



Endowment Report

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

SJSU | TOWER FOUNDATION

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Judy A. Nagai, Ph.D.
Vice President, University Advancement
CEO, Tower Foundation
San José State University

As I reflect on another successful year at San José State University, I want to express gratitude for the generous support from our Spartan community. Your philanthropic contributions have enabled us to maintain our commitment to academic excellence and improve the lives of our students and faculty. Thanks to your investment, we have expanded our scholarship programs and provided vital resources that help foster a vibrant learning environment.

It's no surprise that SJSU offers a transformative college experience. Recently, The Wall Street Journal/College Pulse named us the #4 best public university in the nation. Our advancement of 157 spots in the overall rankings from last year highlights our dedication to supporting the next generation of changemakers and leaders.

I'm pleased to share the Tower Foundation's Annual Endowment Report for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Your generosity led to a remarkable year of giving, with more than a 40% increase in total giving. The Tower Foundation Endowment also saw a strong investment return of 11.4%, ensuring support for future generations of Spartans.

I invite you to explore this report and learn about the impact of your investment. Together we drive innovation and empower our students to thrive and advance our community, Silicon Valley and the world.

Thank you for your commitment to San José State University!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy Nagai". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Judy Nagai

VALUABLE BY EVERY STANDARD, FOR EVERYONE

San José State is recognized nationally for how well it prepares graduates for financial success. SJSU graduates are well positioned for bright futures with low debt upon graduation, strong average future earnings and employment opportunities at some of the most innovative companies in Silicon Valley and around the world.

#1

Most Transformative University

Money Magazine

#3

Best Colleges for Veterans in the West

U.S. News & World Report

#3

Most Innovative School

U.S. News & World Report

#4

Public University in the Nation

Wall Street Journal/College Pulse

#5

Public Universities for Best Salaries

Wall Street Journal/College Pulse

#12

Top Performers in Social Mobility

U.S. News & World Report



THE POWER OF CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION SUPPORT

\$9.9 Million

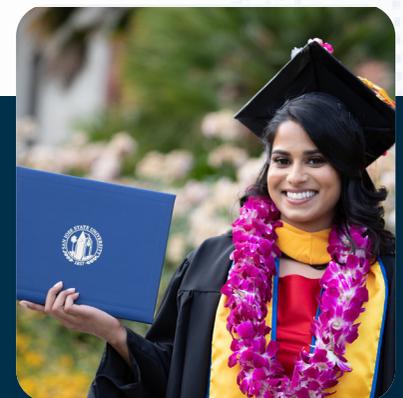
DONATED BY **502** CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

PROVIDES VITAL FUNDING FOR **318** SJSU PROGRAMS

“Our corporate and foundation partners are opening doors to a world of opportunity for SJSU students, providing them with the resources and experiences they need to find success as students, excel in their careers, fuel innovation and contribute to a more prosperous and equitable future.”

–**Vincent Del Casino, Jr., Ph.D.**

Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
San José State University



THE POWER OF SCHOLARSHIPS

\$2,250

**AVERAGE SCHOLARSHIP
AWARDED EACH SEMESTER**

4,836

**SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED**

21,500+

**STUDENTS QUALIFIED
FOR FINANCIAL AID**

Data from 2023-2024 Academic Year

“I received this scholarship at a time when I started to regret my decision to go abroad. This gift gave me new hope and allowed me to enjoy my experience in Korea to the fullest. I was able to find my passion for travel and narrow down a specialty in psychology that I wanted to study. **This scholarship made a significant impact on my last year at San José State and turned my experience into a hopeful one.**”

–Katera Perry

'24 Psychology
College of Social Sciences



“The financial assistance from this scholarship has lifted a significant burden from me and my family, allowing me to focus more on my studies and less on financial concerns. This support has not only boosted my confidence but has also encouraged me to actively engage in various aspects of university life. **One of my favorite aspects of SJSU is the diverse and inclusive community, which fosters an environment of learning and collaboration.** The faculty at SJSU have been incredibly inspiring, and their dedication to teaching has profoundly shaped my academic journey.”

