2019-2020 Year-End Committee Report Form

Committee: Student Fairness Committee

Chair: Edward Cohen	**Chair-Elect for 2020-2021**: Dr. Edward Cohen edward.cohen@sjsu.edu
Number of Meetings held:	

Items of Business Completed 2018/2019

1. Consideration, referral to subcommittee, investigation and resolution of 6 student petitions all of which were resolved. The Student Fairness Committee (SFC) met 8 times during the 2019/2020 academic year; five meetings in the fall and three meetings in the spring. The agendas and minutes summarizing the cases are included as an attachment to this report.
2. The previous year's 40 petitions were unusual - over half these petitions were connected with one instructor so this number is likely an aberration. Nevertheless, during this reporting period the number of Committee cases dropped compared to previous years.

AY	New Cases (Petitions) Filed
2019-2020	6
2018/2019	40
2017/2018	13
2016/2017	15
2015/2016	14
2014/2015	23
2013/2014	9
2012/2013	25
2011/2012	15

Per policy S14-3, The Student Fairness Committee shall hear grade dispute petitions when petitions are deemed to be appropriate and include evidence of the following conditions:

l. When there is evaluation of students that differs from announced requirements.
2. When there are belated impositions of requirements.
3. When grades are based on criteria other than academic performance in the course.
4. When grading criteria do not provide a clear and consistent method of evaluating students' work or performance.
5. When students' requests for information during the semester regarding their academic progress in the course are not responded to in a reasonable time (e.g., two weeks after the request is made).
6. When students' requests for an explanation of how the posted course grades for a term were determined are not responded to in a reasonable time (e.g., the later of two weeks after the request is made or one week before the add deadline for the fall or spring

semester following the term in question).

7. When students are penalized for expressing opinions.

8. When students are given to understand that they are removed from a course without due process of a hearing.

Area	Petitions Received
Business	3
Health and Human Sciences	
Education	
Engineering	1
Humanities & the Arts	2
Prof'l and Global Education	
Science	
Social Sciences	
Student Affairs	
Academic Affairs	
Total	6

Case Detail by Petition Number

1920-01	Grade Appeal/Dispute	CS 157B: Hearing held; SFC found in favor of student.
1920-02	Grade Appeal/Dispute	BUS 270: Investigation held: SFC found in favor of student
1920-03	Grade Appeal/Dispute	BUS 270: Investigation held: SFC found in favor of student
1920-04	Grade Appeal/Dispute	BUS 270: Investigation held: SFC found in favor of student
1920-05	Grievance/Grade Dispute	Modern Art 190B – Student on interim suspension by end of semester. Matter to be continued into Fall, 2020
1920-06	Grievance/Grade Dispute	Worlds Art and Culture 193A – Student being considered for campus suspension and missing information to decide Committee jurisdiction. Will continue into Fall, 2020

Appeals

During this reporting period, three Instructors appealed their respective SFC's decisions about cases from the 2018-2019 academic year to the BAFPR; in all three instances the BAFPR upheld the SFC's decisions.

Common Themes from 2018/2019 Petitions

1. **Changes to syllabi and improper grading procedures:** In the cases adjudicated by the Committee (1920-01 to 04) problems with syllabi, non-timely changes to course expectations, and miscommunication were a major contribution to student concerns.

Unfinished Business Items from 2018/2019

1. Cases 1920-05 and 06 will be continued in the Committee's first meeting in the Fall, 2020 semester.

New Business Items for 2019/2020

1. There were too few students on the Committee by the end of the Spring semester. The Committee recommends further outreach to staff student representatives.
2. One new case is expected for the first Committee meeting agenda
3. The Committee looks forward to see the number and nature of grievances and grade disputes as a result of the campus lockdown from March, 2020 on.

Please return to the Office of the Academic Senate (ADM 176/0024) by June 4, 2019.

