

ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

AS-57-79/GE&B
March 6, 1979

RESOLUTION REGARDING NATURAL SCIENCES OPTION FOR
"BROADLY BASED" COURSE WORK IN
ARCHITECTURE, AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING

- WHEREAS, A provision in the natural sciences general education requirement allows the option "up to six units of 'broadly-based' course work in the Schools of Agricultural and Natural Resources, Architecture and Environmental Design, or Engineering and Technology may be counted in this category, provided that these units are taken outside the School in which the student is enrolled.", and
- WHEREAS, The Evaluations Office currently allows any course below 400 level offered by the three listed Schools, regardless of the breadth or natural science content of the course, to count for this option, and
- WHEREAS, The original purpose of this option was to provide two or more courses that would enhance students' understanding of "1) the role of science, engineering, and technology in the twentieth century and beyond; 2) the role of agriculture and conservation of natural resources in the twentieth century and beyond" (memorandum from Robert E. Kennedy to Deans Higdon, Gibson, and Fisher, March 8, 1971), and
- WHEREAS, While there is a need for a thorough review of this option within the context of an overall re-evaluation of general education breadth requirements, there is an immediate need to provide advisors and students with a clarification regarding this natural science option, therefore be it
- RESOLVED: The Academic Senate recommends the following actions regarding the option in the natural sciences requirement which currently allows up to six units of "broadly-based" course work in the Schools of Agricultural and Natural Resources, Architecture and Environmental Design, or Engineering and Technology to be counted in the natural sciences category:
1. This option should be re-worded so as to specify that AG 301 - "Agriculture and American Life" (3) and Engineering 301 - "Technology in the Twentieth Century" (3) will be the only courses allowed for this option.
 2. The offering Schools should ensure that these two courses are broadly-based and emphasize applications of the natural sciences to social needs and problems of current significance.

APPROVED

MARCH 6, 1979

Resolution Regarding Natural Sciences Option for "Broadly-Based" Course Work in
Agriculture and Architecture and Engineering

Catalog Descriptions

AG 301 Agriculture and American Life (3)

Relationship of agriculture and natural resources to man and his society. Impact of soil, water, and land uses on animal and crop production within the United States. Relative importance of resources used and commodities produced. Not open to students with majors in agriculture and natural resources. 3 lectures. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

Engr 301 Technology in the 20th Century (3)

The role of science, engineering and technology in the twentieth century. Effects of technological change, the function of the scientist-engineer in society. The computer as a tool, case studies of systems to compare alternative approaches to problem solving. 3 lectures. Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.