

Statement of Interest  
SJSU Presidential Search Advisory Committee

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Since arriving at San José State University in 2007 I have experienced four changes in the leadership of the university and witnessed the negative impacts associated with those changes. During this period, I was working through the tenure process as an Assistant Professor and became very concerned about the stability of the university. As a result, I pursued other positions around the country and in the spring of 2012 I was offered tenure-track positions at different “R1” universities. At the time, I believed a research university might be a better fit for my career. But, after visiting other campuses, I realized that my career goals would actually be better fulfilled at SJSU. I decided that SJSU was my home and that I would do all that I could to enact change when the time came. I believe this is now my time to give back to SJSU. I look forward to playing a more active role on campus and am excited to serve the university as a member of the Planning Board and as a potential new CoS representative on the Academic Senate. It is my hope that this nomination for the Presidential Search Advisory Committee will allow me to have a positive impact on the university, its students, faculty, and staff.

I believe I offer the committee a well-rounded perspective for selecting the new president because I feel that I represent the typical, mid-career, Teacher-Scholar at SJSU. Because of the unique research program I developed here, I have been able to foster one-of-a-kind student experiences, and interact with faculty and students from different disciplines across campus. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to work at different capacities with many staff members from a range of units on campus. I believe this has led to a broader understanding of the campus community outside of the classroom.

When I envision the person who will ultimately fill the task as new president of SJSU, I see a leader who believes in shared governance between the president’s cabinet and the faculty and staff, and one who will have the capacity to promote a positive connection with our diverse student body. Additionally, the new president should have student experience at the top of their priority list. I believe our next president should be one who will stay the course through good and bad and will have the strength and fortitude to guide the university community by forging a better future for everyone.

Finally, our university should be more than just a stepping-stone for our next president. The president should come to this campus with the desire to take it to the next level with the help of its faculty and staff. We should want a president who will stay with us and not leave after only a short time. We deserve a president who will actively listen to the faculty’s concerns and ideas for developing a plan for our future. San José State University is the oldest public university in the state, and I am proud that I am a faculty here and I hope the next president will be as proud of our university as I am.