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, December 5
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Clark Hall, 547

1. Introductions
2. Review of the Agenda
3. New Petition

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-01	11/27/2018 2:30 pm	Grade Appeal/Dispute	NA	Linguistics and Language Development Department	LLD 100A	College of Humanities and the Arts	Spring 2018

4. Ombudsperson Search Committee update
5. Upcoming deadlines
   12/21 – Last Day to file a SFC petition for spring/summer 2018 grades

6. 2018/2019 Meetings to be held in Clark 547

   6-Feb
   20-Feb
   6-Mar
   20-Mar
   3-Apr
   17-Apr
   1-May

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2018

I. **Present**: Bettencourt, Randev, Sorkhabi, Cooper, Harris, Zhao, Rivera, Morales, Najib, Abdelhadi, Galindo, Cohen
Absent: Castillo, Sanchez-Cruz, Main, Lilenthal, Pruthi, Gonzales, Heredia
Recorder: Jessica Randev
Meeting Started at 3:05 PM

II. Updates:

1819-01; The student in question filed a grade dispute for the following reasons. The student requested to take the final exam earlier than when it was scheduled due to unforeseen circumstances, to which the instructor agreed. The instructor did not have a set place for the student to take the exam, so the student opted to look for a suitable environment to take the exam in the time allotted. The exam was not graded due to two reasons: having been completed in pencil when the instructions say to use blue or black ink, and because the student submitted the exam later than the allotted time frame. The student, however, claims the professor insisted the use of a pencil would suffice and the exam was turned in late due to walking back to the instructor's office and due to a walking disability. The student states that they had slid the exam under the door since the instructor was not present to take the exam.

Vote: Yes: 11
No : 0
Abstain: 0

III. Adjourned at 4:23

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 12/5/2018
3. Case updates 1819-01

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-01	11/27/2018 2:30 pm	Grade Appeal/Dispute	NA	Linguistics and Language Development Department	LLD 100A	College of Humanities and the Arts	Spring 2018

4. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-03	1/15/2019 10:50:08	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Spring 19	Corporate Accounting and Finance	Bus1 173A	College of Business	Fall 2018
1819-04	1/24/2019 18:06:57	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Next Semester	Software Engineering	CMPE 202	College of Engineering - MS Software Engineering	Fall 2018
1819-05	1/24/2019 18:27:56	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Next Semester	Software Engineering	CMPE 202	College of Engineering - MS Software Engineering	Fall 2018
1819-06	1/24/2019 18:38:21	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Computer Engineering	CMPE 202	College of Engineering - MS Software Engineering	Fall 2018

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

1819-07	1/24/2019 18:53:53	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Computer Engineering	CMPE202	College of Engineering	Fall 2018

5. Ombudsperson Search Committee update
6. SFC Meeting Dates 20-Feb, 6-Mar, 20-Mar, 3-Apr (spring break, we may change date), 17-Apr, 1-May

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2019

I. **Present**: Bettencourt, Randev, Skovran, Cohen, Sorkhabi, Wang, Harris, Rivera, Najib, Khalil, Gonzales, Lilienthal.
Absent: Cooper, Erdogan, Morales, Zhao, Abdelhadi, Galindo
Recorder: Jessica Randev
Meeting Started at 3:10 PM

II. Updates:

1819-01; The student in question filed a grade dispute for the following reasons. The student requested to take the final exam earlier than when it was scheduled due to unforeseen circumstances, to which the instructor agreed. The instructor did not have a set place for the student to take the exam, so the student opted to look for a suitable environment to take the exam in the time allotted. The exam was not graded due to two reasons: having been completed in

pencil when the instructions say to use blue or black ink, and because the student submitted the exam later than the allotted time frame. The student, however, claims the professor insisted the use of a pencil would suffice and the exam was turned in late due to walking back to the instructor's office and due to a walking disability. The student states that they had slid the exam under the door since the instructor was not present to take the exam.

Upon further investigation, it was discovered the disability was brought to the instructor’s attention prior to the exam, despite not being officially registered with the school. The student in question also never received their exam score. The committee has decided to further investigate and meet with both parties.

III. New Cases

1819-03; Student seeking grade dispute due to course syllabus not indicating that +/- grades would be given. Student received a grade with a minus. SFC has had prior cases similar to this one and feels there has been a precedent, however, the SFC feels it would be best to first pursue an informal resolution by

having the ombudsperson reach out to the department chair.

