F19-4, University Policy, Updating and Changing Titles Associated with Faculty Affairs

Legislative History:
At its meeting of December 16, 2019, the Academic Senate unanimously approved this resolution presented by Senator Kenneth Peter for the Professional Standards Committee.

Effective: Immediately upon approval.

Rescinded: Immediately after the updates are made.

Approved and signed by
President Mary A. Papazian
San José State University

University Policy
Updating and Changing Titles Associated with Faculty Affairs

Resolved: Bylaw 15a shall be used to editorially correct university policies that contain obsolete references to the Academic Vice President for Faculty Affairs (AVP FA), to the Office of Faculty Affairs, or to other obsolete variations of those titles; be it further

Resolved: The title replacing the various versions of the AVPFA will be either the “Senior Director, Faculty Affairs” (SDFA) or “Provost or designee” depending upon whether the policy reference concerns primarily the implementation of policy (SDFA) or whether it concerns primarily the creation of policy or occasions when academic judgment is required (Provost or designee), respectively; be it further
Resolved: The Professional Standards Committee shall collaborate with representatives of the Provost and UP Faculty Affairs to recommend a list of titles that should be changed to the “Provost or designee.” Upon approval of this list by the Provost and the Senior Associate Vice President for University Personnel, bylaw 15a shall be invoked and the titles on the list changed to “Provost or designee,” with all other AVPFA references changed to “Senior Director, Faculty Affairs;” be it further

Resolved: References to title of the office (e.g., “Office of Faculty Affairs”) will be handled in the same manner as references to titles of the officer.

Resolved: This policy will expire immediately after the title changes referred to above are complete.

Rationale for the Recommendation:

The reorganization of the Office of Faculty Affairs from the Academic Division to University Personnel came with changes in the title of the officer in charge of the organization as well as a change in title to the organization. Unfortunately, there are more than 200 references to the titles and offices in policy that were made obsolete by the reorganization. Editing policies to conform to the new titles is possible under our existing bylaw 15a. However, there are a few functions of the old AVPFA that need to be under control of the Provost, according to the division of labor between policy matters (Provost) and implementation matters (SDFA) as we understand it. For example, “Provost or designee” should be used where academic judgment is required. So while use of bylaw 15a is desirable, care must be taken to be sure the old responsibilities get distributed to the appropriate new officers. This recommendation seems to us the most efficient way to take care of the problem.

Approved: November 4, 2019
Vote: 8-0-0
Present: He, Cargill, Peter, Monday, Kumar, Mahendra, Kemnitz, Birrer
Absent: Riley, Chin
Financial Impact: No direct impact
Workload Impact: No direct impact