

# Stephen J. Perez, Ph.D.

Interim President  
San José State University

## Administrative Experience

### San José State University: 2022 – Present

#### Interim President: 2022–Present

As Interim President, I serve as the campus's chief executive officer and am responsible for all aspects of SJSU's operation and strategic direction. These responsibilities include management of the university's operating budget, maintenance of the campus's 155 acres, and the needs of SJSU's students, faculty and staff. Direct-reports include all Cabinet level positions: Senior VP for Academic Affairs and Provost; VP for Finance and Administration; VP for Student Affairs; VP for Advancement; VP for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer; VP for Research and Innovation; VP for Strategy and Chief of Staff, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, and Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. In this position, I will also represent SJSU at the state capital, in the business and civic communities, and other key constituents and stakeholders.

### California State University, Sacramento: 2001 - 2021

#### Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs: November 2018 – 2021 (Interim November 2018 – October 2019)

As Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, I was responsible for the leadership, management, and fiscal responsibility for seven academic colleges; the University Library; the College of Continuing Education; the Office of Undergraduate Studies; the Office of Graduate Studies, the Office of Faculty Advancement, the Office of Academic Excellence; the Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development; the Office of International Programs and Global Development; the Center for Teaching and Learning; the Carlsen Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship; the Center for Racism, Immigration, and Social Justice; the Community Engagement Center; and the Office of Water Programs.

I led the establishment and development of our academic vision to ensure the quality of academic programs; built teams among faculty, staff, and administrators across divisions to support a student success and a student-centered culture for over 30,000 students; supported anti-racism and inclusion initiatives within our Colleges and Departments; fostered community based teaching and research in support of our Anchor Institution initiative; oversaw the budget (over \$130M) and resource management for Academic Affairs; supported the hiring and

development of an increasingly diverse staff (over 375) and faculty (nearly 1,800); and worked across the University and Colleges to support regional accreditation through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

## Major Accomplishments

Student recruitment, support, success, retention, and graduation programs:

- Led Academic Affairs commitment to continuously improve our ability to support student success resulting in an increase in four-year graduation rate from 8.5% in 2015 to 21.9% in 2020
- Reduced the average time to degree by one year
- Successfully increased graduation rates for all student cohorts
- Improved national rankings
- Received the Seal of Excelencia in 2020 for our commitment to Latino students
- Increased academic capacity by adding over 1,400 sections
- Developed a budget process which puts the goal of student success at the forefront resulting in more than 6,000 high-quality degrees per year.
- Revamped scheduling practices to prioritize student success through structured scheduling resulting in 85% of first year students pre-enrolling in full-time schedules in 2020 compared to only 25% in 2014.
- Led the incorporation of both integrated advising and enrollment management models to best use the skills in Academic Affairs and Student Affairs to promote student success, while also transforming resource utilization (both physical and personnel).

Budget and financial management:

- Manage and balance an Academic Affairs budget of more than \$130M.
- Developed and implemented new budget process for Academic Affairs involving division leadership. The new process optimizes incentives for Deans and program directors to prioritize campus goals for student success, effectively assigning ownership of decision making to the division leaders.

Risk/crisis management experience:

- Lead the University's academic response to COVID-19.
  - Transitioned more than 9,000 course sections and 1,800 instructors to online delivery in one week to allow students to continue the spring 2020 semester.
  - Maintain a nearly total virtual curriculum for the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters.
  - Lead the repopulation of campus for the fall 2021 semester.
- Key member of Critical Response Team responsible for proactively planning for either unexpected crises or events which have the possibility of becoming crises, including:
  - How to ensure safety while hosting controversial speakers; and
  - How to promote constructive conversations among and between those with different viewpoints.
- Manage the Division of Academic Affairs during times of crisis and emergency.

Examples include:

- Campus response to COVID-19.

- Seven-day campus closure due to wildfire related smoke (2018).
- Preparation of campus for potential release of District Attorney decision related to police-involved shooting in Sacramento.

#### Community outreach:

- Represented Academic Affairs and the University at numerous community events, fundraisers, and convenings; cultivate and develop relationships with community partners to deepen the commitment of the University to serve as an Anchor University; and spearhead Academic Affairs efforts to serve as an Anchor University.
- Led the efforts of the Community Engagement Center culminating with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching rewarding Sacramento State's contributions and commitment to the Sacramento region with its prestigious 2020 Carnegie Community-Engagement Classification endorsement.