1819-Class 202; The case involves a handful of students with questions in regards to the grades they received. It has come to the committees attention that canvas was not used for grading purposes and not all assignments were graded for all students; some students had some assignments graded while others did not. The students also stated that the grading methods were changed after assignments were submitted, and some assignments that were not worth credit in the start for the course were later changed to be worth credit. This was done without updating the course syllabus, but students were notified of this change after the semester had ended. The instructor was not responsive to students inquiries over the break. Upon further investigation, it was brought to light that the instructor kept two separate grade books, but the students were not aware of their scores. The committee's recommendation is to have the department look over this issue and to see what can be done before it comes back to the committee if it needs to at that point.

IV. Adjourned

4:30 PM

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 12/5/2018 & 2/6/2019
3. Student scheduled 3:15 regarding case 1819-01
4. Case updates 1819-03

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-03	1/15/2019 10:50:08	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Spring 19	Corporate Accounting and Finance	Bus1 173A	College of Business	Fall 2018

5. CMPE 202 cases 1819-4 through 1819-26
6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-27	2/10/2019 14:44:03	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Computer Science	CS151	College of Science	Fall 2018
1819-28	2/18/2019 17:35:07	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Fall 2020	Computer Egineering	CMPE 127-Microprocessor Design	College of Engineering	Fall 2018

SFC Meeting Dates 6-Mar, 20-Mar, **10-Apr**, 17-Apr, 1-May

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2019

I. **Present**: Bettencourt, Randev, Gonzales, Cooper, Morales, Zhao, Skovran, Cohen, Sorkhabi, Wang, Harris, Rivera, Najib, Abdelhadi, Galindo, Khalil, Lilienthal.
Absent:
Recorder: Jessica Randev
Meeting Started at 3:14 PM

II. Updates:

1819-01; Upon interviewing the student, it's become evident to the fairness committee that the pencil/pen dispute is an issue that will go unresolved due to it being a matter of "he said/she said". The committee also speculates that the exam wasn't even graded by the instructor because it wasn't written in pencil, like he would have preferred. The exam was left under the door, after the student had completed it, but the instructor was not present and had left, to reiterate, he had not proctored the exam. The fairness committee's suggestion at this point is to have the student be graded out of 70% of the coursework, excluding the final exam, as it's a matter of fault by the student according to the professor, but also the professors mistake for not proctoring the exam, where the entire pen/pencil issue could have been avoided.

Vote: Yes: 12
No: 0
Abstain: 0

1819-03; Review of Dept chairs response regarding the determination of the student's grade. Ombudsperson will reach out to the student to discuss options as her grade dispute may not have an outcome that would benefit her. Ombudsperson will also reach out to the department chair to clarify if 4% curve was given to all students**.**

1819-Class 202; The case involves 23 students with questions in regards to the grades they received. It has come to the committees attention that canvas was not used for grading purposes and not all assignments were graded for all students; some students had some assignments graded while others did not. The students also stated that the grading methods were changed after assignments were submitted, and some assignments that were not worth credit in the start for the course were later changed to be worth credit. This was done without updating the course syllabus, but students were notified of this change after the semester had ended. The instructor was not responsive to students inquiries over the break. Upon further investigation, it was brought to light that the instructor kept two separate grade books, but the students were not aware of their scores. The committee's recommendation is to redirect it to the department, and have the department handle the student's issue and the issue the instructor has in regards to the outcome as well.

III. New Cases

1819-27; This case in short is about a grade dispute where a student was expecting a higher grade than what was given. An extra credit opportunity was presented which would result in participants having a 10% increase to their overall grade. The student reached out to the professor multiple times about a concern of failing the course, but the instructor reassured her saying she would pass, given that she had already completed the extra credit opportunity. In the end, the student did not pass the class, and the instructor was not responsive about

why, until a much later date where the amount of the extra credit was changed from 10% to 10 points. There is also a concern with other students who have the same issue, but are concerned that if they proceed, the instructor will lower their course grade. A subcommittee has been formed to look into the matter: Elizabeth (Betsy) Skovran (faculty) Sonja Lilienthal (faculty) and Aya Abdelhadi (Student rep).

