State of California

CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO

MEMORANDUM

To: Rachel Fernflores
Academic Senate, President

Date: June 12, 2012

Filename:

From: Andrew Schaffner
Academic Senate Curriculum Committee, Chair

Copies:

Subject: Quarterly Report, Spring 2012

The ASCC met nine of the ten weeks with most meetings lasting the full two hours.

CONTINUOUS REVIEW

As always continuous review items were given the highest priority on our agenda. The following is a summary of reviewed courses and programs that were recommended for approval.

1. AGB 311: Intermediate Agribusiness Finance
2. AGB 426: Advanced Rural Appraisal
3. BIO 123: Biology of Sex
4. CHEM 219: Organic Chemistry Lab II for Life Sciences
5. ES/WGS 351 Global Engineering: Gender, Race, Class, Nation
6. GRC 204: Introduction to Contemporary Print Management and Manufacturing
7. SPAN 307: Spanish and Latin American Film
8. CHEM 216/7/8/9 and 316/7/8/9: Organic Chemistry (course mods)
9. BA Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies

The following courses were not recommended for approval.

1. ARCE 106: Materials of Construction
2. PHYS 121: College Physics I (course mod)

The following program was discussed, but a recommendation for approval was not made at the time of this report. Further information from the proposers has been requested.

1. Graduate Certificate Program in Facilities Management and Operations (approval pending a final consulting memo and new course name change).

EXCEPTIONS TO CATALOG REVIEW

We modified the language to the Registrar's website to indicate that we would be very limited in entertaining exceptions next year as we undergo Catalog Review in the Fall. Details can be found at http://registrar.calpoly.edu/registrar/node/126.

eLEARNING POLICY

We continued to assist the Online Task Force in revising their eLearning document. The ASCC chair presented the policy to the Senate for Ken Griggs (Online task force chair) and the policy was adopted by the Senate on May 29, 2012. Part of the document charges the ASCC to develop an eLearning addendum to accompany course proposals that have eLearning components. New courses using eLearning in place any amount of face-to-face instruction, and existing courses that propose to use more than 50% eLearning in place of face-to-face instruction will need to fill out an eLearning addendum in addition to their Course Mod or Proposal forms. The form is under development and we are actively working with the new Director of Academic Technology Patrick O'Sullivan so that we are well advised on current best practices. We expect to have a form complete and begin using this new form beginning with the exceptions to catalog review period following the 2013-15 catalog review cycle.

ROLE OF BUDGET IN CURRICULUM DECISIONS

The ASCC Chair met with the Provost and the Deans (during a Dean's council meeting) to discuss the role of ASCC as it relates to budget and the curriculum. All attending were clear that the ASCC's primary role should be to assess curriculum proposals based on their curricular merits and that budgetary problems and concerns are the responsibility of the Provost and Deans. Obviously there is a grey area: a curriculum that cannot be delivered (i.e., meet student demand) is no better than an inferior curriculum that can be delivered to meet student demand. We continue to wrestle with issue as an increasing number of proposals and modifications use budget rather than pedagogy as a reason for change (e.g., replacing lab or activity units with less expensive lecture/seminar/discussion units).

RELEASE FOR ASCC MEMBERS

An appeal was made to the Deans and Provost to provide release time for ASCC members as they typically serve on departmental and college committees as well. This committee requires a much higher level of involvement than most other service committees. It was noted that an unequal amount of release, if any, was given to members. The Provost has contacted ASCC members to gather more information about how much release some members are receiving. It is hopeful that some release will be available for members next year, at least for the Catalog Review cycle.