#### Fundraising – Private donor, capital campaigns, annual fundraisers:

- Led development efforts for Academic Affairs, the Centers, and units housed in the division raising over \$6M in fiscal year 2019-20.
- Led the development of proposals for Endowed Chairs, Endowed Professors, and over \$5 million in endowments for the Carlsen Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
- Part of lead team working towards a multi-million-dollar transformational gift for the University in support of our Anchor University Initiative.
- Cultivated and helped steward relationships with potential donors.

#### Grants:

- Led the management of the Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development which cultivates, develops, and shepherds faculty submission of grants and contracts.
  - Grant-related research increased by 10% in the first three quarters of 2019-20 compared the prior year.

#### Strategic planning:

- Led the development of the Academic Affairs Strategic Plan ([www.csus.edu/acaf/strategicplan](http://www.csus.edu/acaf/strategicplan)).
- Led numerous strategic planning endeavors on campus, including: University Strategic Planning Council; University- and College-level planning; strategic planning for Athletics; and preliminary planning for Academic Affairs.

#### Academic campus planning:

- Directed planning for new academic programs to meet the varied needs of our student body and leverage the talents of our faculty and resources available on campus.
- Spearheaded the development of class schedules prioritizing students' needs helping to significantly raise the graduation rates.

#### Campus facilities planning:

- Led widespread campus planning, ranging from planning for new buildings to a new campus on more than 300 acres.

- Led efforts involving faculty, students, staff, and administrators to maximize the use of a new 30,000 square-foot building.
- Led the academic involvement in the development of an over 20 acre site as a research hub.

#### Faculty recruitment:

- Led the efforts of the Office of Faculty Advancement including the hiring, development, review, and support for nearly 1,800 faculty.
- Increased the number of tenure track faculty by nearly 100 since 2015.
- Prioritized and incentivized the recruitment of faculty that enhance the diversity, inclusion, and anti-racist nature of our campus, curriculum, and community.

#### Faculty development:

- Led the efforts for faculty development in the Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Supported faculty research and economic development in the Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development.
- Mentored junior faculty members towards successful careers and tenure.

#### Faculty review and the tenure process:

- Evaluated all faculty for appointment, retention, tenure, and promotion for the University.
- Evaluated more than 50 retention, tenure, and promotion cases at the University level on an annual basis.
- Led efforts to develop policies that promote successful careers for faculty that support the mission of the University.

#### Conflict resolution:

- Led Academic Affairs efforts to cultivate positive working relationships with collective bargaining units.
- Spearheaded efforts to de-escalate conflicts among students / faculty, faculty / faculty, faculty / administrators, and administrators / administrators, reaching resolutions that are win-win outcomes, while building a culture of respect and cooperation.

#### Community service and professional organization involvement:

- Board Member for [Sacramento Steps Forward](#) – a nonprofit committed to ending homelessness in our region through collaboration, innovation, and connecting people to services.
  - Elected treasurer in 2021

#### Transition and succession planning:

- In recent years, California State University, Sacramento welcomed a new President, interim Provost(s), Provost, Vice Provost(s), several Deans, and Associate Vice Presidents. Proactively planned for these transitions, created succession plans and developed strategic transitions to maximize success.

#### Accreditation experience:

- Led the work of the Office for Academic Excellence which is responsible for WASC accreditation efforts, academic program review, and academic program assessment.
- Chaired accreditation review committees for numerous accreditation reviews.
- Collaborated on recent WASC evaluation, including reviews and final report.
- Chaired subcommittee for NCAA recertification effort.

#### Entrepreneurial activities:

- Led the work of the Carlsen Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship including outreach and coordination with the regional entrepreneurial efforts, development of curriculum incorporating entrepreneurship across the University, and development of student entrepreneurial abilities and interests.
- Led the broad incorporation of Academic Affairs participation in Global Entrepreneurship Week.
- Directed the planning for a new program and a more than 30,000 square-foot building in downtown Sacramento.
- Developed the academic plan for a satellite campus.
- Led Academic planning for future research hub.

#### Public relations and media relations:

- Served as the media point-person for the Division of Academic Affairs.
- Authored numerous documents that have served as the basis for public and media relations.
- Interviewed by multiple media outlets regarding economic issues.