IV. Adjourned

5:05 PM

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 6, 2019

I. **Present**: Bettencourt, Cohen, Lilienthal, Sorkhabi, Skovran, Cooper, Harris, Rivera
Absent: Gonzales, Morales, Najib, Khalil, Zhao, Abdelhadi, Galindo
Recorder: Jessica Randev
Meeting Started at 3:15 PM

II. Updates:

1819-Class 202; The case involves 23 students with questions in regards to the grades they received. It has come to the committee's attention that canvas was not used for grading purposes and not all assignments were graded for all students; some students had some assignments graded while others did not. The students also stated that the grading methods were changed after assignments were submitted, and some assignments that were not worth credit in the start for the course were later changed to be worth credit. This was done without updating the course syllabus, but students were notified of this change after the semester had ended. The instructor was not responsive to students inquiries over the break. Upon further investigation, it was brought to light that the instructor kept two separate grade books, but the students were not aware of their scores.

After reaching out to the professor, the committee was able to get a breakdown of how grades were administered, but the explanation did not provide clarification on all issues. For the best interest of the

students in question, the committee's recommendation is to have the chair intervene and discuss the issue as we are unsure of when the professor will be available to meet and go over the disputes.

1819-27; The members of the committee met with the instructor and would like to note that the instructor was being very difficult in terms of talking about the dispute. It was pointed out how this change in grading was a violation of university policy, but the instructor defends themself saying that the 10 points were given but it was not made clear how they would be applied. Other students have come forward with complaints of how there was no extra credit opportunity offered for students unable to take the trip to Oracle, and how during the time of the final, the instructor was one hour late but didn't give the students the extra time to take their exam.

New Cases:

1819-29 and 1819-31; A grade dispute by two different students in regards to the same professor mentioned in 1819-27. The committee needs a copy of the spreadsheet that included all of the grades. There is sufficient evidence to recommend that the department chair change the grades for the class as the instructor is not cooperating with the fairness committee nor the department chair.

1819-28 & 1819-30 Two cases regarding the same instructor. Students petitions indicate they may have been graded unfairly. A subcommittee has been formed to reach out to students as well as the professor.

IV. Adjourned 5:00 PM

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, March 6, 2019
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Clark Hall, 547

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 2/20/2019
3. Case updates 1819-27

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-27	2/10/2019 14:44:03	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Computer Science	CS151	College of Science	Fall 2018

4. CMPE 202 cases 1819-4 through 1819-26

5. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-28	2/18/2019 17:35:07	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Fall 2020	Computer Engineering	CMPE 127-Microprocessor Design	College of Engineering	Fall 2018
1819-29	2/19/2019 14:51:03	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Computer Science	CS 151	College of Science	Fall 2018
1819-30	2/21/2019 11:18:09	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Next Semester	Computer Engineering	CMPE127	College of Engineering	Fall 2018
1819-31	3/1/2019 22:49:46	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Next Semester	Computer/Software Engineering	CS 157A	College of Applied Sciences and Arts	Fall / 2018

SFC Meeting Dates 20-Mar, **10-Apr**, 17-Apr, 1-May

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, March 20, 2019
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Clark Hall, 547

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 3/6/2019
3. Computer Engineering Chair, Dr. Su 3:30. Discussion about 202 cases
4. Case updates 1819-27, 1819-29
5. Case updates 1819-28, 1819-30
6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-31	3/1/2019 22:49:46	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Next Semester	Computer/Softw are Engineering	CS 157A	College of Applied Sciences and Arts	Fall / 2018
1819-32	3/4/2019 12:00:07	Grievance	This Semester	Software Egnineering	CS 157A	College of Science	Fall 2018
1819-33	3/5/2019 16:14:09	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Software Egnineering	CS 157A	College of Engineering	Fall 2018

