I love SJSU because of the students we have. Over 30 years, I have known a great number of students who are smart, funny and excited about learning. – Patricia Backer

The simplest, most direct and honest answer is the students. Beyond this I would have to say: opportunity. The opportunity we afford our students serves to ready them to be successful contenders in achieving noteworthy and remarkable performance in meeting and overcoming real-world challenges.

A good example is our department of Film & Theater: specifically, the on-your-feet, hands-on experience students gain in the classroom and in the field. Good examples are KSJS, Spartan Film Studios and our live theatre production schedule.

KSJS is our award-winning, on-campus radio station, which is entirely student-operated, and it broadcasts 24/7! Live on 90.5! This opportunity affords our students the experience necessary to successfully compete in the constant, yet ever-changing world of broadcasting.

Spartan Film Studios not only showcases works from Steinbeck and modern screenwriters to students’ original works, but shoots on location, and offers our students the latest technology. Our students learn everything from operating camera equipment to mastering the latest editing tools, along with the experience of technical and performance positions.

Our live theatre productions offer student positions from set, lighting, and costume design, to stage carpentry, to performance, with everything from Shakespeare to Tarantino, preparing them for success in the theatre’s many genres and disciplines.

I love that our university embraces the policy of moving beyond theory to practice in order to give our students the opportunity to have the “edge.” – Beverly Swanson

SJSU is a great place for all kinds of learning and experiential opportunities for both students and employees. – Annette Nellen
Throughout the years I have been fortunate to be working amidst a group of dedicated and capable colleagues at the psychology department who were, and who still are, united in their endeavor to serve our students to the best of their ability. I love the fact that though we are a huge school and classes can be overcrowded, we are still focused on the needs of the individual student, so every and each one of our students would achieve to their utmost capacity. – Naomi Wagner

San Jose State University has the unique honor of being one of the most underrated University’s, it rocks. I have had the opportunity to make work friends and family all over the campus while participating in numerous panels, committees, and workshops. Add to that jumbled mix all of the students that I gotten to interact with, direct and facilitate. Some are even working here at San Jose State. Thirty years has brought many changes, some great, others sad but always moving forward. I am glad I have been a small part of it. – Elizabeth Harris

Please know the University, teaching, my colleagues, and RSCA mean the world to me. I am so grateful to be a part of this great institution. – Robin Lasser

The most rewarding aspect of being at SJSU is to observe students grow during their time here, then use the knowledge they gained to establish their careers and families. It’s especially significant when the student is the first in their family to reach their goals – Roy Okuda

The students. – Stephanie Coopman

After 15 years with Stanford, I joined SJSU in fall 1990, the year after the Voyager spacecraft completed its grand tour of the four giant planets visiting distant Neptune. For the nearly 30 years to follow, SJSU became my embracing home institution for participation in the epic Cassini spacecraft tour of the Saturn System. This is a chance to express my deep gratitude for the enabling support received over the years from University, College, and Department leaders. The support certainly made all the difference. It’s been especially gratifying to also witness over recent years the deliberate SJSU leadership efforts to embrace the more balanced teacher-scholar faculty model. The model is key to fully harvest potential contributions of the recent infusion of many capable junior faculty hired across campus. It’s also key for placing our cherished SJSU in the forefront of distinguished peer institutions for all to recognize and value! – Essam Marouf
I love SJSU firstly for many wonderful students who have inspired me, including most notably Computer Science graduates since 1993: Eddie Chien, Joanna Wang, Hong Li, Loc Ho, Maggie Nguyen, Layla Pezeshkmehr, Raphael Alvarez-Horine, Jing Huang, Melesio Munoz, and Robinson Raju; secondly for my respectable colleagues who have advised and mentored me, including Drs. Jane Day, Dan Goldston, Elaine Collins, and Ms. DeAnna Diaz; finally for my tirelessly hard-working, supportive (Math/CS and CS) Chairs Drs. Veril Philips, Eloise Hamann, Mike Burke, David Hayes, Kenneth Louden, Jon Pearce, Sami Khuri, and Science Dean’s Drs. Gerry Selter, Michael Parrish, and Michael Kaufman. – Melody Moh

To my fellow faculty members, colleagues, and leaders at San Jose State, thank you for giving me the opportunity 30 years ago to join this amazing institute. I am so lucky to have been able to work with such incredibly extraordinary colleagues in an environment that challenges us to continue to grow and break barriers. Supporting my students and teaching them how to identify and establish a fit, healthy, and safe lifestyle through the variety of classes I have been blessed to be able to teach has been part of life’s greatest joy. Thank you all for your support and advice that has helped me become the professor that I am today. – Gong Chen

Over the years, SJSU has strived to do its best to serve its students and community. Faculty are committed to this mission and to achieve their career goals. I appreciate that SJSU provided me the opportunity to work, grow, learn, expand, and achieve in my career. I value my great colleagues, not only in my department, but also many across the college and campus, who always believed in me, mentored me, collaborated with my projects and grants, and continuously supported me for over thirty years. – Xiaolu Hu