

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

S13-8, Policy Recommendation, Residency Requirements for Masters Degrees

Legislative History: Replaces F91-3

At its meeting of May 6, 2013, the Academic Senate approved the following policy recommendation presented by Senator Bros-Seemann for the Curriculum and Research Committee.

Action by University President: **Approved and signed by
President Mohammad Qayoumi
on June 11, 2013**

**Policy Recommendation
Residency Requirements for Masters Degrees
Replaces F91-3**

Be it Resolved: All Master's Degrees awarded by San José State University shall contain a minimum of 70 percent of the units required for the degree to be completed in residence as a matriculated student at SJSU, and be it further

Resolved: That F91-3 be rescinded.

RATIONALE: Currently, given the 80% residency requirement, only 6 units of a 30 unit program can be transferred toward a Masters degree at SJSU. It is important to realize that units from courses taken through Open University are treated as transfer units. This policy will allow 30% of a graduate program to be completed at another institution or as Open University at our campus and will make campus policy match the Title V requirement. For example, assume that a student completes 9 Open University units enrolled for a certificate program at SJSU and would like to enroll in a Masters program at SJSU for which the courses in the certificate program would be appropriate; under the current 80% residency requirement, students would only be able to use 6 of those units in the Masters program but, under the proposed policy, all 9 units could be transferred.

Approved: 9 for, 0 against, 0 absentions

Present: Patricia Backer, Pamela Stacks, Peter Buzanski, Patricia Swanson, Annette Nellen, Jean-Luc Desalvo, Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Rebecca Feind, Shannon Bros-Seemann (Chair)

Absent: Dennis Jaehne, Elizabeth Weiss, Peter Lee

FINANCIAL IMPACT: This policy has minimal direct financial impact in that some students might take an additional course at another institution rather than at SJSU. However, few students transfer courses into their graduate degree from other institutions. This policy could have an indirect impact on departments as a result of more cancelled classes because of a higher proportion of open university courses.

WORKLOAD: There may be a reduction in workload because there would be no need for programs to seek approval from Graduate Studies and Research for permission to allow certain students to take an extra course via Open University beyond what F91-3 allows, but within CSU and Title V guidelines. There would no longer be a need for some programs to seek a waiver so that up to 30% of a degree can be completed with Open University (rather than only 20%). These waivers involve significant time by the requesting program and Graduate Studies & Research.