

Members of the campus community:

In a letter dated Dec. 3, 2020 President Papazian rejected the recommendation of a Faculty Hearing Committee (FHC) that “Dr. Mok should be restored to her position as Area Coordinator of Keyboard Studies” (Nov. 12, 2020)

It is hard to understand why Professor Gwendolyn Mok singled out for punishment from among all the SJSU employees involved in handling the admission application of the person referred as Jane Doe in Faculty Hearing Committee documents?

As you will see below, many others, including Admissions employees, the Director of SMD (School of Music and Dance), and an SMD piano instructor made **serious mistakes** in handling the transfer admission application of the applicant known as Jane Doe.

Consider the following:

In consort with SMD Director Fred Cohen and adjunct instructor Frank Levy (SMD Lecturer and private piano teacher of Jane Doe), Jane Doe applied for admission as a transfer student in November 2019. Jane Doe was granted provisional admission to SJSU in December 2019.

- **Mistake #1:** In December 2019 **Office of Admission** employees granted provisional admission to Jane Doe, failing to recognize that her transcript was from an unaccredited two-year college.
- **Mistake #2:** In February 2020 **Office of Admission** employees told Jane Doe that her admission had been withdrawn because her transcript did not list equivalents of the four GE courses required of all transfer applicants (the so-called Golden Four), again failing to recognize that none of her units were transferable because they were from an unaccredited two-year college.
- **Mistake #3:** In March **SMD Director Fred Cohen** directed his student assistant to set up a March 14, 2020 audition for Jane Doe, even though her admission to SJSU had been withdrawn in February.
- **Mistake #4:** In early April 2020, **Office of Admissions Director Deanna Gonzalez** and her staff encouraged Jane Doe to submit an appeal of the withdrawal of her admission, instructing her to provide proof that she had taken equivalents of the Golden Four (A1, A2, A3, and B4 GE courses at SJSU) for review by the “Evaluation Team” of the Office of Admissions. This raised false hopes. *As a result of this appeal, Jane Doe was deemed “CSU ineligible” because she attended an unaccredited institution. This was communicated to others from Deanna Gonzalez on April 27 via Fred Cohen (five months after she had been granted provisional admission).*
- **Mistake #5:** **Director Fred Cohen and adjunct instructor Frank Levy** encouraged Jane Doe to apply for admission as a freshman. This advice was given even though Cohen was privy to an Admissions staff communication with Jane Doe informing her she would not be eligible to apply for Frosh admission because she holds an AA degree.

The 18-page Faculty Hearing Committee recommendation found that Dr. Mok had done nothing wrong. It also found that Admissions employees, Director Cohen, and Lecturer Levy had made multiple mistakes regarding the applicant Jane Doe.

The Faculty Hearing Committee found Dr. Gwendolyn Mok not at fault for the treatment of this applicant. **Why was Dr. Mok removed as Coordinator of Keyboard Studies, while other SJSU employees were not held accountable?**

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