CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, California 93407
ACADEMIC SENATE

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Tuesday, February 7 2012
UU 220, 3:10 to 5:00pm

I. Minutes: The minutes of the January 10 2012 Academic Senate meeting were approved with one editorial change: Under Academic Senate Chair report, “6th” was added to the following sentence, “David Conn reported that a diversity colloquium…is scheduled for February 6th starting at 5:00pm.”

II. Communication(s) and Announcement(s): none.

III. Reports:
A. Academic Senate Chair: (Fernflores) The Chair welcomed Cal Poly’s new Provost, Kathleen Enz Finken, to her first Senate meeting. Ruth Black, CSU Online Director, will be on campus February 28. She will be speaking to the Senate at its regularly scheduled meeting that day and is tentatively scheduled to have lunch with the Online Task Force. (The Online Initiative is now called Cal State Online.)

B. President’s Office: (Kinsley) Re the Student Success Fee: open forums are taking place on campus and the Student Advisory Referendum will take place on February 29. If anyone has questions about the fee, please contact her.

C. Provost: (Enz Finken) Provost Enz Finken introduced herself and mentioned the issues she has been reviewing during her first week here. Enz Finken has had a long history of working in a collective bargaining environment and looks forward to working with the Senate in a shared governance setting.

D. Vice President for Student Affairs: (Preston) University Housing is rolling out its second-year housing program. We’ll have 4000 students who will be interested in the 3500 bed spaces available for second-year students. 1000 students signed up the first day applications were opened. The CBS Sunday Morning Show did a segment on hazing and Cal Poly was part of the lineup. Cal Poly did very well in its response. The segment is on YouTube or can be Googled. Evening activities are being added for students to provide more excitement and encourage students to stay on campus during night hours.

E. Statewide Senate: (Foroohar) There is much unhappiness within the statewide Senate due to violations of shared governance by Chancellor Reed. Several resolutions were passed regarding these violations and the Chancellor has not responded to them. Among these were the Online Initiative; strengthening the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU) constitution and bylaws by adding a clause regarding academic freedom; and the December budget cuts to the statewide Senate (however, its budget will be restored next year). At the last ASCSU plenary meeting, the Chancellor attended with a very different tone than in the past 10 years. He was polite and answered questions regarding the above matters, and apologized for his past behavior. The ASCSU is presently writing documents re the principles of shared governance and what it means.

F. CFA Campus President: (Thorncroft) The contract is currently in mediation. The timetable to complete all steps in the process is not known at this time. George Diehr (San Marcos), faculty representative on the PERS Board, will be at Cal Poly on February 16. A flyer will be mailed with details. He will be speaking on FERP, retirement issues, current status of the system, new
contract negotiations, benefits, and the implications of Governor Brown’s reforms. There are no reserves in PERS for CSU employees to receive a golden parachute at this time.

G. ASI Representative: (Tabrizi) ASI is partnering with the new San Luis Obispo Community Development Director to draft community ordinances dealing with issues involving students and the community. An ASI Leadership Forum is being planned bringing back past leaders of ASI including an ASI President who served prior to World War II. It’s recruitment time for next year’s ASI positions. A Student Success Fee Task Force has been established. Its goal is to objectively educate every student on the fee prior to voting. Creative ways of getting the information out are being discussed.

IV. Consent Agenda: The following three courses were approved by consent:
- FPE 500 Individual Study (1-4); independent study
- FPE 554 Forensic Fire Analysis (4), 4 lectures, and
- FPE 599 Design Thesis (1-9), independent study

V. Business Item(s):
A. Resolution on Changes to the Academic Senate General Education (GE) Governing Board Policy: Machamer, chair of the GE Governance Board, second reading: M/S/P unanimously.
B. Resolution on Direction of Expenditures for the CSU Online Initiative: Griggs, chair of the Online Task Force, second reading: M/S/P unanimously.
C. Resolution on General Education C5 Elective: Machamer, chair of GE Governance Board, first reading: Machamer briefly presented the contents of the resolution. No modifications were suggested. It will return as a second reading at the next Senate meeting.
D. Resolution on Academic Senate Executive Committee Attendance and Voting Provision: Executive Committee, first reading: Fernflores briefly presented the contents of the resolution. No modifications were suggested. It will return as a second reading at the next Senate meeting.

VI. Discussion Item(s): none.

[The meeting recessed at 4:25pm and was resumed at 4:45pm]

VII. Special Reports: (David Conn): [TIME CERTAIN 4:45pm] Educational Effectiveness Review (EER): report and WASC site visit April 3-5. David Conn presented a brief report on WASC and its upcoming site visit in April. WASC is currently revising its handbook which will guide its next visit to Cal Poly in 10 years. At that time there will only be one visit, and the process will total 3-1/2 years instead of its current 5 years. More of the process will be done online. During the current review, there was a shift from looking at compliance issues to focusing on topics most important to the campus. Campuses must be accredited in order to receive federal monies for financial aid.

The site team will be here in April to validate Cal Poly’s report “Our Polytechnic Identity in the 21st Century, WASC Educational Effectiveness Review Report” as evidence of student learning. The team’s schedule will be determined by what groups it would like to meet with (Senate, Executive Committee, a forum for students, maybe a forum for faculty and staff). There will be a reception for the team where student projects will be on display.

VIII. Adjournment: 5:00pm

Submitted by,
Margaret Camuso, Academic Senate