

A C A D E M I C S E N A T E
O F
C A L I F O R N I A S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y
S A C R A M E N T O

Minutes

Issue #20

May 18, 1989

ROLL CALL

Present: Bach, Barrena, Beckwith, Brackmann, Burger, Cross,
Decious, Dillon (Parliamentarian), Farrand, Figler,
Freund, Haq, Herman, Holl, Jakob, Kutchins, Marsh,
Martell, Martin, Joan Maxwell, John Maxwell,
McGeary, Moore, Moorehead, Palmer, Rice, Rios,
Shannon, Swanson, Tooker, Tzakiri, Vadhva, Wheeler,
White, Whitesel

Absent: Cook, Cordero, Humphrey, Jirgens, Kando, Meyer,
Mills, Moon, Rodriguez, Scheel, Shek, Stroumpos,
Torcom, Wycosky

ACTION ITEMS

*AS 89-59/CC, GPPC, Ex. "ACCREDITATION: A STATEMENT OF
PRINCIPLES"

The Executive Committee, on behalf of the Academic Senate, endorses the Committee on Institutional Cooperation document titled "Accreditation: A Statement of Principles" (Attachment A, 5/18/89 Senate Agenda) and recommends its adoption for the CSU. The Committee would like to note the following comments from the Senate Curriculum Committee on this matter:

"It was agreed that the principles should clarify the role of accreditation teams and actually increase respect for the accreditation process by the departments and faculty without external accrediting agencies, as well as being useful for our internal reviews."

"It was suggested that it would be useful to know how many accrediting agencies have agreed to these principles and to know what the experience has been for those institutions that have tried them."

Carried.

*AS 89-60/FisA, CC, Ex. PROGRAM CHANGE--JOURNALISM B.A.

The Academic Senate recommends approval of the proposal to add Jour 33 as a prerequisite to Jour 130 and to provide Jour 195 as an option to Jour 197 in the Journalism B.A. program.

Carried unanimously.

*AS 89-61/FisA, CC, Ex. PROGRAM CHANGE--HOME ECONOMICS B.A. and CHILD DEVELOPMENT B.A.

The Academic Senate recommends approval of the proposal to allow students in the Home Economics and Child Development B.A. programs to choose from among three courses (HmEc 150, 152, 155) rather than one of these courses (HmEc 152) being required.

Carried unanimously.

AS 89-62A/GE, Ex., Flr. GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSFER CURRICULUM

The Academic Senate refers AS 89-62A to the Executive Committee for consultation with the General Education Committee.

AS 89-62A: The Academic Senate endorses, in principle, the inclusion in the Transfer Core Curriculum of a requirement that students demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English equivalent to two years of high school prior to transfer. However, since inclusion of this requirement is likely to cause delay of transfer for a large number of students, the CSUS Academic Senate recommends against inclusion of the requirement in the Transfer Core Curriculum.

Carried.

AS 89-62B/GE, Ex., Flr. GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSFER CURRICULUM

In response to the proposed changes in the English Communication subject area of the Transfer Core Curriculum approved by the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senate on March 24, 1989, the CSUS Academic Senate recommends against the proposed changes within English Communication subject area of the General Education Transfer Core Curriculum for the following reasons:

- The intention of the proposed English Communication languages changes is to provide a substitute for a second required composition course. The CSUS Senate believes that if a second composition course is the objective, the best way to provide it is to require such a course, to be taught in the English Department by faculty who are hired to teach composition. The present proposal to impose composition on the Oral Communication and Critical Thinking courses is a poor substitute for a second composition course.

- A major flaw with the proposal is that it provides no pedagogical rationale for establishing a sequencing of English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking. The case for making Critical Thinking a prerequisite to English Composition seems at least equally as strong as the case for establishing the opposite sequence. The same is true with oral communication. The fact is that all three of these requirements represent basic skills that students should take as early as possible. making any one of them a prerequisite for the others is likely to impede a student's ability to get these fundamental courses, which we believe to be closely related to that student's later success in the University.
- Another problem with the proposed changes is that they seem to assume that the Oral Communication and Critical Thinking courses can accommodate the added composition component. This is not true. The courses offered in these areas have little enough time to cover their primary content. To insist that they also teach composition in a meaningful way is tantamount to insisting that some core, primary content be eliminated. This would do more harm than good to the goal of basic skills. We have agreed in the past that all of these areas represent equally basic skills necessary for our students.
- A final argument against the proposed changes is that they place the responsibility of teaching composition on faculty members who were hired to teach other subjects. The best way to add to the present English Composition requirement is to add a second course to the University's requirements. Such a course would have composition as its core, not as an afterthought, and would be taught by the faculty best qualified to teach composition.

