F12-2, Policy Recommendation, To Keep the Administration of SOTES in Fall 2012 and Winter 2013 Unchanged While SJSU Works to Adjust Policies to the New Contract

Legislative History:

At its meeting of September 24, 2012, the Academic Senate approved the following policy recommendation brought to the Senate by Senator Peter for the Professional Standards Committee.

Action by University President: Approved, September 27, 2012 by President Qayoumi

Policy Recommendation

To Keep the Administration of SOTES in Fall 2012 and Winter 2013 Unchanged While SJSU Works to Adjust Policies to the New Contract

Resolved: The surveys of Student Opinion of Teaching Effectiveness (SOTEs) for Fall 2012 semester and Winter 2013 session shall be conducted according to the same procedures and policies as have been most recently employed (Spring 2012.)

Resolved: This policy expires following the conclusion of the Winter 2013 session.

Rationale: The California State University (CSU) and the California Faculty Association (CFA) have recently approved a new contract. The new contract significantly changes article 15.15 which concerns the administration of student evaluations of teaching. The new contract mandates that all classes be evaluated, “unless the President has approved a requirement to evaluate fewer classes after consideration of the recommendations of appropriate faculty committee(s).” The new language also removes the restriction on electronic evaluations.

The Professional Standards Committee is considering appropriate policy modifications in light of the new contract, particularly to existing policy S06-6 “Procedures to be followed when administering SOTES.” To conduct a thoughtful revision of this policy and vet it before the Academic Senate and other appropriate campus groups will require longer than one semester, and changes in the way SOTES are administered may also take time to implement. This temporary policy is designed to maintain the status quo for an extra semester to allow for these
revisions to be created, approved, and implemented. It is understood that the President’s assent to this policy constitutes approval of “a requirement to evaluate fewer classes after consideration of the recommendations of appropriate faculty committees” as stated in the new contract.

Approved: September 10, 2012
Vote: 10-0-0
Present: Green, Semerjian, Reade, Maldonado-Colon, Gleixner, Winnard, Brown, Hsu, Peter, Condon
Absent: none
Financial Impact: No change
Workload Impact: No change