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California State University, Fresno

MEMORANDUM

DATE:	March 26, 2025
TO:	Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval President, California State University, Fresno
	Dr. Xuanning Fu Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
FROM:	Dr. Raymond Hall Chap-le Hale Chair, Academic Senate
RE:	APM 232 – Policy on Student Absences

The Academic Senate recognizes that there are cases where students have emergent situations that result in unplanned absences but cannot be communicated or documented directly to faculty due to the sensitive nature of the situation.

Therefore, the Academic Senate adopted on March 25, 2025 (during the regular meeting and as reflected in the minutes) a temporary flexible interpretation of APM 232 - Policy on Student Absences to accommodate students who cannot, for privacy and/or safety reasons, provide documentation to faculty for an unplanned absence that should be excused according to APM 232.

These cases will instead be routed through the CARE team and either the Dean of Undergraduate Studies or the Dean of Graduate Studies. The Dean of Undergraduate Studies or the Dean of Graduate Studies will verify the unplanned excused absence and communicate with faculty and/or the College Deans. This communication should be accepted as documentation on behalf of the student for the sake of authorizing an unplanned absence and/or arranging make-up work according to APM 232.

This flexible interpretation will remain in place until the Senate enacts new policy or votes to retreat to the original language of APM 232.

cc: Members of the Academic Senate

Alam Hasson, Vice Provost
Phong Yang, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment
Management
Terree Stevenson, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of
Students
Bernadette Muscat, Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Elizabeth Lowham, Interim Dean of Graduate Studies
James Schmidtke, Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs
Mackenzie Burke, Office of the Academic Senate

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