Amendment A to University Policy S14-6, Policy and Assurance for Humane Care and Use of Animals

Effective: Immediately

Legislative History:
At its meeting of February 8, 2021, the Academic Senate approved Amendment A to University Policy S14-6 presented by Senator Sasikumar for the Organization and Government Committee. Amendment A establishes the Vice President for Research and Innovation as a backup to the Associate Vice President for Research in ensuring humane care and use of animals. University Policy S14-6 was approved and signed by President Mohammad Qayoumi on April 30, 2014.

ACTION BY UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:
Signed and Approved on March 10, 2021 by President, Mary A. Papazian, San José State University

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Whereas: Federal and state regulations require continuity in university oversight of research; and

Whereas: The Associate Vice President in the Office of Research (AVPR) retired at the end of December 2020; and

Whereas: The search for a new AVPR is expected to take several months, during which time research oversight will continue, creating the need for a replacement for the AVPR in ensuring the humane care and use of animals; and

Whereas: A backup for the AVPR should be created in policy to maintain continuity in the future; and

Whereas: The Senate Executive Committee passed a time-limited amendment to S14-6 at its meeting of January 11, 2021 that was later signed by
President Papazian to allow for the university to remain in compliance with federal regulations; and

Whereas: The time-limited amendment is set to expire on the date that the Senate holds a final vote on the amendment of S14-6; therefore be it

Resolved: That the Vice President for Research and Innovation (VPRI) be designated as the backup for the AVPR, in all cases where the Institutional Official is mentioned in the policy; and also be it

Resolved: That the text of 4.3 be amended as follows: “The University President designates the Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research as the Institutional Official with the responsibility to oversee and administer the institution’s program of animal care and use. If the AVPR is unavailable to carry out these duties, the VPRI will serve as SJSU’s Institutional Official. The Institutional Official will have the administrative and operational authority to: 1) allocate University resources to ensure that the animal care and use program complies with all applicable laws and policies; and 2) define and assign responsibilities and reporting channels essential to the animal care and use program.”

Rationale: Having a backup for the AVPR will allow for the continuous operation of the mechanism to ensure the humane care and use of animals, and maintain compliance with federal regulations

Approved: February 1, 2021
Vote: 9-0-2
Present: Altura, Birrer, de Bourbon, Grosvenor, Higgins, McClory, Millora, Okamoto, Sasikumar, Thompson, Taylor
Absent: Maciejewski
Financial impact: None
Workload impact: Additional workload for the VPRI, when the AVPR is unable to carry out their duties.