

**2024-2025**

office if you have any questions about the process. This year, we are assisting university personnel in conducting elections for staff seats, so in May, staff senators will join us. The retreat is online on Feb 7. You should have received a calendar invitation. The theme is the Future of the Senate.

Welcome to Alessandro Bellofiore from the College of Engineering and Teairra Brown, student senator. I would like to invite Senator Raman, who has requested a couple of minutes to make an announcement.

### Senator Raman's Report

I am here on behalf of the Accreditation Review Committee to joyfully report that the report has been submitted. You should have seen some communication from the President with an update and a link to the place on the SJSU website where the report is hosted. Please read it when you have the chance. The report was also circulated to the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office. You may have noted in our previous announcements that special visits, by nature of the visit, are not as full-fledged as a regular accreditation visit. This is a slightly smaller, very focused version of the bigger visit, which is targeted at the nine recommendations in the previous accreditation report. We do not have a schedule yet; however, we do know that several constituents on the campus have already voiced their desire to meet with the reviewers when they are on campus. April 9-11 are the dates for the main campus review, and the review team will be here. More information will be shared with you as things progress. We also have a special site visit to Moss Landing on April 7. I want to remind everyone that this is the week after Spring Break, so we need to be on our A game. I just want to thank everyone who pulled

reflect, we can make better decisions. I urge us all to use this advantage to model calm and refuse panic for our students, colleagues, and neighbors.

Second, we're good at tearing each other down. Once again, hear me out. What I mean is that in contrast to the blind partisan posturing and sloganeering of the political and administrative sector, in academia, we review our peers; in comprehensive and constructive ways, all day long. This default critical lens needs to be cultivated.

Finally, we have an identity that transcends diversity, multiplicity, and even humanity. We are a university. What does it mean to be a university? We represent the whole, the entirety. Nothing conceivable in a human mind, or even in the memory of an AI model, is alien to us. When SJSU was established in 1857, James Buchanan was President. He is considered to be one of the worst men to occupy that office. SJSU survived. Be honest, most of you did not know who Buchanan was. We survived because we are smart, we critique each other and we address the universe of ideas. Let's hold on to this as we face the days to come.

#### **B. From the President:**

The last couple of weeks of Executive Orders have been dizzying. We've heard the concerns about uncertainty from members of our community. We spent some time talking about that earlier today in our cabinet meeting. Our leadership and our staff have been really diligent in trying to do everything we can to mitigate the concerns of our students. I have shared this before, but it's very important for all of us at SJSU to strike a fine balance in the support we provide to our students without creating opportunities for them to be targeted or become targets. We are directing our entire community to SJSU Cares under Dr. Fuentes-Martin's direction. We have an effective case management model there, and it's working and will continue to work. It is set up in a tiered approach to manage and appropriately address some of the sentiments we're hearing from students, or provide more guidance to our faculty and staff.

spaces where we can redirect to the appropriate legal services that may be available and any other issues that have come up in students' or families' households. It's really important not to panic and remain calm and focused.

I have gotten a lot of questions about whether law enforcement professionals will come to our university community. We don't know that since we are an open-state public university. We have two significant points of contact. If they come onto our campus with a subpoena, they will be directed to Airleah Sivila. This is already in her area of work, and we have a process for people who are served subpoenas. If someone approaches you with a subpoena, you need to direct them to Clark Hall, which is also where SJSU Cares is. We already had a process through UPD for criminal warrants, and it will be the same for civil warrants. So, if you're in your buildings and are stopped by a law enforcement officer, you may ask that individual to pause while you call campus police. If a law enforcement professional were to come to the campus for some reason, we would most likely have advance notice through those law enforcement people talking to our UPD. If that didn't happen, if they ended up in a building, they would likely be in a dean's office or one of our open-access areas. We have also instructed those individuals to call campus police so that we can handle circumstances should they arise.

#### Questions

Q: One of the things that came from CSU Central talked about the difference between public and nonpublic areas of the campus. Is the requirement of a key card to enter the distinction between public and nonpublic spaces on campus?

A: When we went through the TPM policy creation, we identified all spaces that are public and those that are considered private, residential communities, residential living areas, or clearly private. Health centers, exam rooms, and the like are clearly private. A lot of our other spaces are public for the purposes of this definition. We have some other spaces defined as public as it relates to TPM policy. A law enforcement official with a subpoena or a warrant following the proper processes will be able to enter any space. I don't expect anyone in this room to be policing the law enforcement officials. I encourage you to call UPD in these situations.

