

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE  
SAN JOSE, CA 95192

SS-F13-7, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Distribution and Spending of Funds from the Student Success, Excellence, and Technology Fee (SSETF)

Legislative History: At its meeting of December 9, 2013, the Academic Senate approved the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Senator Frazier for the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee.

SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION  
DISTRIBUTION AND SPENDING OF FUNDS FROM THE STUDENT  
SUCCESS, EXCELLENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY FEE (SSETF)

Background: SJSU has begun, since Fall semester 2012, charging students a new “Student Success, Excellence, and Technology Fee” (SSETF), pursuant to CSU Executive Order 1078.<sup>1</sup> Following E.O. 1078, the fee subsumed the existing Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) fee as well all miscellaneous course/lab fees; in addition to supporting these existing expenses, the fee has the goals of “facilitat(ing) student and student athlete graduation and retention rates and strengthen(ing) student learning through improved use of technology.” SJSU’s own guidelines outline six priorities that SSETF is meant to support.<sup>2</sup>

During Fall 2012, the initial semester the fee was charged, students paid \$215. The fee is scheduled to increase by \$40 every semester over the ensuing three years until reaching a maximum of \$415 per semester in Spring 2015.

However, since the fee’s inception, the campus community has been concerned that there is not enough university-wide oversight of the collection and systematic disbursement of SSETF monies.

---

<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://www.calstate.edu/eo/EO-1078.html>

<sup>2</sup> The six priorities, as per SJSU’s SSETF site at [http://www.sjsu.edu/finance/policies\\_guidelines/ssetf/](http://www.sjsu.edu/finance/policies_guidelines/ssetf/), are: “Student Success Services & Graduation Pathways,” “Academic Technology,” “21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching Spaces,” “Retention & Graduation,” “Course Support,” and “Instructionally Related Activities.”



IRA and miscellaneous course fees, detailed ways of requesting fee adjustments on an annual basis, and requesting fees for new courses; they should retain such a process.

In the discussion of the “six priorities” listed in SSETF documentation (see footnote 2), almost all fall within the purview of the Division of Academic Affairs. A consequently