

At its meeting of May 8, 1989, the Academic Senate approved the following Policy Recommendation presented by Bobbye Gorenberg for the Instruction and Research Committee. This Policy supersedes S67-19.

POLICY ON RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

The conduct of research, scholarship, and creative activity at a university advances the frontiers of knowledge; provides an experiential learning context for future teachers, engineers, scientists, humanistic scholars, and creative artists; and keeps faculty energized and familiar with recent developments in their fields. These activities enrich a university community and contribute to high quality education.

San Jose State University (hereafter: the university) actively encourages faculty involvement in research and training projects, humanistic scholarship, and creative activity (hereafter: research) through the award of faculty time to pursue such research. Faculty members' involvement in research is an integral component of their university obligation; therefore, the university directly recognizes research accomplishments as one aspect of scholarly achievement detailed in the university retention, tenure and promotion policy.

Sponsored Research

The university provides resources that enable faculty, staff and students to seek external funding in support of research. The San Jose State University Foundation, Division of Contracts and Grants Administration, will assist university members in the identification of potential sponsors, the preparation and submission of funding requests, and the management of awarded funds.

Chancellor's Executive Order 168 states that all requests for funding of research or other sponsored projects shall only be submitted to sponsoring agencies with prior approval of the President of the campus or designee (at SJSU, the Associate Academic Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research). The campus designee works closely with the Foundation, through which all external funding proposals are processed. Directors or Principal Investigators of sponsored projects must be probationary or tenured faculty members. Individual faculty members may not sign contracts on behalf of San Jose State University.

The university endorses the principles of academic freedom in research as well as in the classroom. The primary obligation of the faculty to their subject is to seek and to state the truth as they see it. To support the faculty pursuit of truth, the university promotes conditions of free inquiry and dynamic exchange of ideas.

Research undertaken at San Jose State University shall comply with all appropriate regulations for the protection of human subjects from risk and for the humane care and use of animals.

University Support for Research

Limited internal resources are available to support research. In general, internal support is focused on promoting new projects that will lead to external funding, assisting projects in disciplines traditionally difficult to fund, sustaining established projects between external grants, and encouraging senior researchers who are exploring a new discipline or field. Allocation of internal resources to support research may also include dedication of facilities and acquisition of equipment to maintain a productive research environment.

University Faculty Research Grants (administered by each school), Seed Grants (administered by the Associate Academic Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research), and special resources managed by individual schools and departments are available to faculty on a competitive basis. These funds are separate from sabbatical leaves and faculty development allocations.

Limited state research funds are appropriated to the CSU and explicitly targeted for small grants, summer stipends, and semester leaves. These funds are administered by an elected faculty committee, and are competitively distributed.

Classified/Proprietary Research

SJSU will not accept any grant or contract that involves classified research (§69-12). The university will accept no external support for research that restrains the freedom of the university or the principal investigator from disclosing the existence of a grant or contract, the nature of the inquiry, or the identity of the sponsor.

Results of all research approved by the university must be freely publishable. In special circumstances (e.g., a for-profit corporation as sponsor of proprietary research), the university may negotiate in advance to delay publication and/or presentation for a modest period--not to exceed 180 days.

University personnel may sign confidentiality agreements allowing access to privileged material critical to a sponsored research project. They must be free, however, to report on the general results of the research project within a reasonable time.

Assigned/Reimbursed Time/Overload

SJSU faculty often modify their teaching load or generate time for research projects by obtaining assigned time, reimbursed time or accepting an overload.

Faculty are encouraged to request "assigned time" from their schools, departments, and faculty development programs to reduce their teaching load

and invest their energies in instructionally-related research. Assigned time is funded from university resources.

Faculty participating in a sponsored project may request "reimbursed time" from the sponsor. Reimbursed time funds provided by external sponsors are used to pay a portion of an investigator's salary. Replacement faculty may then be hired using state general funds. If the cost of hiring a replacement faculty member is less than the salary of the investigator provided by the sponsor, the difference (less 1.2 percent required university salary savings) will be allocated to the faculty member's department. The department chair must request these funds, and can consult with the Associate Academic Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research for appropriate procedures. These reimbursement funds are issued in the form of faculty positions and may only be used to hire instructional personnel (faculty or graduate assistants).

For all university personnel involved in research, the total time commitment ("overload" when more than 100 percent) shall be limited to 125 percent of a faculty member's obligated time, per CSU regulations. Overload activities may not interfere with a university employee's primary responsibilities.

Student Research

The university encourages student involvement in research. Students must be permitted to disclose fully the results of work required for courses, theses and master's projects. Faculty members may not sign non-disclosure agreements with students without permission of the Associate Academic Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research. In all cases, disclosure must occur within a reasonable amount of time.

ACTION BY THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

*Approved and Accepted as University Policy
Effective immediately, superseding U.P. 567-19
Gail Jullerton
June 9, 1989*