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**San José State University
One Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95192**

AS 1889, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Honoring Dr. Peter Buzanski (1929-2024)

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski escaped from the European holocaust in Austria as a small child before finding his way to America, where he became an American citizen on July 4, 1945; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski earned three degrees in History from the University of California, Berkeley, culminating with a Ph.D, before becoming a faculty member at San José State College in 1960; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski - along with his good friend Ted Norton, a coterie of other young faculty, and the popular President Robert Clark - mounted a successful campaign to upgrade the [Faculty Assembly and later Academic Council](#) into a vastly more influential Academic Senate which crafted the policies that still govern SJSU; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski was an authoritative consultant in the writing of the [History of the Senate](#) at SJSU authored by Ted Norton; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski, in his [biography, on ScholarWorks](#) notes, “Faculty governance, through the mechanism of the Academic Senate, has always been of great importance to me.”; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski served the San José State University Academic Senate more or less continuously, in various capacities, for 60 years, becoming (by far) our longest serving Senator; and

Whereas Dr. Peter Buzanski served as Chair of the Academic Senate in 1984-1985; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski continued his outstanding service after retirement as an honorary senator and subsequently as the Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association’s representative to the Academic Senate; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski throughout his tenure as a member of the Academic Senate served as an exemplar of effective engagement in shared governance; and

Whereas: In debate, Dr. Peter Buzanski as a truly gifted communicator, was eloquent in concisely identifying the heart of an issue; and

Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski took pride in correcting the grammar of Senate documents, other Senators, and a few Presidents, pointing out that since English was his own third language that he actually had to learn grammar - as irrational as English grammar might be; and

47 Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski served as a mentor for incoming senate chairs; and
48
49 Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski was always welcoming to all new Senators and engaged with all
50 members and visitors; and
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52 Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski always had a positive and can do attitude; and
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54 Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski was a role model with regard to respectful debate on all issues
55 ranging from simple to complex to intensely charged; and
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57 Whereas: Dr. Peter Buzanski was also a role model for collegiality and a master of decent, civil
58 debate. Now, therefore be it
59
60 Resolved: that the SJSU Academic Senate remember Peter Buzanski with great fondness,
61 esteem, respect, and gratitude; be it further
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63 Resolved: that every Senator should honor Peter Buzanski by emulating his collegiality,
64 dedication, humor, and empathy; be it further
65
66 Resolved: that the SJSU Academic Senate shall designate a chair in the chamber to remain
67 vacant in his honor, with Senator Peter Buzanski's placard in front, for one academic year.
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