

WASC Standard 1 Community Discussion

November 4, 2025

Accreditation Review Committee

Why We Are Gathered Today

- **We have changed:** R2 status, moving from Regional to National Rankings, largest enrollment and strongest retention rates ever
- **Our accreditor's standards have changed:** WASC updated their standards and criteria
- **We want to remain in sync with these changes**



Here's What We're Doing Today

1. Framing Remarks by President Teniente-Matson
2. Accreditation Quick Start Guide
3. Discussion: Exploring Standard 1 Through SJSU's Mission and Values
4. Wrap Up and Resources



Framing Remarks

President Cynthia
Teniente-Matson



Accreditation Quick Start Guide

Two Guiding Questions for Accreditation

1. What does SJSU do well?
 - *How do we know?*
2. What are we doing to make SJSU better?
 - *How are we documenting our efforts?*



Accreditation Is a Tool for Institutional Excellence

External validation of
institutional quality



Continuous improvement through
evidence and reflection



Accountability to our
community



5 Reasons Why Accreditation Matters to Us

1. **Connects everyone at SJSU** as we demonstrate effectiveness and growth
2. **Informs our decision-making** for resource allocation, organization, and policy
3. **Aligns our strategy with clear standards** for student success, assessment, planning
4. **Builds public trust** and advances our institutional reputation
5. **Protects access and funding** required for many federal/state aid and grants



How We Demonstrate SJSU's Institutional Excellence to WASC

- WASC has four **Standards**, each with 8 to 14 **Criteria for Review (CFRs)**
- We submit an **Institutional Report**
 - Tells the story (50 - 75 pages) of how we not just meet, but exceed the Standards and CFRs
 - Addresses [Action Items in the July 2025 Special Visit letter](#)
- WASC conducts a review and authorizes a **Reaffirmation** of up to 10 years



Our Work Began in 2022

| Timeline | Benchmark |
|-------------------------|--|
| 2022- 2023 | Following a 6-year WASC reaffirmation, SJSU recalibrated strategic plan Transformation 2030 |
| Spring 2025 | WASC conducted a Special Visit and identified ongoing action items |
| Fall 2025 - Spring 2027 | Engage in our Self-Study : period of institution-wide reflection, data collection, and discussion with stakeholders |
| Fall 2026 | Begin drafting our Institutional Report |
| Spring 2027 | Invite campus stakeholders to share feedback on draft report |
| Summer- Fall 2027 | Finalize and submit Institutional Report to WASC |
| March/April 2028 | Facilitate Onsite Visit of WASC Review Team |
| July 2028 | Receive notification of WASC Reaffirmation |

Mission: Shift Our Thinking about Accreditation

Compliance Process



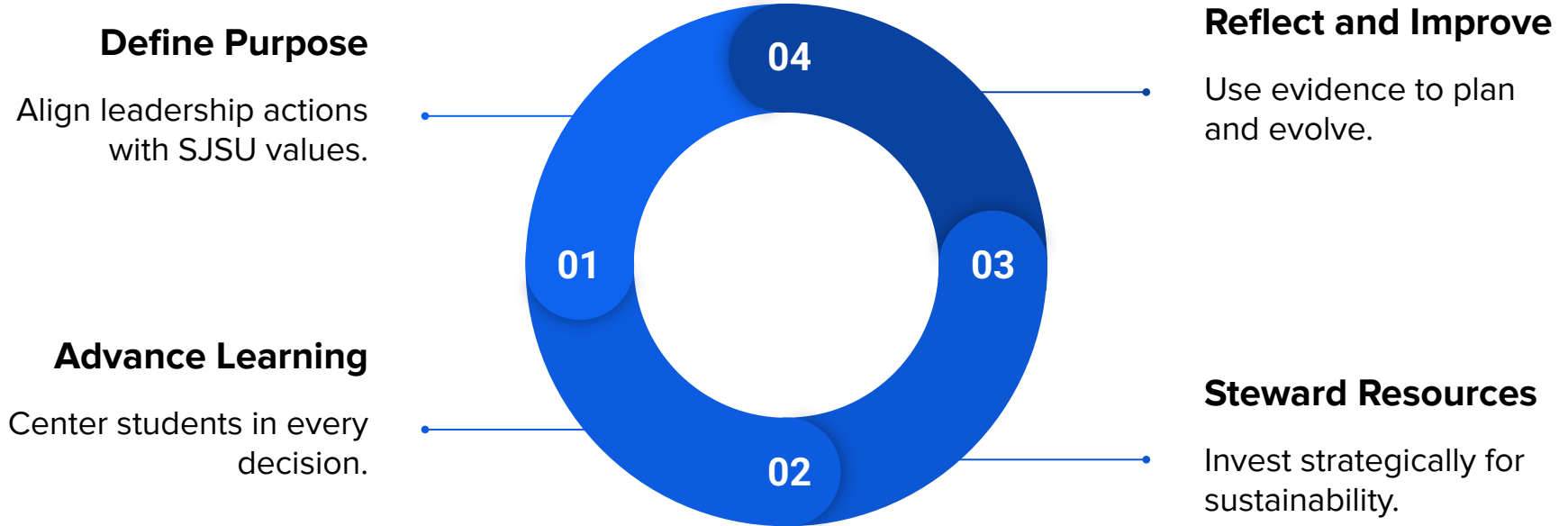
Tool for Storytelling



Discussion: Exploring Standard 1 Through SJSU's Mission and Values

Accreditation Standards At-a-Glance

Placing Standard 1 in Context



Standard 1: Defining Institutional Mission and Acting With Integrity

2023 Version

The institution defines its mission and establishes educational and student success objectives aligned with that mission. The institution has a clear sense of its essential values, culture, and distinctive elements, and its contributions to society and the public good. It promotes the success of all students and makes explicit its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The institution functions with integrity and transparency.

