March 17, 2015

Nathan Evans
Director of Enrollment Management Services
California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Nathan,

This letter is to request final approval to modify San José State University’s campus impaction criteria for the 2016-17 academic year. These materials are submitted on behalf of President Mo Qayoumi, who endorses these plans.

As presented in our preliminary request submitted in December, SJSU requests to modify our current impaction criteria for transfer applicants by adding supplemental criteria in the form of preparatory coursework. Attachment 3 lists the supplemental courses for each program area by college.

Between February 26 and March 6, SJSU held three public hearings to solicit comments on the proposed changes. The changes were widely published, including a website that also collected online comments. Overall, the feedback received was supportive, and the San José Mercury News wrote a very favorable story. Fewer than 100 people attended the hearings, and 15 online comments were received (see Attachment 6). The sentiment among community college counselors was to ask for more course requirements as a means of ensuring students were fully prepared to enter SJSU and complete their degrees in a timely manner. At this time, we feel comfortable proceeding with a more limited list.

Among the minority share of unsupportive comments, the only theme that emerged was to lament the reduction of opportunities for students to explore other majors, or easily change their majors once they matriculate to SJSU. While we appreciate the sentiment, the trend in state support necessitates a focus on student progress. We believe this change will allow transfer students to be better prepared to enter SJSU and progress on a more timely and successful pathway upon matriculation, thus supporting our graduation and retention efforts.
Based on the feedback received in public hearings, specifically from two-year college academic counselors and articulation officers, we updated our supplemental course listings. We added the two semester calculus-based physics series to appropriate science programs in order to accommodate transfer students who are considering applying to both the CSU and UC systems. The UC system requires calculus-based physics and we would accept this course sequence anyway, if a student had completed it. We also added existing Associate Degree for Transfer (ADTs) to programs that have an approved AST and cross-referenced to only list supplemental courses that were included in these ADTs. This clarification was necessary so ADT students would not take additional courses outside the ADT which would have been in violation of SB 1440. Attachment 3 has been notated to show the changes made since our submission in December.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Marna Genes
Enrollment Planning & Reporting Officer, and
Associate Vice President, Academic Budgets and Planning

Attachments:

1. Program Data
2. Program Data – Nursing
3. Supplemental Criteria
4. Supplemental Courses (showing changes)
5. Activities undertaken to meet Ed Code section 89030.5
6. Public comments and responses

Cc: President Qayoumi
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Feinstein
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Terry
Vice President for Administration & Finance Bibb
Academic Senate Chair Heiden