#### Vice Provost: January 2016 – November 2018 (Interim January 2016 – January 2017) and Interim Dean of the College of Business Administration (January 2018 – July 2018)

As Vice Provost, I supported the leadership and operations of the Provost's Office and the Division of Academic Affairs in all facets of its responsibilities including budget management; faculty recruitment, review, and development; student success initiatives; academic planning; course scheduling; and additionally, served as interim Dean in the College of Business Administration.

As interim Dean, I led all the activities of the College of Business Administration including budget management; student success initiatives; personnel review; fundraising; supporting the College to provide access to high-quality education to our students; represented the College in the Community and Region; and helped lead the search for the next Dean and set the College up for a successful transition.

#### Major Accomplishments

##### Student recruitment, support, success, retention, and graduation programs:

- As interim Dean, led recruitment and student success efforts of the College.

- Worked to develop a meeting space for the Business Honors Program to outfit a new room.

#### Budget and financial management:

- Helped manage and balance a nearly \$130M Academic Affairs budget centering student success for allocation purposes.
- Managed and balanced a College of Business Administration budget of more than \$10M.
- Overhauled budget process in the College of Business Administration to align expenditures with College values and more clearly identify costs and revenues of programs.

#### Community outreach:

- As interim Dean, led efforts of the College of Business Administration to engage with the Sacramento Business Community, including the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce; built relationships with regional business leaders to benefit students, faculty, and the region; and revenue generation from varied sources.

#### Fundraising – Private donor, capital campaigns, annual fundraisers:

- Cultivated and helped steward relationships with potential donors.
- Led fundraising activities in the College of Business Administration raising more than \$100k in one semester.

#### Conflict resolution:

- As interim Dean managed a long-standing conflict within the College and develop processes to minimize and eliminate that conflict.

#### Accreditation experience:

- As interim Dean oversaw efforts in the College to retain and enhance AACSB accreditation.
- Chaired accreditation review committees for numerous accreditation reviews.
- Collaborated on recent WASC evaluation, including reviews and final report culminating in reaccreditation.

### NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative: June 2009 – September 2018

As the Faculty Athletics Representative, I served as the person outside of athletics and advisor to the President on all matters related to Intercollegiate Athletics. The major areas of focus included:

- Report directly to the President as primary liaison regarding athletics outside the athletics department.
- Work with the campus community to promote student-athlete wellbeing.
- Work with the campus community to ensure academic integrity and promote academic success of student-athletes.

- Work with the compliance staff to ensure institutional control and adherence to NCAA by-laws.

This was an exceptionally rewarding position as it allowed me to combine my passion for student success with my belief in the importance and value of intercollegiate athletics to student-athletes, the general student body, and the University. During my time as the Faculty Athletics Representative at Sacramento State, I not only was able to work on campus but also became involved with numerous Conference committees and groups and NCAA Conferences, groups, and task forces listed below.

#### NCAA and Big Sky Conference Committees and Positions

- NCAA Board of Governors Commission to Combat Campus Sexual Violence (2016 – 2018)
- NCAA Division I Council (2015 – 2018)
  - Council Coordination Committee
  - Strategic Vision and Planning Committee (Chair)
- Faculty Athletic Representative Association Executive Committee
  - President-elect (2017 – 2018)
  - Past President (2015 – 2016)
  - President (2014 – 2015)
  - President-elect (2013 – 2014)
  - Division I Vice President (2012 – 2013)
  - Division I – FCS Representative (2010 – 2012)
- NCAA Enforcement, Lack of Institutional Control Working Group (2014 – 2015)
- NCAA Student-Athlete Well-Being Working Group (2012)
- NCAA Legislative Council, Big Sky Conference Representative (2012 – 2014)
- Big Sky Conference – Eligibility Committee (2009 – 2010; 2013 – 2018)
- Big Sky Conference Commissioner Search Committee (2016)
- Big Sky Conference – Ethical Conduct and Violations Committee (Chair) (2011 – 2013)
- Big Sky Conference – Legislative Committee (2009 – 2018)

Interim Department Chair, Kinesiology and Health Science: August 2015 – January 2016

Assistant to the President for Special Projects: January 2008 – August 2009:

- Assisted President to oversee the Department of Athletics
- Served as point-person for the Placer Ranch Project
- Sacramento State representative to Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization Board
- Sacramento State representative for Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
- Sacramento State representative to Power Inn Alliance Board
- Sacramento State representative to Sacramento Region Sports Education Foundation
- Other duties as assigned

