

Distribution: All Faculty and Staff

AGENDA
Faculty-Staff Council
California State Polytechnic College
Staff Dining Room
3:00 p. m. , Tuesday, May 14, 1968

1. Elections Committee report, Roy Anderson, chairman. Nomination and election of officers, Faculty-Staff Council 1968-69.
2. Interim Procedure. Acceptance of the new Constitution by the entire electorate (ratification by a majority of the voting constituency) includes the following interim plan to smooth the transition from the present to the proposed form of government:
 - a. Authority for the interim government shall be vested in the 1968-69 chairman of the Faculty-Staff Council and his Executive Committee in order to coordinate the formation of the new senates and the election of senate officers to whom this leadership shall be turned as they are elected.
 - b. Members of the present council shall be senators to their respective senates for their elected terms. Any area of under-representation shall be corrected by election as follows. The Elections Committee of the present council will conduct elections following ratification of the proposed Constitution to fill the newly existing vacancies in each senate.
 - c. The priority of business for the new senates shall be consideration of the suggested guidelines for proposed Bylaws.
3. Mechanics of voting by the entire electorate on the proposed Constitution and interim procedure.
4. Professional Ethics Committee reports. Irv Kogan, chairman.
 - a. Faculty Coursework at this campus (Attachment I). A revision of a previously considered item.
 - b. Faculty Responsibility with Regard to Campus Disorders (Attachment II).
5. Consideration of the position paper on Politics in Higher Education (Attachment III) passed by the Statewide Academic Senate, March 29, 1968.
6. Student Affairs Committee, Glenn Seeber, chairman, Revision on Athletic Policy.

ATTACHMENTS

- I. Faculty Coursework at this Campus
- II. Faculty Responsibility with Regard to Campus Disorders
- III. Consideration of the position paper on Politics in Higher Education

(Note: Copies of the attachments are available to non-members on request by calling extension 2441)

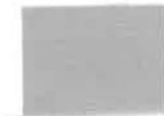
approved
5/14/68

passed to the
5/14

took opposing position

Referred back

approved



MEMORANDUM

California State Polytechnic College
San Luis Obispo

TO: Corwin Johnson, Chairman
Faculty-Staff Council

FROM: Irvin J. Kogan, Chairman
Professional Ethics Committee

SUBJECT: Faculty Academic Work at this Campus

DATE: May 7, 1968

It is moved that the following motion be adopted:

The policies for faculty to pursue academic work at this college shall be:

- I. Faculty members may take:
 - A. Any course or courses.
 - B. Pursue and obtain any undergraduate degree.
 - C. Pursue and obtain any advanced degree in any department other than their own.
 - D. Definitions, limitations and exceptions:
 1. The word department shall be broadly defined to include "area" of study such as the terminology use in the School of Architecture.
 2. No faculty member taking a degree in his own school may:
 - a) Take more than 20% of his graduate work in his own department.
 - b) Write a thesis in or for his own department.
 3. When a faculty member pursues a program in his own School, the program shall be guided by the School. Members of the department in which the person is employed shall be excluded from this School responsibility.
 4. An exception to "C" follows: ^{will not be} Any faculty member who is nontenured and ~~not being~~ considered for a permanent position and who is carrying an academic load of one-half time or less may pursue and obtain a degree in the department or school in which he is employed.
- II. Any School may establish policies regarding graduate degrees for its faculty which are more restrictive than the above.
- III. The college should avoid the granting of sabbatical leaves to its faculty for study on this campus. Exceptions should be limited to unusual cases of extreme circumstances.

M E M O R A N D U M

California State Polytechnic College
San Luis Obispo

TO: Corwin Johnson, Chairman
Faculty-Staff Council

DATE: May 7, 1968

FROM: Irvin J. Kogan, Chairman
Professional Ethics Committee

SUBJECT: Faculty Responsibility with Regard to Campus Disorders

The Professional Ethics Committee has been charged with a recommendation regarding the above topic. We have found a meaningful recommendation difficult because of the complexity of the topic and the many faceted discussions that have already taken place at all levels. Rather than attempt further discussions, we suggest that this body support the following statements in the President's inaugural address:

Resolved that the President shall have our full support in carrying out the following policies:

"Each academic community should establish its policies by a process which is sensitive to the desires and needs of all of its constituent groups: students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the society which supports the academic community. When this process operates effectively, there is no room for, nor need of, militant power exerted by any single group within that academic community.

"If our college campuses are to be models for the best in our society rather than mirrors of the worst, we must preserve order by democratic processes. Students can be motivated to use constructive action appropriate to a political democracy. The major force which inspires students is dedicated faculty members who can provide daily examples of rational, democratic approaches to social and personal problems."

POLITICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Position Paper

It is with great regret that the Academic Senate, CSC, finds it necessary to issue the following statement to its colleagues in the California State Colleges, but it cannot in good conscience do otherwise.

It is now clear that, in addition to financial strangulation, the California State Colleges face a mounting assault upon the very conception of a free and intellectually open higher education in the State of California. This assault is rendered all the more dangerous in that it is basically political in nature, and many politicians themselves are entering into it, moved undoubtedly by the conviction that it is politically realistic to do so. Significantly, few voices among concerned legislators have been raised, either to defend the State Colleges or to identify the attack for what it is--political.

The assault upon public higher education can be seen in its beginning stages in such facts and events as the following:

1. The humiliating "hearing" at which President John Summerskill of San Francisco State College and other college presidents were in effect tried publicly while the leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties--attending their first Trustee meeting of the year--demonstrated by their very presence how much public higher education has become a political football in California. Subsequently, President Summerskill resigned after having been "cleared" by a Trustee committee.
2. The passing by the Board of Trustees of new regulations for campus discipline at the meeting of December 9, 1967. These regulations were modified at the meeting of January 25, 1968, in Sonoma, but only by a 10:7 vote.
3. The furious local attacks mounted against various State College presidents and faculty. These attacks can be expected to increase in size and intensity.
4. The Legislative committee hearings on "The Beard" at Fullerton, with the accompanying cries for dismissal of faculty and President.
5. The introduction of bills and resolutions into the Legislature which would, among other things:
 - a. Make the presidents responsible--i.e., dischargeable or replaceable--for every single decision made on campus. This bill (SB 419, Whetmore and seventeen co-sponsors) specifically

prohibits delegation of final decision making authority "to any employee below the rank of president of a state college."

- b. Withhold funds from the State Colleges until the Trustees re-establish the regulations of December 9, 1967, modified at Sonoma (SR 65, Schmitz, Bradley, Schrade, Marler, Walsh and Richardson).
- c. Change the appointment mechanism of Trustees to require re-confirmation after four years by two-thirds of the California Senate and to provide that "Any appointive trustee may be removed from office at any time during his term by a two-thirds vote of all members elected to the Senate."

Two bills are involved here: (SB 488, Richardson and SB 489, Richardson.) They would result in the most obvious political control of the State Colleges. The Trustees are already vulnerable without making them more so. It is bad enough that Trustee appointments typically are and have been largely rewards for political favors, but however chosen, the Trustees are entitled to some freedom from political pressure afterward.

- d. Open all student organization and faculty organization meetings on campus to the press and the public (SB 485, Whatmore). The classroom itself is not expressly excluded, and this bill, in conjunction with SB 419, might permit invasion of the classroom so that any suspected student or faculty member could more easily be spied upon.
- e. Make mandatory (rather than permissive) the dismissal of faculty members or nonacademic employees convicted of felony or misdemeanor "involving moral turpitude or breach of the peace," or "addicted to the use of narcotics or any other habit-forming drugs." There is no clear legal definition of the term breach of the peace. The Legislators would here apply standards to others which they do not apply to themselves. (SB 406, Schmitz, Whatmore, Richardson, McCarthy, Schrade).
- f. Extend the present tenure period of four years to five years (SE 341, Bradley).
- g. Delete from the definition of "obscene" the phrase "and is matter which is utterly without redeeming social importance." This deletion, in addition to abrogating U.S. Supreme Court decisions, would place professors of literature, art, drama, psychology, biology, etc., in a dangerous position. (SB 445, Carrell).
- h. Weaken the de facto role of faculty participation in the appointment of college presidents by stressing Trustee responsibility. Regardless of consultation, "the trustees shall have and assume the final and sole responsibility. . ." (SB 459, Ryan, Britschgi).

- i. Remove from the college president discretion to decide whether a person, other than a student, officer or employee, etc., who enters the campus and "commits thereon an act likely to interfere with peaceful conduct of activities of campus or enters for the purpose of committing such act" (AB 490) is guilty of misdemeanor. The unsaid question posed by this bill is, "Who would decide?" The Trustees? The local police? Anyone?
- j. Provide for new California State College Police Department which would not be under the control of the various presidents of the state colleges. The director of it "shall be appointed by the Trustees of the California State Colleges and shall serve under and be directly responsible to the Chancellor of the California State Colleges. He shall supervise and direct operations of the department throughout the state." (AB 340, Priolo)

The faculties may judge whether they would feel comfortable or apprehensive under a system whereby a virtually autonomous police authority, uncontrolled by the president, existed on campus.

