



CALIFORNIA
STATE
UNIVERSITY,
FRESNO

March 9, 2020

TO: Dr. Joseph Castro
President

Dr. Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval
Provost

FROM: Dr. Thomas Holyoke
Chair, Academic Senate

RE: COVID-19 and APMs 206, 232, 237, and 338

The Executive Committee of the Academic Senate recognizes the potential of the COVID-19 virus to force a partial or complete shut-down of the California State University, Fresno, campus and the utilization of classes taught purely through virtual methods, such as Zoom, or utilizing online classes. The Committee is also aware that such moves have the potential to put administrators, faculty, and staff in positions where their actions may be out of compliance with several APM policies.

Therefore, acting on behalf of the Academic Senate, and consistent with the University Constitution (APM 127) and past practices, the Executive Committee voted on March 9, 2020, to approve a more flexible approach to interpreting and administering procedures for the following policies for the duration of a COVID-19 emergency:

- APM 206 – Policies and Procedures on Technology-mediated Courses and Programs
- APM 232 – Policy on Student Absences
- APM 237 – Policy on the Faculty Responsibility for Accessible Instructional Materials
- APM 338 – Policy on Office and Consultation Hours

All other policies must be enforced as they would under normal circumstances.

This flexible interpretation is only approved until the Fresno County Department of Health ends any local emergency regarding COVID-19. After this, normal administration of these policies must resume.

Office of the
Academic Senate

Henry Madden Library 3206
5200 N. Barton Ave. M/S ML34
Fresno, CA 93740-8014
Department 559.278.2743
Fax 559.278.5745
www.Fresno State.edu/academics/senate

We urge the administration to use this flexibility sparingly, in consultation with the Executive Committee, and to cause as little disruption as possible to the university. Specifically, it should not take any action that places a significantly greater workload burden on faculty or students.

It is also important to emphasize that nothing in this memo should be taken as supportive of moving more classes and courses online than were online before the emergency. Certainly nothing here endorses moving more courses and programs online on a permanent basis. Moreover, any course put online temporarily for a declared emergency cannot be used again without going through the usual process for approving online or blended courses (APM 206).

cc: Members of the Academic Senate
Xuanning Fu, Interim Vice Provost
Marsha Baum, Associate Vice President
Rudy Sanchez, Associate Vice President
Jim Marshall, Dean on Graduate Studies
Bernadette Muscat, Interim Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Venita Baker