Department Chair, Economics: 2004 – 2007

## Education

University of California – Davis, Ph.D., (Economics), 1994

University of California – Davis, M.A., (Economics), 1991

University of California – San Diego, B.A., (Economics), 1988

## Books

- Co-author 10<sup>th</sup> Edition principles of economics textbook: O’Sullivan/Sheffrin/Perez, *Economics: Principles, Applications, and Tools*, Pearson, 2017

## Refereed Publications

- “Still Puzzling: Evaluating the Price Puzzle in an Empirically Identified Structural Vector Autoregression,” March 2013, *Empirical Economics*, (with Kevin D. Hoover and Selva Demiralp).
- “Does Intercollegiate Athletics Draw Local Students to a University?” Research Note, (2012) *The Journal of Sports Economics*, Vol. 13, 2: pp. 198-206.
- “Empirical Identification of the Vector Autoregression: The Causes and Effects of U.S. M2,” (2009) *The Methodology and Practice of Econometrics: A Festschrift in Honour of David F. Hendry*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 375-8, (with Kevin D. Hoover and Selva Demiralp).
- “A Bootstrap Method for Identifying and Evaluating a Structural Vector Autoregression,” (2008) *Oxford Economic Papers* 70(4), pp. 509-533 (with Kevin D. Hoover and Selva Demiralp).
- “Agricultural and Monetary Shocks before the Great Depression: A Graph-Theoretic Causal Investigation” (2006) Volume 28, December 2006, pp. 720-736, *Journal of Macroeconomics* (with Mark Siegler).
- “Truth and Robustness in Cross-country Growth Regressions.” (2004), *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*., Volume 66, No. 5, pp. 765 – 799, (December 2004) (with Kevin D. Hoover).
- “The NBA and the Influx of International Basketball Players,” (2004), *Applied Economics*, Volume 36, pp. 1009 - 1020 (with Mark Siegler and Erick Eschker).
- “Inflationary Expectations and the Fisher Effect Prior to World War I”, *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, Vol. 35, No. 6 (December 2003, Part 1), pp. 947-965 (with Mark Siegler).
- “Monetary Policy Does Matter: Control Causality and Superexogeneity.” *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, Volume 64, No. 5, (2002), pp. 473-486.
- “Looking Back at Forward-Looking Monetary Policy” *Journal of Economics and Business*, 2001, Vol. 53/5, pp. 509-521.
- “Convergence of public capital investment among the United States, 1977-1996.” *Public Finance and Management*, 2001, Volume 1 Number 2, (with Chris Annala).



- “Three Attitudes towards Data-mining.” *Journal of Economic Methodology*, 2000, Vol. 7, Number 2, 195-200, (with Kevin D. Hoover).
- “Myopia, liquidity constraints, and aggregate consumption: What do the data say?” *Economics Letters*, 2000, Vol. 67, Issue 1, pp. 43-48.
- “Reply to Our Discussants.” *The Econometrics Journal*, 1999, volume 2, pp. 244-247, (with Kevin D. Hoover).
- “Data Mining Reconsidered: Encompassing and the General-to-Specific Approach to Specification Search.” *The Econometrics Journal*, 1999, Vol. 2, Issue 2, pp. 1-25, (with Kevin D. Hoover),
- “Causal Ordering and the ‘Bank Lending Channel’.” *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, volume 13, number 6 (Nov.-Dec. 1998), 613-626.
- “Testing for Credit Rationing: An Application of Disequilibrium Econometrics.” *Journal of Macroeconomics*, (Fall 1998), volume 20, 721-739.
- “Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc Once More: An Evaluation of ‘Does Monetary Policy Matter?’ in the Spirit of James Tobin.” *Journal of Monetary Economics*, August 1994, volume 34, 47-73, (with Kevin D. Hoover).
- “Money May Matter, But How Could You Know?” *Journal of Monetary Economics*, August 1994, volume 34, 89-99, (with Kevin D. Hoover).

## Refereed Articles for the following Professional Journals

- American Economic Review
- Oxford Economic Papers
- Contemporary Policy Issues
- Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control
- Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking
- Journal of Sports Economics
- Journal of Sports Management
- Energy Economics
- Economic Inquiry
- Berkeley Electronic Journals of Macroeconomics
- Economic Systems
- Empirical Economics
- International Journal of Forecasting
- Journal of Economics and Business
- Public Finance and Management
- Southern Economic Review