Q: To what extent does a faculty member control the classroom and the people in it?

A: I have told everyone in every forum that you should have that new Spartan Safe app on your phone so you can call UPD right away. You can manage the boundaries of a classroom outside the law enforcement question. This also applies to the media; they are not allowed to just walk in and start filming.

C: As the professor on record, couldn't you just say 'class dismissed?'

A: If you have, say, the public enters your space in a hostile way, you can absolutely say to your class, we're leaving now. If you feel that there's a conflict coming as an educator here, my recommendation is to avoid it.

A: You still have the entitlements of how you manage a classroom that you always have.

C: if you find out that one of your students has maybe been picked up or deported, please submit an SJSU Cares report because that will spark an outreach for care concerns for that student.

I want to introduce Stan Nosek, the new interim VP of Administration and Finance. He has decided to help us for a few months while we conduct the search. We have secured an external



Q: Is there a system in place to assess the pros and cons of using Chat Gpt or AI software in terms of student performance, depth of knowledge, etc?

A: We have some really great support in the Center for Faculty Excellence and Teaching Innovation. We have developed a number of ways to access your current assignments and how to make them more AI-resistant, etc. One of our student assistants built an AI chatbot that guides you through a step-by-step process to help you refine that activity. Our instructional design team is ready to dive in to help anyone figure out their classroom balance of AI. No faculty is alone in trying to navigate these waters.

**V. Executive Committee Report:**

**A. Minutes of the Executive Committee:**

**Executive Committee Minutes of December 2, 2024**

**B. Consent Calendar- Consent Calendar for February 3, 2025**

**C. Executive Committee Action Items: None**

**Unfinished Business: None**

**II. Policy Committee and University Library Board Action Items (In rotation):**

A. Organization and Government Committee (O&G):

B. Curriculum and Research Committee (Con8ur3shed Business: None





at least they were done democratically and collaboratively.

#### Questions

C: I think a link should be provided to the announcement of what is going on at Sonoma. Also, in line 43, it is unclear who this is about. Is it Sonoma State, the Office of the Chancellor, or the Office of the Governor? Maybe we should just remove that and put it in a footnote. Also, we might want to add that some programs are not viable for different reasons in a more positive way.

C: Some statements in the SoS do not have evidence to support those claims.

C: This is an SJSU SoS, so every statement should represent how we feel about this issue. I know we tend to be a more evidence-based Senate. Also, I'm very confused about the level of consultation that the faculty and other department chairs have had with the administration at Sonoma State. I would like to know what the actual consultation process was and what that means in the context of their \$138 million dollar shortfall.

C: The cut majors were women and gender studies, philosophy, theater, art and dance, art history, economics, and geology. The departments cut were applied statistics, art history, art studio, dance, earth and environmental studies, economics, educational leadership, English,

C: The birth rate in CA is the lowest it has been since records dating back to 1900 were kept. The number of schools closing in San Jose is almost 10. Those are our most vulnerable students, first-generation, economically vulnerable students. We cannot be naive enough to think that what happened there cannot happen here. San Jose City has dropped multiple positions in the last year in terms of economic revenue. We are plummeting partly due to the rest of the country catching up to us. I want to emphasize that we should follow the data to see what is actually happening and be prepared for it. Sonoma is a smaller school, about 1/3 of the size of SJSU, and their enrollment dropped 35%, so that is important to keep in mind; however, I want to caution you not to think that these things at other schools cannot happen here.

## **V. State of the University Announcements:**

### **A. Vice President for Student Affairs**

We have spoken a lot about immigrant students and such, but I also want to remind you all that LGBTQ + and all things DEI are also under attack

team is responding to all appearances of other law enforcement officials who are threatening to round people up. I really appreciate the community that I'm in right now and what they're doing proactively because our students don't typically live on campus. The majority of our students of concern live in the community, so we have to be vigilant on campus to protect students. We have to make sure that the resources in the community are known to them. Their biggest fear, they have told me, is that they will freeze and can't even advocate for themselves. Our response is going to be individual. We are looking to get additional support in the UndocuSpartan office to make sure that it can continue to be a resource to our students.