7. Ombud's update: Meryl St. John

SFC Meeting Dates **10-Apr**, 17-Apr, 1-May

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2019

I. **Present**: Bettencourt, Lilienthal, Sorkhabi, Cooper, Harris, Rivera
Absent: Gonzales, Cohen, Skovran, Morales, Najib, Khalil, Zhao, Abdelhadi, Galindo
Recorder: Jessica Randev
Meeting Started at 3:10 PM

Minutes Approved from March 6
In favor: 5
Opposed: 0
Abstain: 2

II. Updates:

1819-Class 202; The committee had the opportunity to meet with the department chair. After the last meeting, the instructor had changed two students grades, which impacted the student negatively. Upon discussing with the chair, the committee has become aware that the professor is on probation and there is no set date for their return. The syllabus will be checked from this point forward by the department prior to it being distributed to students. A spread sheet of exam scores was requested and the case is still currently pending.

1819-27; There is still an ongoing dispute about the extra credit counting as 10 points vs. the original 10%. The committee has requested that the grading changes be applied to what was originally

stated in the syllabus but that has not been accepted as of yet. In addition, there are cases of retaliation coming about, for which a hearing will be held during the next meeting.

IV. Adjourned 5:24 PM

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 17, 2019
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Clark Hall, 547

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of minutes from 3/20/2019
3. Case updates 1819-31, 1819-32, 1819-33
4. Student hearing regarding CS 151 – 3:15pm
5. Instructor hearing regarding CS151/157 – 4:00pm
6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-34	3/22/2019	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	Computer/Software Engineering	CMPE 202	College of Engineering	Fall 2018

6. 4/24 Meeting

SFC Meeting Dates 17-Apr, 24-Apr, 1-May

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2019

Members Present: Cohen, Cooper, Gonzales, Harris, Lilienthal, Morales, Rivera, Sorkhabi, St. John, Zhao
Also Present: Randev
Recorder: St. John

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.

II. Updates:

1819-27; There is still an ongoing dispute about the extra credit counting as 10 points vs. the original 10%. The committee has requested that the grading changes be applied to what was originally stated in the syllabus but that has not been accepted as of yet. In addition, there are cases of retaliation coming about. The professor has used the word “abuse” in relation to students pursuing her for answers.

Hearing #1: A hearing from a student related to case **1819-27**, class CS 151. The student was assured that the committee had reviewed his submitted materials. He explained several key points from this conflict including grades being erased from Canvas and his subsequent attempt to contact the professor for an explanation and a grade breakdown. The professor refused to meet with him and asked him to “stop contacting [me],” and was unwilling to provide a grade breakdown or explain the discrepancy between his expected grade and final grade. While he was not in danger of not passing as some

classmates were, he did feel this was unjust. He could not access any Canvas information, but was able to reference previous emails with lab grades. He pointed this out to the professor, who alleged that these discoveries proved that his in-class labs were late, and asked if he wanted to have them regraded upon which point he would be given a zero. (In fact, these were in-class assignments that were granted extra time, so while technically “late,” the extra time was permitted by the instructor.) In January, when the grade breakdown was finally obtained, it was incorrect because it was missing 5 points of extra credit that had been previously awarded to a lab that the student did not earn full credit on due to an optional presentation the student completed. Relating to the case at hand with the Oracle event extra credit, the instructor opted not to assign the additional ten points and to instead convert some grades from B to B+, etc, without informing students in writing of any grade rubric alteration.

Hearing #2: A hearing from the instructor in the case of **1819-27** (and others), class CS 151. The Instructor asked for a briefing on the student concerns. Nadia provided information about the Oracle extra credit points, which affected numerous students. The Instructor reported that the ten points were not taken away from any students, but that Canvas may have been inaccessible due to her archiving the course. She stated that all students who submitted a report on the Oracle presentation received a full 10 points of extra credit in Canvas and then she calculated the final “based on what was in Canvas.” The committee gave specific examples of affected students and the math on the scores did not add up in these cases.
The professor stated that the students approaching her for grade information behaved in a way that constituted harassment to her but appeared willing to change some grades if justification could be made. She also made comments about deciding whether or not to award grade changes based on her perception that students were ‘good’ or ‘bad.’

