

Dear Colleagues,

I am seeking re-election as chair of the Professional Standards committee for AY 2023/24. I have served on the Academic Senate for more than five years, and during that time I have served on the Organization and Government Committee and the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee, and now, as Chair of Professional Standards. Prior to my service on the Academic Senate, I served on the Student Evaluation Review Board (SERB) for three years, and chaired it for two of those years.

In addition to my Senate and SERB experience, I served as the Biological Sciences Department Graduate Coordinator for five years, and have been the Chair of the Biological Sciences Department for two years. In addition, I have served on my Department's personnel committee and have chaired multiple search committees. My service as Department Chair, as well as on RTP committees, has allowed me to become well-versed in current RTP policy, while my experience on SERB gave me extensive experience in the interpretation and administration of student evaluations. Both of these are key policy areas governed by Professional Standards.

Finally, as Chair of Professional Standards this year I have led the committee in a very productive year. We presented six policy resolutions that were passed by the Senate, as well as two Sense of the Senate Resolutions. We continued work to strengthen our university RTP policies, and worked with the Senate to reaffirm our commitment to the preservation of academic freedom at SJSU. Next year, I hope to continue the important work we are doing with regard to protecting academic freedom and professional responsibility.

Respectfully,

Rachael French
Professor
Department of Biological Sciences