS TO CATALOG REVIEW)

The following courses and certificate programs were recommended for approval and subsequently approved via the Senate Consent Agenda

1. FPE 555 Fire Protection Management in the Wildland Urban Interface
2. Graduate Certificate Program in Facilities Management and Operations
3. PSY 303 Intergroup Dialogues

CURRICULUM TRANSFORMATION

Alongside the catalog review, the ASCC and GEGB chair were active members of the Semester Review Task Force whose activity culminated in a report to the president at the end of this term. Because transforming the curriculum was identified as a motivation to change the calendar (quarters to semesters), Josh Machamer and I felt we needed to have a better idea of what it might mean to transform the curriculum. To this end, we held two campus forums for department and curriculum chairs. A summary of the forums can be found beginning on page 15 of the Presidential Semester Review Task Force Final Report and can be downloaded from the following link: http://president.calpoly.edu/semesterreview/SRTF_FinalReport.pdf.