October 2025 Update

The institution defines its mission and establishes educational and student success objectives aligned with that mission. The institution pursues excellence and promotes success for all students. The institution clearly defines its essential values, culture, distinctive elements, and contributions to society and the public good. The institution functions with integrity and transparency.

Time for Discussion

At your table:

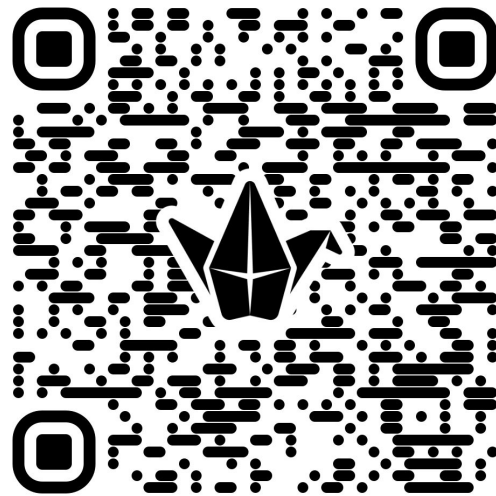
1. Find a partner
2. Introduce your name, role, and department
3. Pick up a bookmark



Question 1: Mission Alignment

With your partner:

- Read SJSU's MISSION statement
- Discuss: Which elements of our mission feel most aligned with WASC Standard 1?
- Note your answers on the Padlet

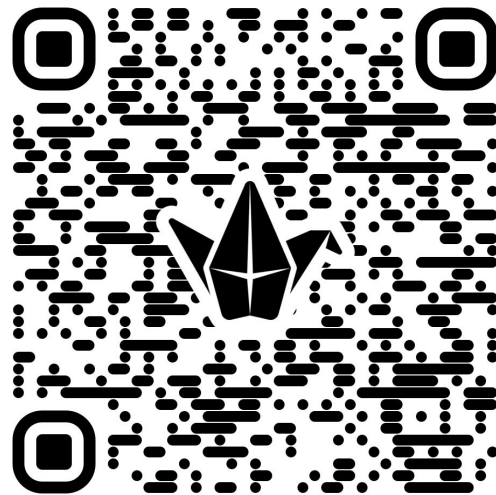


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Question 2: Mission Strengthening

With the same partner:

- Discuss: Are there places where SJSU diverges from the Standard 1 and can strengthen its alignment between the mission and this WASC Standard?
- Note your answers on the Padlet

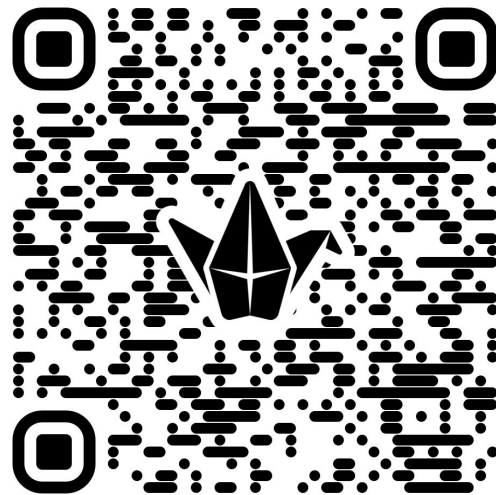


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Question 3: Values Alignment

Now with a NEW table partner:

- Read SJSU's VALUES statement
- Discuss: **Which elements of our values feel most aligned with WASC Standard 1?**
- Note your answers on the Padlet

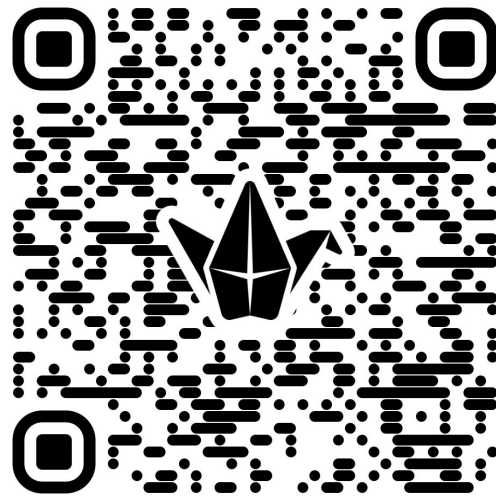


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Question 4: Values Strengthening

With your partner:

- Discuss: **Are there places where SJSU diverges from Standard 1 and can strengthen its alignment between the values and this WASC Standard?**
- Note your answers on the Padlet



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**Q5: Review the CFRs for Standard 1:
Are there any questions for you and/or
things we need to work on as an institution?**



Wrap Up and Resources

Reflection Survey



bit.ly/WASC1-survey

Here's What's Ahead

- The Accreditation Review Committee will review your feedback and share results.
- Everyone will save the date:
Standard 2 Accreditation
Community Discussion:
March 10, 2026, 2:00 - 3:30pm,
MLK 225.
- For more updates/resources, visit our [Accreditation site](#) or contact accreditation@sjsu.edu.

