SS-S20-8, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring Dr. Bethany Shifflett

Legislative History:
On May 11, 2020, the Academic Senate approved the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Senator Peter from the floor of the Academic Senate.

Sense of the Senate Resolution Honoring Dr. Bethany Shifflett

Whereas: Dr. Bethany Shifflett first joined the Academic Senate of San José State University (SJSU) in 1989 as an Assistant Professor and has served with honor and distinction for 19 of the following years, taking a couple of well earned breaks along the way; and

Whereas: During her years of service to the Senate, Dr. Shifflett served as Chair of the Senate (1995-96), Chair and Secretary of the Committee on Committees, Chair of the Organization and Government Committee, and also as a member and leader of the Academic Senate, California State University; and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett made major contributions to SJSU’s WASC reaccreditation, by assisting with the campus report for the Capacity and Preparatory Review in 2004, and led campus-wide efforts in preparation for the Special Visit in 2005 as well as the Educational Effectiveness Review in 2007; and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett in 2005 played a major leadership role in the development of San José State's Strategic Plan (Vision 2010); and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett has played a leadership role in numerous academic technology initiatives, and has mentored numerous faculty colleagues navigating the rough waters of online teaching; and

Whereas, Dr. Shifflett has been a significant support to SJSU senate chairs, senate leaders, and all senators with her institutional knowledge, her advice, and her thoughtful one-on-one mentoring on navigating our senate and our University; and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett’s untiring energy as Chair of Organization and Government has resulted in far-reaching policy revisions that have made policies more sensible, more comprehensive, and more readable; and
Whereas: Dr. Shifflett models civic engagement by being informed of the SJSU Senate’s bylaws, constitution, policies, senate management and sense of senate resolutions, which arm everyone with praxis in shared governance; and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett has been a warrior for shared governance by leading reviews that urged other committees to bring policies and documents up to date and to revise them for best practices; and

Whereas: When you serve on a committee with Dr. Shifflett, you will learn more than you ever imagined and you will feel very accomplished at the end of your service; and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett’s love for and dedication to the SJSU Senate are unmatched; and

Whereas: Dr. Shifflett has served with distinction, dedication and ethical determination in her many years of service to the Senate and to the cause of shared and inclusive governance of the University; and

Whereas: Senator Bethany Shifflett is now retiring from the SJSU Academic Senate. Now, therefore be it

Resolved: That the SJSU Academic Senate express its profound gratitude to Dr. Bethany Shifflett for her long, dedicated, productive, and loving service to the Senate and the University; be further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate wish Dr. Shifflett well as she serves her years in the Faculty Early Retirement Program, invite her to remain closely in touch with her Senate friends and colleagues, and hope to see her often as we work together to assure the future of San José State University in the years to come.