

News

Senate Voices Disapproval over Arnold's Textbook Proposal

By Caitlin Lujan
Staff Writer

The South Science building was packed with members and guests Tuesday when the Academic Senate met to discuss a full menu of items and express disapproval of Gov. Schwarzenegger's proposed efforts to contain textbook prices.

A report was given on new legislation that will affect both faculty and students in regard to textbooks. In September, Schwarzenegger signed bill AB2477, which instructs universities to make efforts to contain textbook prices. However, the bill is only a guideline and universities will not be held accountable for not following through.

In fact, a new legislative measure (AB1819) would require a

textbook rental system at universities. Studies have shown that while bookstores make more money with this system, these extra funds come from the students as textbook costs become included in tuition.

Faculty are also affected, as they are required to use the same materials for four semesters or two years, in order to ensure the bookstore makes enough money. This would take away from the professor's freedom to change their lesson plans.

"There is a measure of academic freedom that is going to be relinquished," said bookstore manager Sandra Ehrhorn.

For this reason, members of the Academic Senate voted to send a response to the legislature expressing their disapproval.

In one of its last meetings of the year, members also approved a new senate member and the addition of several new options to majors. With little discussion and complete agreement, senate members approved the following propositions:

- New option in computer engineering under the B.S. of engineering.

- Five-year program review for the B.S. and M.S. in statistics, of the geological sciences program, and for the department of psychology.

- Relating to the B.A. in human development: new option in early childhood development and in women's development and the discontinuance of the option in gerontology.

- Relating to the B.A. in Rec-

reation: new option in hospitality management and in leisure management and the discontinuance of the option and minor in environmental recreation.

The senate also passed a proposition requiring the discontinuation of any course not taught within the last three years. Courses will be given one final year before being terminated.

Also present at the meeting were two of the three candidates nominated to join the Academic Senate for 2006-2008, with current members being asked to vote on the three candidates. CSUEB staff member Ruben Ramirez will be a new representative to the Academic Senate beginning at the conclusion of the Spring quarter.

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Campus Calendar '06

May

Thu	"Business and Dining Etiquette" The basics of business and dining etiquette 11 a.m. in WA 509
18	"Pool Tournament" Compete to be king of the felt table 8 p.m. in El Dorado Hall
Fri	"MBA Meet and Greet" Network with fellow students and representatives from Kaiser, PWC, UBS and more 4 p.m. in UU 311
Sat	"Performance Fusion" Culminating performances by Dance and Theatre majors; second day \$10 general; \$7 youth, seniors, Alumni Members; \$5 CSUEB students with I. D. 8 p.m. in Studio Theatre
Sun	"Relay For Life" Second day of the relay event designed to raise funds for the American Cancer Society; sign up at ACS Web site. 10 a.m. at CSUEB Track
Mon	"Voter Registration Drive" Remember, kids: your vote can make a difference El Dorado Hall Lobby
Tue	"Earthquakes: Writing Environmental History" Pulitzer Prize-winning environmental writer Philip L. Fradkin will speak about his book Noon in Biella Room
23	"Jazz Concert" Free to CSUEB Students 8 p.m. in University Theatre
	"Schmoozing 101" Learn how to schmooze in social settings with people you don't know ... yet. Noon in Library's Biella Room
Wed	"Survivor SoberFest Island" Venture over to the union for fun, food and prizes 11 a.m. at Bookstore Lawn

If you would like your campus event posted in the calendar, please e-mail the information to the calendar editor at ikemesitudo@yahoo.com.

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