Q: What is the procedure relating to international students who are afraid to go back to their home country and are not able to return or have issues?

A: International students are going to be different from undocumented students. I think that if you have a visa status, you should be checking ISSS on the pros and cons and some of the outcomes that could happen. We have to weigh the risks that we're willing to take because there is going to be a travel ban at some point in time. We were afraid it was going to happen right after the inauguration, but I am grateful a lot of our international students came back. ISSS is also under SJSU Cares. We are going to explore every possible option if a student is not able to return.

Q: SJSU Day of Giving is coming up. Are there initiatives within Student Affairs that could provide support to some students or at least fundraise around the financial needs that are coming up? Has there been outreach to any private donors who may be willing to support students?

A: SJSU Cares is one of the possible donation sites on the Day of Giving. We have also been in connection with Judy Nagai in University Advancement about outreach and the need for flexible philanthropic gifts.

B. Chief Diversity Officer - not in attendance

C. AS President

AS has been facing some vacancies since our controller graduated this past December, but we are working to fill them this week. We will also be continuing to use this platform to spread the word about various resources that are available for our undocumented student community and allies through our UndocuSpartan Resource Center. I encourage you all to engage with them as

their outer circle might actually benefit from this information. Your students need you now more than ever.

#### D. CSU Statewide Representative(s)

The ASCSU met twice since our last meeting in December. We had interim meetings, and on January 15-17, we had our first meeting of the semester. There was also a meeting of the Board of Trustees. The January agenda was deeply influenced by the federal and national climate and its impact on the state of California specifically. Our ASCSU chair asked for us to be compassionate and collaborative in our leadership. The big item that confronted us was the discussion over the budget and the shortfalls that are facing our university system. These conversations included the need to know how much money is spent on external consulting firms. If we value our faculty and their talents, why not ask some of them to provide some assistance to these very expensive firms? AS 3721 called for greater transparency and actual expenditures in terms of spending decisions made over time. They also asked for an online conference where they could have some communication. All of the committees have had discussions around the implementation of the budget in relation to I 12 Tf72 487.9 Td(di)3 (scussion)-4

dean for the College of Information, Data, and Society. I am very excited for someone who has system experience. I am working to appoint an interim dean for the College of Education, and we've already moved to pick a search committee for a permanent position.

C: In psychology right now, we have about two openings in our 200 sessions. I know that enrollment has kind of gone down to the dean's control. I think we might have been a little too careful in restricting the number of sessions rather than being able to offer courses for people who need them.

A: That is something we need to be paying attention to; however, the good news is that every college has hit its goal for enrollment this year. That has not been the case over the last several years. We also experienced a pretty significant drop in enrollment during the pandemic. So, to the point made earlier, we are not susceptible to some of the challenges that everyone faces.

Q: What are some protections for international faculty?

A: We have to be cautious about going too far too fast, and end up doing what they wanted to do. It is on a case-by-case basis. So I think that it's not a great answer, but I think the right answer is we're going to have to take this up, and if people have real concerns, we find out about them, and we rally the resources around that individual or others. Additionally, we are looking at everything that Mari talked about for students to be for faculty and staff. I will say that the CSU has responded rapidly and is very engaged with the Attorney General's office to be as prepared as we can.

Q: How do we compare enrollment year to year?

A: We have two sets of metrics for this campus. We have a target we're given by the state through the CSU, and we want to get 100% of that, or we will lose money. This year's target is 102% of last year's target. So if you think about it two years ago, we're actually up another 2% above the 5%. So, each year, it changes depending on the target. What we've been doing is trying to grow the campus strategically above that target so that we can get redirection dollars. To be perfectly honest, that's part of Sonoma's challenge. They're losing four or five billion in redirection because they don't have the enrollment. We will get some of that. We also have a very robust nonresident target because we have historically been dependent on that as well. So we pay very close attention to that nonresident enrollment target, more so than the system or many other campuses do. To answer your question, it is always ideal as a campus to be at least 100% of that California resident target, given that they committed to redirection for three years. This is year two. We are best positioned to be above that target for these three years.

#### F. Vice President for Administration and Finance

I believe the President asked me to come today because we share the same sense of transparency regarding finances and decision-making. I see my role as one of stewardship of the facilities and the finances we have, and I will take that seriously.

**V. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.