In most of the above bills the announced intention is above reproach, and whoever opposes them must take on the burden of appearing to defend evil. This, the opponents of SB 445 risk being charged with defending pornography; opponents of AB 340 risk being charged with encouraging riots; etc. The charges are unwarranted, but they will be made, and they may well be effective--especially on those who do not distinguish between the effect a bill is said to aim at and the effect, or effects, which common sense indicates it will produce. A few of these latter effects have been indicated above.

Therefore, rather than undertake a bill-by-bill refutation, or a bill-by-bill recommendation, the Academic Senate thinks it wiser to point out to the faculties the common effect of these bills, namely, greater political control of the California State Colleges. There can be no doubt of the attempt to bring the California State Colleges under more rigorous political control.

The common justification for these attacks is the vague argument: "The taxpayers of California support the State Colleges, and, therefore, the Colleges must be responsible to the taxpayers." As an abstract statement, this dictum has everyone's agreement. Of course, the Colleges are responsible to the taxpayers, but for what are they responsible, and how shall they be responsible to the taxpayer?

As to the first part of this question, the State Colleges are responsible for producing a highly trained and a generally or liberally educated person who becomes a productive and enlightened part of the State of California. The condition of California in the past twenty years would indicate that the product has been rather good.

As to the second part of the question, it is obvious that the attackers do not regard the "power of the purse" as a sufficient means of accountability. They tend to confuse accountability to pressure groups and their legislative representatives with responsibility to the taxpayers. They are not the same thing. Far less will the interests of the people as a whole be served by such measures as are proposed.

The attackers propose bills and suggest action which in practice would simply make the colleges subservient to various pressure groups or to whatever political wind happens to be blowing strongest. This is not responsibility to the taxpayer. It is control by organized groups seeking to impose their orthodoxy upon the colleges. And, if the organizational pattern is so set up as to allow those groups to exert great political pressure upon the colleges--and this is the obvious effect of the above bills--then the educational system is in a perilous condition. Thought control could be the end result.

In Europe, our traditional ancestor, Boards of Regents or Trustees were appointed to protect the universities from political interference. The men were carefully chosen with that object in mind. This is still the case in Western Europe, from whence our own democratic traditions derive. Unfortunately, this part of our common tradition has, with the exception of a few private colleges, never completely caught on in this country. As Robert Hutchins says of strict academic controls by legislative and executive branches of government, "Americans tend to think these practices are normal and necessary. As a matter of fact, they are peculiar to this country. Neither boards of trustees nor the parliaments of the United Kingdom or any European country would think of interfering in any academic matter. This is so even though the taxpayers are in most of these countries the sole source of university support." What the State Colleges clearly confront is attack by certain groups who apparently do not agree with their own tradition. With respect to academic governance, it is the colleges who are the conservatives and the attackers who are the radicals.

There are, of course, in the Legislature many men who understand the foregoing quite well and who are deeply sympathetic to the cause of public higher education. But their voices have been largely muted because they themselves are under continuous political attack.

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The Academic Senate, CSC, feels that it would be impossible to deny that public higher education is under political attack in California. We in the academic community must accept it as a fact of life, and our acceptance of this fact moves us to make an observation and a recommendation to our colleagues:

1. We recognize very sadly that, because of the persistence of these attacks and because they are increasing in scope and intensity, many of our colleagues are giving serious thought to the prospect of moving elsewhere. This, of course, is an individual decision and a very painful decision for the many of us who have spent much or most of our lives in California higher education, but we do not

wish to mislead our colleagues by any false optimism regarding the future. The same political dynamics which produced hearings at which presidents and faculty were treated like sacrificial victims at a Roman spectacle can easily produce more phenomena of the same or worse calibre.

It takes years to build a great educational institution; it takes very little time to destroy it when once the forces of ignorance are loosed upon it through political means. Against attack of this sort the faculties have little defense, certainly no counter-vailing political power. They may, therefore, be forced back on the option of leaving, even though we all realize that the ultimate victims will be the many California students who will not receive the education they need and deserve.

2. We recognize our obligation to the people of California to hire the best possible faculty. It is an obligation we have faithfully discharged throughout many difficulties.

But we also recognize a duty to the profession and to the individuals whom we ask to come here. They must be told the truth. They must be told that the political climate in California is no longer friendly to the ideals of democratic higher education, nor to the professors who may carry on that tradition.

We must recommend that, in hiring professors for our system, those who do the hiring make perfectly clear what the situation is in the California State Colleges and what it may become.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE ACADEMIC SENATE, CSC
3/29/68