

Statement regarding candidacy for Chair, Professional Standards Committee

Kenneth B. Peter

May 2019

I would welcome the opportunity to continue as Chair of the Professional Standards Committee.

I am proud of the record of accomplishments of the Professional Standards Committee under my leadership over the last seven years. Here are a few of our accomplishments over that time:

- Weeding of dozens of obsolete policies for which PS is responsible.
- Modernized and consolidated of nine teaching evaluation policies into one clearer document and have continued to update it; this year, for instance, clarifying when SOTEs may be excluded from the faculty evaluation process.
- Created an important study that highlighted the critical need to rebuild our declining base of permanent faculty, which has now been implemented by 3 Provosts.
- Revised the Emeritus Faculty policy, the GRIF policy, and the Awards policy.
- Drafted and shepherded to passage a complete overhaul of our 17 year old ARTP policy and have continued to update it with important amendments; this year, for example, focusing on the disposition of late-add materials.
- Updated (after numerous tries!) the SOTE/SOLATE policy.
- Drafted a resolution defending faculty intellectual property from weakening by the system administration.
- Successfully modernized the Chairs and Director's policy—a politically sensitive document that took two years to complete.
- Passed a major resolution to confront bullying at SJSU.

Next Professional Standards needs to complete work on two major policy revisions including 1) the policy overseeing the appointment, evaluation and range elevation of Lecturers, and the policy organizing the Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility. PS is deep into the work on both policies, and if elected I can promise that we will carry out this work with the level of consultation and sensitivity which you have come to expect from our committee.

All policy Chairs also serve on the Executive Committee and have a general obligation to serve as Senate leaders. I believe my depth of experience over approximately three decades on the Senate and under ten Presidents and ten Provosts has given me a perspective that has been valuable during recent years. I have served as Chair of the Senate, ASCSU Senator, and Chair of several policy committees, and been a primary author of more than 60 Senate resolutions and policies.

More important, though, than simply serving in a variety of capacities, is my deep seated commitment to collegial shared governance. I have chosen to spend my life at a University

rather than in civil service or business because we are governed differently than those other institutions. Well governed universities function with a healthy component of workplace democracy, which strengthens a sense of commitment and community around a shared social mission. That ideal, however, requires a heavy commitment of faculty to university service, and it is in that spirit that I offer my candidacy to chair the Professional Standards committee.