

## **Statement regarding candidacy for Chair, Professional Standards Committee**

**Kenneth B. Peter**

**May 2020**

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 eight 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 nine teaching evaluation policies into one clearer document and have continued to update it; 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.
- 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, revising the teaching descriptor to deal with problems with SOTE norming and to emphasize the need for more holistic evaluation of teaching.
- 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.
- This year, crafted 15 recommendations and an extensive report on ways in which the implementation of our RTP process can be improved.
- This year, created Covid related emergency recommendations to suspend S2020's SOTES from being required in future evaluations, and urging that "clock stoppages" for the RTP process be granted to faculty whose research has been delayed by Covid.

Professional Standards needs to complete work on an overhaul of our Lecturer's policy, which has turned into a multi-year effort similar to the last RTP revision. I anticipate that more Covid related issues will come to the forefront as faculty attempt to make progress in their careers during the current disaster. If elected I can promise that PS 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 eleven 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 65 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.