

Alaric A. Trousdale

Dear Esteemed Colleagues of the SJSU Academic Senate,

My name is Alaric Trousdale and I am honored to have been nominated for the position of chair of the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee of the SJSU Academic Senate. I have served on the ISA committee for the last two years and have had the opportunity in that time to learn about the committee's diverse stakeholders, how it operates, and how important the committee is to supporting both student and faculty success. It has been my sincere pleasure to serve on the Academic Senate as I am committed to the principles of shared governance and to serving our campus community.

I am currently the only staff member serving on the Academic Senate as a representative of the General Unit. My position as Study Abroad Coordinator in the College of International and Extended Studies has provided me with a unique perspective on the structure of our institution and also of the needs of our diverse student body. I am responsible for all of our Spartans studying abroad on exchange at partner institutions for the semester and the academic year, and I also support all of our incoming international exchange students. The Study Abroad office is in a fairly rare position since we routinely work with all other units on campus, from the Registrar to Financial Aid, from GUP and every academic department in our six colleges to University Housing and Student Affairs.

If elected as chair, I would bring to the ISA committee not only a profound commitment to student success, but also a diverse, international perspective and a naturally collaborative and diplomatic approach to problem solving. In my time on the ISA committee I have built strong relationships with my colleagues and I want to continue to support the important work we have done as a team.

Before my career as an international educator, I taught medieval history as an assistant professor in the Oregon State university system and also taught abroad in the United Kingdom, where I earned my Ph.D. and lived for many years. My knowledge of academic processes here at SJSU and also at other institutions - both in the United States and internationally - and my interest in making policies work for all involved makes me a dynamic choice for the chair of ISA. I have a demonstrated interest in where the classroom and broader institutional policies intersect, and I would feel privileged to serve as the chair of the ISA committee, if I was so elected.