

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

**S20-4, University Policy, Optional Exclusion of Student
Opinion of Teaching Effectiveness surveys (SOTEs)
Administered During Spring 2020**

Effective: Immediately

Legislative History:

On March 9, 2020, after SJSU announced the suspension of in-person classes and provided direction to faculty to move to “distributed” or “fully online” instruction, faculty across campus voiced concerns regarding the potential negative impact of change in teaching modality on their student evaluations. On March 10, 2020 Professional Standards noted these concerns and developed and voted on this recommendation. Subsequently, on the behalf of the Academic Senate (and as outlined in Senate Bylaw 4.1), the Senate Executive Committee took immediate action and voted on this recommendation to ensure that faculty have the option to exclude any SOTEs obtained Spring 2020 from future evaluations.

ACTION BY UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

Signed and Approved on March 11, 2020 by
President Mary A. Papazian.

Resolved: That faculty be permitted, at their option, to exclude any SOTE results obtained during Spring 2020 from future evaluations.

Rationale: *As a result of the Covid-19 epidemic reaching Santa Clara County, SJSU suspended (on March 9, 2020) in-person classes and directed that faculty move to “distributed” or “fully online” instruction. While these changes were instituted for good public health reasons, they will necessarily disrupt course pedagogy halfway through the semester. Many faculty have never before used those teaching modalities, and they may harbor concerns that the changes will negatively impact their student evaluations. This policy seeks to allow faculty to concentrate on course conversion and supporting their students unburdened by that particular fear.*

Professional Standards

Approved: March 10, 2020 by electronic voting.
Vote: 9-0-0
Present: Kemnitz, He, Cargill, Peter, Monday, Kumar, Mahendra, Riley, Chin.
Absent: Birrer.
Financial Impact: No known impact.
Workload Impact: No significant impact.

Senate Executive Committee

Approved: March 10, 2020 by electronic voting.
Vote: 14-0-0
Present: Curry, Day, Del Casino, Faas, Frazier, Marachi, Mathur, McKee, Parent, Peter, Shifflett, Sullivan-Green, White, Wong(Lau).
Absent: Papazian.
Financial Impact: No known impact.
Workload Impact: No significant impact.