

**SAN JOSÉ STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE  
SAN JOSÉ, CA 95192**

**S26-9, University Policy, Modification of the Senate  
Constitution Related to Powers and Responsibilities (Timely  
Responses to Senate Policy Recommendations)**

**Legislative History:**

On March 16, 2026, the Academic Senate approved University Policy, Modification of the Senate Constitution Related to Powers and Responsibilities (Timely Responses to Senate Policy Recommendations), presented by Senator Siebert for the Organization and Government Committee. This amendment was then sent to the electorate for ratification. On April 22, 2025, the electorate of San Jose State University approved this constitutional amendment (206.2-1-1).

**Action by University President:**

Date: April 27, 2026

Signed and approved by:   
**Cynthia Teniente-Matson, President,  
San José State University**

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**RATIONALE**

At the [January 2023 plenary of the Academic Senate of the California State University \(ASCSU\)](#), policy AS-3584-22/FA “Establishing Timely Responses to Campus Senate Resolutions and Policies” was presented for a second reading and subsequently approved (i.e. passed) by that body.

The intention of AS-3584-22/FA, as stated in its preamble, is to “recognize and reaffirm the rights and responsibilities of CSU faculty via their campus senates;” improve faculty “cooperation with the campus administration;” and ensure “timely communication from the President regarding resolutions and policies passed by the campus senate.”

Specifically, AS-3584-22/FA calls on all senates of the CSU to clarify the processes by which resolutions and policies passed by those senates are handled once they have been sent on for presidential review. To this end, AS-3584-22/FA recommends that,

“where a presidential signature is required on resolutions or policies, to establish within [the senate’s] constitution or bylaws, *a timely deadline not to exceed sixty calendar days* for presidential responses to curricular and academic policy related resolutions and policies passed by the campus senate, beyond which deadline such legislative resolutions and policies shall be considered enacted and in force;” and that

“each campus senate [should] require all presidential vetoes to include a rationale that is reported to the Senate and accessible to the campus community.”

Considering this, and given that the Constitution of SJSU’s Academic Senate is not sufficiently clear on these points, the Organization and Government Committee therefore recommends that Article IV (Powers and Responsibilities) Section 2 of our Senate’s [Constitution](#) be amended as described herein.

## **ARTICLE IV -- POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Section 2.** Upon passage by the Academic Senate, proposed policies shall be submitted to the President of the University for consideration and action. The President shall take action on proposals within thirty working days of receipt. Those approved by the President become official University Policy and will be implemented as soon as feasible. Those not approved by the President shall be returned to the Senate with explanation.

**Approved:** March 2, 2026

**Vote:** 13-0-1 (yay, nay, abstain)

**Present:** Baur, Chander, Charles, Elahi, Hackman, Ionescu, Jochim, Kataoka, Munoz-Munoz, Porter-Parees, Pruthi, Saleh, Siebert

**Absent:** None

**Financial impact:** None anticipated

**Workload impact:** The changes proposed here require that presidential vetoes and/or requests for changes be accompanied by an explanation within the given deadline. This will disambiguate expectations and formalize processes that are already being followed, albeit in an informal manner. For these reasons, no significant impact to workload is anticipated.