

1 **SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY**
2 **Academic Senate**
3 **Senate Executive Committee**
4 **April 20, 2020**
5 **Final Reading**
6

AS 1770

7 **SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 **Endorsing Senate Executive Committee Action on University**
9 **Policy S20-4, Optional Exclusion of Student Opinion of**
10 **Teaching Effectiveness Surveys (SOTEs) Administered**
11 **During Spring 2020**

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13 **Resolved:** That the Academic Senate endorse the actions of the Senate Executive
14 Committee and the President to develop and approve University Policy
15 S20-4, *Optional Exclusion of Student Opinion of Teaching Effectiveness*
16 *Surveys (SOTEs) Administered During Spring 2020.*

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18 **Rationale:** After the announcement on March 9, 2020 of the move to distributed or
19 fully online learning with little advance notice, the Senate Executive
20 Committee heard immediate concerns from faculty regarding the potential
21 impact of a changed teaching modality on Student Opinion of Teaching
22 Effectiveness surveys (SOTEs). In order to relieve the associated
23 tremendous faculty stress and to allow faculty to focus on course
24 conversion and on student support, there was a need to make a rapid
25 decision regarding our university's use of SOTEs from the Spring 2020
26 semester. Based on our Senate bylaw 4.1, the Senate Executive
27 Committee is able to act on behalf of the Senate when the full
28 membership is not available. The Senate Executive Committee made the
29 decision to act before the next scheduled full Senate meeting in order to
30 address faculty concerns about disrupted teaching pedagogy midway
31 through the semester and to minimize stress as quickly as possible.

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33 The Senate Executive Committee does not take such an executive
34 decision lightly. It values and upholds the tenets and tradition of shared
35 governance, and generally prefers that the Senate speak for itself in its
36 entirety. Under current exigent circumstances of mandated shifts in
37 teaching and learning modalities, however, we felt the need to act quickly,
38 thereby providing faculty the assurance they would have the option to take

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into consideration the potentially negative consequences associated with these transitions in their future reviews.

Approved: April 13, 2020.
Vote: 14-0-0.
Present: Mathur, McKee, Marachi, Frazier, Sullivan-Green, Peter, White, Curry, Shifflett, Del Casino, Faas, Day, Wong(Lau), Parent.
Absent: Papazian.
Financial Impact: None.
Workload Impact: None.