I. Minutes: The Executive Committee minutes of September 24, 2013, were approved as presented.

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

III. Reports:

A. Academic Senate Chair: (Rein) The Chair presented two ideas for the Executive Committee to consider: (1) The Bylaws of the Academic Senate do not require senators to serve on Senate committees. Would it improve communications between the Senate and its committees if senators were required to serve on a committee no later than the second year of their term? (Scaramozzino) Since WTUs are not given for Senate or committee service, it could be difficult if a senator was required to also serve on a committee. This could limit the number of individuals able to serve on the Senate. (2) Currently the committees have one member from each college/PCS; however, often a position remains vacant throughout the academic year. If a college vacancy is not filled within a certain time, should an individual from a different college/PCS be allowed to fill that vacancy? It was learned at the statewide Senate meeting that these two recommendations have increased the availability of faculty/PCS to serve on committees. (LoCascio) Could a committee have three people from the same college/PCS? (Rein) We would state in the bylaws what the limits for one college would be. (Foroohar) I believe representation on a committee is more important than numbers of filled positions. I would rather have the vacancy based on the principle of representation. (Fernflores) I agree. If this were to move forward, it would require a very broad discussion since it is an issue of shared governance. (Fisher) If one’s dean does not incentivize campus service, then serving on committees is seen as having no benefit. The deans would need to take committee service seriously. (Foroohar) I would recommend the Faculty Affairs Committee draft a resolution emphasizing the value of shared governance. This would be a good time to do so since colleges are presently rewriting RPT guidelines.

(LoCascio) On the issue of quarters-to-semesters, at an ASI meeting, Stan Nosek announced that all campuses would be moving to semesters by 2016. ASI President, Jason Colombini, and the Provost are writing short reports to present to the Chancellor. As I recall, the Chancellor said he would only read one-page reports, which contained proof that student outcomes would be better on quarters than on semesters, and he did not want emotional arguments. I recommend the Senate write a report in concurrence with ASI and the Provost to avoid contradictions. (Rein) I am not sure we can demonstrate that student outcomes are better on the quarter system. (Foroohar) I recommend Jim write the report, and if the Executive Committee agrees, it can be agendized for the Senate with a brief resolution. The statements have to be in the form of a fact-sheet, they cannot be emotional.

B. President’s Office: (Kinsley) Friday, November 1, will be a special Baker Forum from 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the PAC (“future of STEM education and the importance of educating today’s
youth”), followed by the dedication of the Warren J. Baker Center for Science and Mathematics from 3:30 to 6:00pm. We want everyone to be there. Food and beverages will be served.

C. Provost’s Office: (Dicus) Strategic planning is occurring across the campus to measure how we’re doing. What are the big issues we can all be onboard with? How will each unit contribute to our overall goals?

Brian Tietje, Vice President for International, Graduate and Extended Education, is advocating for a full summer quarter. He feels this would facilitate four-year graduation rates and make better use of campus facilities. Money has been allocated for working groups to look at different ways we can use the campus during summer. Some suggestions include summer courses, workshops for various interest groups, and running “Start” programs for high school students. We hope to guarantee all classes once they are announced for summer quarter. Students are presently going to community colleges or taking online classes during summer. (Colombini) The cost of taking summer classes at Cal Poly is problematic. If you want a successful summer quarter, the courses offered have to be courses that are not offered anywhere else.

D. Statewide Senate: (LoCascio) The university system is concerned about the mental health and suicide rate of our students. Developing intervention plans is being discussed.

E. CFA Campus President: None.

F. ASI: (Colombini) The Student Success Allocation Council has its first meeting on Monday. A committee of six students has been charged with creating a survey to get ideas from students on where to focus student success funds. KCPR, Cal Poly’s radio station, will be providing music to the UU Plaza.

IV. Consent Agenda: None.

V. Business Item(s):

A. Appointments to Academic Senate committees for 2013-2015:

CAFES Budget & Long Range Planning Committee SEAN HURLEY
Faculty Affairs Committee AYDIN NAZMI
OCOB Faculty Affairs Committee JOHN DOBSON

B. Appointments to university committees for 2013-2014:

Inclusive Excellence Council GRACE YEH

C. Appointment of Academic Senate replacements: None.

D. Approval of Academic Senate committee charges for 2013-2014: Additional charges to those distributed were proposed by Executive Committee members. The Chair will suggest these additional charges to the committee chairs rather than formalizing them. M/S/P to approve charges as submitted.

E. Resolution on Increasing the Number of Annual Distinguished Scholarship Awards from Two to Three: (Bodemer) The chair of the DSA Committee provided background information to the resolution. The quality of nominees has increased over the years and both the President and Provost feel adding an additional award would be a good way to support both the growth and quality of research on campus. Adding a third award would become effective 2014-2015. M/S/P (unanimous) to agendize the resolution.
VI. Discussion Item(s):

Continuation of Dustin Stegner as Vice Chair for winter and spring 2014: Dustin is presently serving as both a replacement for Daniel Dove and as Vice Chair for fall quarter. After fall quarter, Dustin is no longer eligible to be a senator again until 2014-2015 since he has served a four-year, two-term limit, which ended in June 2013. It was an oversight that Dustin was placed on the ballot for re-election as Vice Chair for the 2013-2014 year; however, everyone welcomed his re-election. There are three options available for dealing with this situation: (1) elect a new Vice Chair at the end of fall quarter, (2) suspend the rules and allow Dustin to continue as Vice Chair for 2013-2014 with the Senate’s approval, or (3) change the bylaws to have the Vice Chair position become an at-large position just as the Chair’s position is presently [nonvoting, elected by the Senate not the college, and the person can serve three years maximum in the position]. This item will be brought back to the Executive Committee at its next meeting. The Chair will draft a resolution that if approved by the Executive Committee will be forwarded to the full Senate for its discussion and vote.

VII. Adjournment: 5:00pm

Submitted by,

Margaret Camuso
Academic Senate