

**SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE  
SAN JOSE, CA 95192**

**S13-2, Policy Recommendation, Adoption of University Learning Goals**

**Legislative History:**

At its meeting of February 11, 2013, the Academic Senate approved the following policy recommendation presented by Senator Bros-Seemann for the Curriculum and Research Committee.

**Action by University President: Approved by President Qayoumi on February 25, 2013**

**Policy Recommendation:  
Adoption of University Learning Goals**

- Whereas it is essential to establish the qualities that uniquely define the competencies of SJSU graduates to inform current and future students, as well as the community, about the expected achievements of an SJSU education; and
- Whereas an appropriate set of goals is essential for our assessment and planning strategies; and
- Whereas as part of its charge, the Mission, Outcomes and Meaning (MOM) taskforce, in response to WASC expectations, developed a set of University Learning Goals aligned with our mission, vision, strategic planning, our “Educated Person” dialog, the Lumina Foundation Degree Qualifications Profile and the AAC&U Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) outcomes report adopted by the CSU for GE outcomes (EO 1065); and
- Whereas the University Learning Goals developed by the MOM WASC task force were generated in consultation with the University Council of Chairs and Directors (UCCD), Associate Deans, Deans and the WASC Steering Committee within the categories defined by the San José State University Academic Senate (SS-S12-3); and

Whereas these University Learning Goals were designed such that they would articulate with existing assessment strategies, and therefore be it

Resolved that the following University Learning Goals be adopted, effective AY 2013, as the University Learning Goals for San José State University:

**Approved:** 02/05/2013

**Vote:** (10 for, 0 against, 1 abstention)

**Present:** Patricia Backer, Shannon Bros-Seemann (Chair), Peter Buzanski, Rebecca Feind, Dennis Jaehne, Annette Nellen, Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Pamela Stacks, Elizabeth Weiss, Patricia Swanson, Jean-Luc Desalvo

**Absent:** Peter Lee, Suttee Sujitparapitaya

**Financial Impact:** The cost of this proposal is unknown but it is part of the WASC accreditation process.

**Workload Impact:** As the ULGs have been designed as much as possible to fit with existing program goals and assessment strategies, the major effort will be to map our existing structure onto these goals. However, this is something we need to do for our accreditation process so it is difficult to place a number on "extra" workload as dictated by the policy.

# University Learning Goals

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San José State University graduates will have developed:

- Specialized Knowledge
  - Depth of knowledge required for a degree, as identified by its program learning outcomes.
- Broad Integrative Knowledge
  - Mastery in each step of an investigative, creative or practical project (e.g. brainstorming, planning, formulating hypotheses or complex questions, designing, creating, completing, and communicating).
  - An understanding of the implications of results or findings from a particular work in a societal context (e.g. social or economic implications of a scientific finding).
  - Students graduating with a baccalaureate degree will have demonstrated an understanding of critical components of broad academic areas, the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences and their integration.
- Intellectual Skills
  - Fluency in the use of specific theories, tools, technology and graphical representation.
  - Skills and abilities necessary for life-long learning: critical and creative thinking, effective communication, conscientious information gathering and processing, mastery of quantitative methodologies, and the ability to engage effectively in collaborative activities.
- Applied Knowledge
  - The ability to integrate theory, practice, and problem-solving to address practical issues.
  - The ability to apply their knowledge and skills to new settings or in addressing complex problems.
  - The ability to work productively as individuals and in groups
- Social and Global Responsibilities
  - The ability to act intentionally and ethically to address a global or local problem in an informed manner with a multicultural and historical perspective and a clear understanding of societal and civic responsibilities.
  - Diverse and global perspectives through engagement with the multidimensional SJSU community.