Carried.

*AS 89-63/AP, Ex. GRADES--DELETION OF "U"

The Academic Senate recommends the following revision [strikeover = deletion; underscore = addition] of the Grade Deletion Policy, 1988-90 Catalog, page 66:

GRADE DELETION POLICY

"U" Grade Deletion

CSUS requires that students file an official drop form with the Registrar's Office in order to drop a course. Failure to withdraw properly from a course that student is not attending may result in assignment of a "U" grade in the course. Since

some institutions automatically drop students for non-attendance, and since new students at CSUS may not be familiar with the CSUS drop policy, students who, in their first semester at CSUS, receive a "U" grade in a course may petition to have the grade deleted. To petition, the student must obtain a "U" grade deletion form from the Registrar's Office or the Academic Advising Center and meet with an adviser in the Academic Advising Center. The petition process must be completed within six months following the end of the semester in which the "U" grade was assigned. This policy applies only to students who fail to withdraw properly during their first semester. Thereafter, students are expected to have learned the CSUS drop policy.

Other Grade Deletions

A petition for grade deletion may be submitted for consideration by the Academic Standards Committee for the following reasons. Petitions must be submitted within one academic year from the end of the semester in which the grade was received or the error made.

- A. To remove penalty grades assigned due to failure to complete a course for causes related to illness. Medical verification is required.
- B. To correct errors by academic departments. Department verification is required.
- C. To correct errors made in completing registration forms (e.g., use of wrong class code, wrong "bubbles" marksenses, etc.). The Registrar's office must confirm this error.
- ~~D. Non-attendance but failure to withdraw properly during a student's first semester. CSUS requires that students file an official drop from with the Registrar's Office in order to drop a course. Since some institutions automatically drop students for non-attendance, the Academic Standards Committee has agreed to consider deletion of grades for students who fail to properly withdraw from a course during their first semester only. Thereafter, students are expected to have learned the CSUS drop policy.~~

The Academic Senate further recommends the following procedures for implementation of the revised "U" grade deletion policy:

1. Students in their first semester of attendance at CSUS who receive a grade of "U" in any course shall be notified by the Registrar that a procedure exists for deleting U grades received in the first semester of enrollment at CSUS and

shall be provided with the following statement of policy and procedure:

First Semester "U" Grade Deletion
Policy and Procedures*

Students who, in their first semester at CSUS, received a "U" grade in a course may petition to have the grade deleted. Such petitions shall be approved subject to the following conditions:

- a. The student completes a "U" grade deletion form (forms may be obtained in the Academic Advising Center or the Registrar's Office).
- b. The student meets with an adviser in the Academic Advising Center to become informed about the rules that pertain to dropping a course and to discuss other matters that pertain to the student's enrollment in the University.
- c. The student's petition is signed by the adviser as verification that the meeting described in "b" has occurred. Note: The adviser will forward the signed petition to the Records Office.
- d. The above process is completed within six months following the end of the semester in which the "U" grade was assigned.

*Note: This policy applies only to students who fail to withdraw properly during their first semester. Thereafter, students are expected to have learned the CSUS drop policy.

2. The Academic Advising Center shall forward the signed petition to the Records Office with a copy to the instructor of record or the department chair in the absence of the instructor of record.
3. The Records Office shall replace the "U" grade with an "AS" notation, the symbol used to indicate deletion of grade by action of the Academic Standards Committee.

Carried.

*AS 89-69, Flr. TERMINATION OF SEARCHES

The Academic Senate requests that the President meet with the Senate at a special meeting on Thursday, May 25, to 1) provide an explanation in person and in writing on the process used and rationale for terminating faculty searches and 2) provide a report on the total number of faculty searches conducted, number of searches terminated, status of the searches at the time of termination, and reasons for termination.

Carried.

The hour of adjournment having been reached, the following items were postponed to a special meeting on Thursday, May 25, 1989:

AS 89-64/GPPC, Ex. M.A. IN LIBERAL ARTS

AS 89-65/UARTP, Ex. UNIVERSITY ARTP POLICY--AMEND SECTION 5.06
(Early Tenure)

AS 89-66/FA, Ex. DEPARTMENT CHAIRS POLICY

AS 89-67/GPPC, Ex. M.A. HISTORY/HUMANITIES

AS 89-68/FA, Ex. MERITORIOUS PERFORMANCE AND PROFESSIONAL
PROMISE PROGRAM

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.


Janice McPherson, Secretary

*President's approval requested.