

Psychology Department Voting Policy

Accepted as department policy effective March 25, 2022

Vote: Yes (12), No (2), Abstain (1)

Background: [S17-6 SJSU Senate Voting Policy](#). This policy specifies departmental voting and states that “departmental guidelines/bylaws shall be established by tenured and tenure track faculty to stipulate lecturers’ departmental voting rights (proportional to their assignment).”

Guiding Principle: The Psychology Department values the input and perspective of all faculty. Additionally, the department has benefited greatly from lecturer faculty who have contributed significantly to our department and our students. To that end, the following department policy addresses voting rights for lecturer faculty.

Policy: All lecturer faculty have a vote proportional to their appointment (rounded to represent the nearest .1 per semester entitlement) on all departmental matters inclusive of undergraduate curricula, program requirements for students, and programmatic decisions (merging, dividing, transferring, or eliminating academic units).

As constrained in several SJSU Senate policies, lecturer faculty, regardless of contract status, cannot vote on RTP-related decisions (e.g., RTP committee membership ([S15-7](#)), RTP policies), or hiring committees ([S15-6](#)), and lecturer votes are advisory for department chair elections ([S14-8](#)).

Lecturer faculty are not required to serve on department committees. However, lecturer faculty who choose to serve can do so on department committees with membership open to all faculty and will have a full vote on committee issues (e.g., curriculum committee).

Graduate program committees will follow the voting policy specified in our [Departmental Committee policy](#). They may modify these policies as needed.

From S17-6 regarding voting on leaves: Tenured and tenure track faculty members on an approved leave retain departmental voting rights. Lecturer faculty on an approved partial leave retain the proportional voting rights of their teaching assignment. Those on full leave relinquish their voting rights for the duration of their leave.

Dissemination: Posted in the faculty policies section of the Psychology Department website.