

AGENDA

**Academic Senate – Executive Committee
June 16, 2020 12:30- 2:00 pm, Via Zoom:**

<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/92825847312?pwd=L2NTRFVTY3pwQXpEcFVSbVo1M04xdz09>

Note: Password to meeting sent via email and calendar invite.

1. Approval of meeting minutes of June 1, 2020
2. President's Update
3. Phased RSCA Adaptation Plan
 - a. Time Certain 1:00pm, VPRI, Mohamed Abousalem
4. Policy committee updates
 - a. Professional Standards
 - b. Curriculum & Research
 - c. Organization & Government
 - d. Instruction & Student Affairs
5. University updates
 - a. VP Administration and Finance
 - b. Associated Students President
 - c. VP Student Affairs
 - d. Chief Diversity Officer
 - e. Provost and Senior Vice President
 - f. Statewide Senate

Note Remaining Summer Executive Committee Meeting Dates and Times:

June 29th- 12:00pm- 1:30pm

July 20th - 11:00am- 12:30pm

Aug 3rd - 12:00pm-1:30pm

Executive Committee Minutes
June 16, 2020
via Zoom, 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Present: Curry, Faas, Frazier, Marachi, Mathur, McKee, Peter, Sasikumar, Sullivan-Green, White, Day, Wong(Lau), Papazian, Del Casino

Absent: Delgadillo

Guest: Mohamed Abousalem

1. The Executive Committee minutes of June 1, 2020 were approved (14-0-0).
2. There was no consent calendar for June 16, 2020.
3. Updates from the President:
 - a. Adaptation Plan: President Papazian has submitted the plan to the Chancellor's office. She noted the highlights of the Adaptation plan include the safety protocol for housing, dining, and student athletes. Another part of the plan includes returning employees to the campus, protocol for research, and the development of a database with an analysis of every course offered at SJSU. The President noted the extraordinary job Vice Provost Anagnos had done on the Adaptation Plan regarding this database and detailed course analysis. The Chancellor also wants to see the plans each campus has for meeting the goal of saving money. SJSU has met and continues to meet \$1 million a month in savings partly as a result of travel restrictions, etc.
 - b. Budget Issues:

The legislature continues to work through the budget. The Governor's budget includes hard cuts now, whereas the legislature wants to wait until all the tax revenue is in.
 - c. Ethnic Studies:

The Board of Trustees is expected to act on Ethnic Studies. The Provosts across the system had a very big discussion about this issue. At the end of the last academic year, the GE Taskforce Report was not accepted by the ASCSU. Nevertheless, we need to prepare our students and faculty to consider these issues via our courses. There is concern that a social justice component should be added to an ethnic studies addition. SJSU will be embracing Black Lives Matter to bring the campus together. We are committed to real change and will find a way to move forward.
 - d. Racism:

President Papazian will be putting together a working group to address racism on our campus. We will be looking at our policing practices. We must address the underlying problems.
4. From the VP of Research and Innovation, Mohamed Abousalem:

The VP of Research and Innovation will officially launch plans for RSCA this week. Twenty-seven requests have been received.

The recovery plan includes four phases. We are in phase 2. Employees are expected to work remotely if they can. If you are essential or cannot work remotely, you must fill out a form explaining why your work on campus is critical and time-sensitive. Undergraduate students are not being allowed back to campus for research and classes in this phase. It is mainly graduate students that must complete research projects. Our focus is on safety right now and hiring additional personnel to ensure safety such as for cleaning common areas; elevators, stairs, etc. During phase 2, Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) personnel will go down a checklist to determine the number of people that can be in each office on campus. We will begin with the return of about 30% of our employees and move up to 50%.

Questions:

Q: EH&S only has four staff members and one is currently on maternity leave. In comparison, SDSU has eight employees in their EH&S Department. We have a very small department with a very large job to do. Is there a discussion to expand EH&S to meet demands on the campus and to review proposals?

A: Resources are tight, and we need to make decisions about how to invest limited resources. Right now, EH&S is handling the workload.

Q: There is concern about the lack of access to physical books due to the closure of the MLK Library. When can we expect the library to open? The public library has curbside pick-up. When will be able to offer some services to pick up key research texts?

A: The Dean of the MLK Library is working on a plan to bring a limited number of employees back to work in the fall. During Phase 2, the library will remain closed and there will only be digital access. There is digital access to about 56% of our library materials. Opening the library for access to hard copies is too risky. It is too difficult to ensure safety protocols are met given the size of the library and the joint access with the public. The Provost will check on where we are at with regard to limited library access for SJSU faculty and students especially to continue RSCA over the summer and fall.

Q: How is RSCA assigned time being funded?

A: The award of RSCA announced this year was based on a 5-year plan. The funds were set aside to ensure funding was in place for the 5-year cycle.

Q: What happens if faculty can't finish their research due to COVID-19, will their grants be pulled?

A: The Provost has no plans to touch those funds.

Q: Could the IRB website be updated to modify IRB protocols?

A: Yes, this should be done. Human subject research will be very limited this year.

Q: Are new faculty being communicated with? Have they been informed about how to extend or modify IRB protocols?

A: The Provost was in contact with all new faculty in March. We will ensure that we are in contact with new faculty.

Q: Could information on campus plans for each phase be put on the website?

A: We are working on it.

Q: Can the cost of sanitation supplies in research labs be charged to COVID-19?

A: The university plans on paying for those supplies. They should not come out of research funds.

Q: Is the VP for Research and Innovation working on a process for faculty to return to research and what kind of support will be available for faculty?

A: We do not know the exact return dates yet. The VPRI will continue to build those programs and will apply grants to get the process started for fall.

C: Some faculty don't know how to do research in this environment and need lots of support. Students may also need assistance with how to do their research projects. We should be looking at diverse ways to give support. Faculty, students, and staff can have caretaking responsibilities in addition to mental health needs as well.

C: We are bringing students to campus to finish some research projects now in departments. We are also pushing out deadlines and will assist faculty in filing for grant extensions.

C: It would be a good idea to hold town hall events where the campus can ask these types of questions and to give out information like President Papazian has been sending to the campus via email.

C: Some department chairs are reporting difficulty in getting extensions from granting agencies.

A: The VPRI and Provost will assist where needed.

5. From the Professional Standards (PS) Committee:

PS will be asking the Executive Committee to act on a couple of policy recommendations at the June 29, 2020 meeting. The first policy recommendation would be an amendment to the RTP policy to recalibrate the three criteria due to COVID-19. The second policy amendment would extend the optional SOTEs from Spring 2020 through Fall 2020. President Papazian expressed concern about amending the RTP policy and amending SOTEs again. PS has drafted a memo to provide evaluation guidance and examples for RTP committees. This draft memo should come from the president or provost with further elaboration and guidance. PS still needs to discuss how the change in modality will affect SOTEs and peer observations with the Provost.

Q: The PS Committee passed these two resolutions, should they be asked to pull them back?

A: The President suggested PS complete the draft memo at this time.

6. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

These minutes were taken by the Senate Administrator Eva Joice on June 16, 2020. The minutes were transcribed by Senate Administrator Eva Joice on June 23, 2020. The minutes were reviewed by Chair Mathur on June 25, 2020. The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on June 29, 2020.