The Committee discussed requesting specific Canvas records for several students in this class. The instructor will also share materials with the Committee Chair. This discussion and a formulation of any associated recommendation will be continued at the next meeting.

1819-30 and 1819-28: Updates from the subcommittee to investigate these cases were postponed to the next meeting.

CSME-202: The ombudsman briefed the committee on the current standing of the now 27 cases involving students from CSME-202. New students continue to file grievances and the chair is unwilling to investigate or change grades until the committee makes a formal recommendation. However, the committee cannot investigate or recommend on this issue comprehensively due to the specificity of the material, the scope of the situation and the unavailability of the professor. A recommendation will be drafted instructing the department to independently re-evaluate each student's grade, or failing that, offer passing grades. This recommendation will be workshopped and voted on at the next meeting of the Committee.

IV: The Committee approved the minutes from March 20, 2019.

V. Adjourned 5:15 PM

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Clark Hall, 547

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of minutes from 4/17/2019
3. Case updates: 1819-28; 1819-30
4. Case updates and next steps regarding CS 151/157
5. Case updates and review of recommendation regarding CSME 202
6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-35	4/22/2019	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	English	English 1A	Humanities and the Arts	Fall 2018

SFC Meeting Dates 1-May

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 24, 2019

Members Present: Cohen, Cooper (virtual), Harris, Lilienthal, Rivera, Sorkhabi, St. John, Alejandra, Abdelhadi, Skovran
Also Present: Randev
Recorder: Randev

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm.

II. New Cases:

1819-35; Grade dispute. The course is graded out of 100%, but the syllabus shows the total percentages of assignments to total 90%. The professor has been difficult in regards to communication. There is also an issue in regards to the grading of participation that needs to be addressed.

Vote to take the case: Yes: 8
No: 0
Abstain: 0

III. Updates

1819-27; The committee discussed the hearing that took place in the prior meeting and came to find out that all of the information that was giving to us during the hearing was contradicting to what was stated to the subcommittee. There is still an ongoing dispute about how the professor is not correctly administering the 10 points that were promised for attending an extra credit event at Oracle. The committee

will request for the Canvas records to see what changes, if any, were made to the students overall grades and if they align with the weighted value stated in the syllabus. All of that aside, there is still an issue of how there is a possible case of retaliation due to the professor lowering grades for students who challenged the original grades they had received. The subcommittee will prepare a resolution for a vote via email shortly.

1819-30 and 1819-28: Received updates from the subcommittees and have scheduled both students to a hearing for the following meeting. From the investigation it's come to the committee's attention that the professor was inconsistent in their reasoning for not properly grading the assignments and that the professor was not consistent with what they had said in their prior conversations. As mentioned earlier, both students will be present to help clarify any of the inconsistencies that arose from the multiple meetings.

CSME-202: The ombudsperson received an email from the professor that showcases that they are unwilling to resolve the matter at hand. The committee adopted the resolution that the department independently regrade each student and their coursework. Should that not be a viable solution, they are to grade the student on what they can hold the student accountable for. If neither of those solutions are feasible, then the student would receive a grade of a "B". The department and students are to be notified of this resolution over the upcoming week.

Move to adopt:

Yes: 8
Abstain: 0
No: 0

IV: The Committee approved the minutes from April 17, 2019.
All in favor: Yes: 6

No: 0
Abstain: 1

V. Adjourned 5:05 PM

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, May 1, 2019
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Clark Hall, 547

1. 3:00pm: Call to order and review of the agenda
2. 3:15pm: Hearings from students (1819-30) and (1819-28)
3. Review of minutes from 4/24/2019
4. Case updates and next steps regarding CS 151/157 Instructor from the subcommittee
5. Case update 1819-35 from the subcommittee (if any)
6. New Petitions: no new petitions have been filed with the SFC since the last meeting.

SFC Meeting Dates: The Committee will reconvene on Wednesday, September 4th and meet every two weeks thereafter. If urgent action is needed on a case, a summer meeting will be called. Thanks for your diligent work!

STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Clark Hall, 547