S21-1, University Policy, Time-Limited Amendment of Research Oversight

Temporarily Amends: F12-5, S14-6, F17-1

Effective: Immediately until such time when individual policy amendments are permanent within university policies (see Resolved).

Legislative History:
At its meeting of January 11, 2021, the Academic Senate Executive Committee approved the following policy recommendation on the behalf of the full senate body, as outlined in Bylaw 4.2.1, presented by Chair Mathur and Senator Sasikumar. Prior to Executive Committee review, the Organization and Government Committee reviewed and provided feedback on this policy. This policy is intended to be a measure put in place to ensure continuity in the oversight of research on animal and human subject populations and research misconduct.

ACTION BY THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:
Signed and approved by Mary A.
Papazian, President, San José State University on January 12, 2021.

Whereas: Federal and state regulations require continuity in university oversight of research by an Institutional Officer or Institutional Official (IO); and

Whereas: The Associate Vice President in the Office of Research (AVPR) position is named in several policies to act as the IO, and the current 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 will continue, creating the need for a replacement or a backup for the AVPR in the protection of human subjects (F17-1, University Policy, Protection of Human Research Subjects), the humane care and use of animals (S14-6, University Policy, Policy and Assurance for Humane Care and Use of Animals at San José State University), and responding to allegations of research misconduct (F12-5, University Policy, Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct); and
Whereas: A backup for the AVPR should be created in policy to maintain continuity in the future; and

Whereas: The SJSU Academic Senate reconvenes on February 8, 2021, at which time it can consider permanent amendments creating backups for the AVPR, to the relevant policies, namely F17-1, S14-6, and F12-5; therefore, be it

Resolved: That until such date as the Senate holds final votes on amendments to the policies named here and those amendments become permanent within those aforementioned university policies, the Vice President for Research and Innovation (VPRI) be designated as the Institutional Officer in F17-1 and S14-6; and as the Research Integrity Officer in F12-5.

Rationale: In order to provide continuity in the oversight of research on animal and human subject populations, the retiring AVPR must be replaced on a temporary basis until the appointment of a new AVPR. The Vice President for Research and Innovation (VPRI) is the most appropriate administrator to serve as the Institutional Officer or Institutional Official. These amendments to the policies related to the oversight of research will sunset after the Senate votes on policy resolutions that will add the VPRI as a backup for the AVPR, and these resolutions become permanent within these university policies.

Approved: January 11, 2021
Vote: 14-0-0
Present: Mathur (Chair), Curry, Day, Del Casino, Delgadillo, Faas, Frazier, Marachi, McKee, Papazian, Peter, Sasikumar, Sullivan-Green, White
Absent: Wong(Lau)
Financial Impact: None anticipated.
Workload Impact: Additional workload for the Vice President for Research and Innovation, at times when the Associate Vice President for Research is unable to carry out their duties.