

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

S16-6, University Policy, Committee Obligations and Senate Membership (Modifies Senate Bylaw 1.6.2)

Legislative History:

At its meeting of March 7, 2016, the Academic Senate approved the following policy recommendation presented by Senator Shifflett for the Organization and Government Committee. Clarification regarding the connection between committee responsibilities and senate service is needed.

Amends: Senate Bylaw 1.6.2

**Action by University President: Approved and signed by Interim
President Susan W. Martin on
March 12, 2016.**

**University Policy
Committee Obligations and Senate Membership
(Modifies Senate Bylaw 1.6.2)**

- Whereas: The full engagement of senators in committee assignments is inextricably linked to their participation on the senate, and
- Whereas: Senate by-laws clearly establish expectations and standards for attendance, and
- Whereas: The primary responsibilities of the senate have been and remain the development of policy recommendations which requires the participation of senators on assigned committees, and
- Whereas: Clarification regarding the connection between committee responsibilities and senate service is needed, therefore be it
- Resolved: That Senate bylaw 1.6.2 be modified as noted in this policy.

Rationale: Upon election to the senate, each senator is assigned to a policy committee. In fact, by senate bylaw (6.10) the senate seeks to make

appointments so that at least half of the members are members of the Senate. Without the full participation of senators on senate-assigned committees, the senate cannot effectively fulfill its primary responsibility which is the consideration and development of policy recommendations. Senators not meeting their committee obligations are neglecting their Senate responsibilities and replacement of a senator in such circumstances is in the best interests of the Senate.

Approved: 3/1/16
Vote: 9-0-0
Present: Mathur, Shifflett, Beyersdorf, Becker, Laker, Curry,
Grosvenor, Romero, Gleixner
Absent: None
Financial Impact: None expected
Workload Impact: No changes

Recommended changes:

1.6.2

- a) Vacancies are created by
- 1) resignation or recall from the Senate,
 - 2) termination of employment,
 - 3) removal from the senate as a result of being absent from 3 Senate meetings in an academic year,
 - 4) removal from a policy committee as a result of being absent from 3 regularly scheduled policy committee meetings,
 - 5) removal from a policy committee due to failure to perform assigned policy committee duties as determined by the Executive Committee of the Senate in consultation with the policy committee chair,
 - 6) leave, with or without pay, which covers more than one semester,
 - 7) appointment to a full-time administrative (Management Personnel Plan) position,
 - 8) assumption of the role of Academic Senate Chair, or
 - 9) no candidate files for a vacant seat
- b) When a Senate seat is vacated, the associated seat on that senator's assigned policy committee would become vacant.
- c) Faculty representatives, who accept one semester leaves with or without pay, may resign from the Senate or request the selection of a replacement for one semester, following the procedures listed in 1.6.1 above.
- d) If no candidate files for that vacancy, it shall be filled for one year by a person in that constituency selected by the Executive Committee after consultation with

the Senators from that constituency. A permanent replacement shall be elected to fill out the remainder of the term as part of the next general election.

e) If only one candidate files a nominating petition for a vacancy, the dean (or Senate Administrator for the General Unit election) shall not conduct an election but shall so report to the Executive Committee, and the Executive Committee shall declare the single candidate elected.

f) If a vacancy occurs during the months of January or February, the seat shall be filled following the procedures listed in 1.6.1 above for temporary vacancies and the senator shall hold the seat for the remainder of the academic year. A permanent replacement shall be elected to fill out the remainder of the term as part of the general election.