–Eley Barba Preciados

'25 Applied Mathematics
College of Science



THE POWER OF SCHOLARSHIPS



“I’m a single father, and receiving this scholarship made a tremendous impact on my ability to focus more on my studies and caring for my daughter. **It will allow me to lessen the hours I must dedicate to an off campus job and redirect that focus to succeed as a student and a father.** In addition to my academic pursuits, I’m actively involved in the Veteran Resource Center (VRC) on campus.”

–Nam Tran

'25 Business Administration
Lucas College and Graduate School of Business



“**This scholarship means so much to me and my family as it helps with the cost of graduate school and removes some of the financial barriers we face.** I am passionate about social work as I have experienced many hardships and challenges, but I have persevered to achieve my goals. As a mother of four children, I returned to my local community college and was able to transfer to SJSU. I’m proud to share that I graduated from SJSU in 2023 and am on track to graduate with my Master’s of Social Work (MSW) from SJSU in the Spring of 2025. I look forward to pursuing my goal of becoming a licensed clinical social worker.”

–Jessica Iles

'23 Social Work, '25 MSW
College of Health and Human Sciences



“Receiving this scholarship helps reduce my financial stress as a commuter and full-time college student. I will be the first in my family to complete a college degree. A goal of mine is to use my education and experiences to empower and inspire those in my community to pursue careers in STEM. **A scholarship is more than just financial assistance; it’s an opportunity awarded to me to help me get one step closer to becoming an engineer, a first-generation graduate and an inspiration for my community.** I am honored to have your support in my journey.”

–Shirley Antonio Arriaga

'24 Industrial and Systems Engineering, '25 MS Engineering Technology
Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering

THE POWER OF SCHOLARSHIPS

“The scholarship has paved the way for me to earn my degree. I am both a first-generation undergraduate and graduate student. Throughout my two decades of serving the community through libraries, I have spearheaded innovative initiatives aimed at serving marginalized populations. **I aspire to further the mission of public libraries by promoting accessibility, nurturing a love for reading and championing equality to enhance the overall quality of life and education for all.**”

–**Vilma Sandoval-Sall**

'23 MLIS

College of Information, Data, and Society



“Having financial assistance will make my time in school more manageable and will give me the ability to focus more on my academics and not have to work multiple jobs. I applied for the Male Educators of Color Initiative Fellowship because a diverse teacher workforce matters, and it shows all students that none of them are limited to achieving any goal that they might have. **As a male educator of color in a STEM field, I want to make sure that students of color are able to see someone who is passionate about a subject, their education and their future.**”

–**Kevin Feaster**

'24 Philosophy, '25 MA Teaching

Connie L. Lurie College of Education



“I’ve been working hard for many years to achieve my dream, and receiving a scholarship helps me to stay determined! **Every class feels like a transformative experience not only in its technical and artistic aspects but also in my growth as a storyteller and a human being.** I’m proud to be a member of SJSU’s Animation/Illustration student organization, the Shrunkenheadman Club, and continuously form friendships and bonds that will shape my professional career in the film industry.”

–**Victoria Dray**

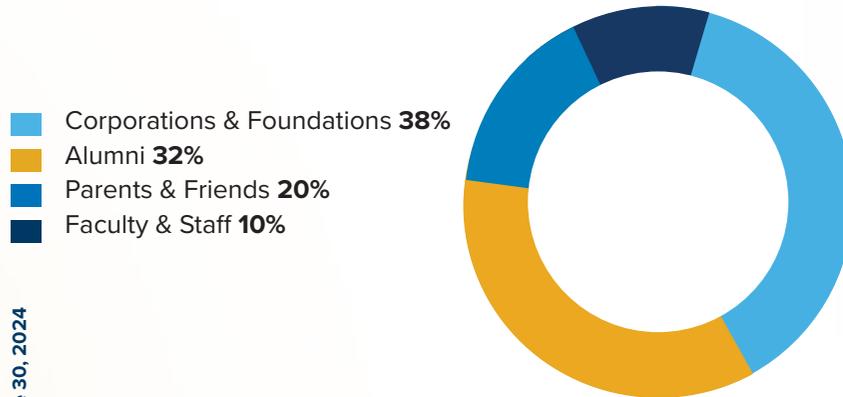
'25 Animation & Illustration

College of College of the Humanities and the Arts

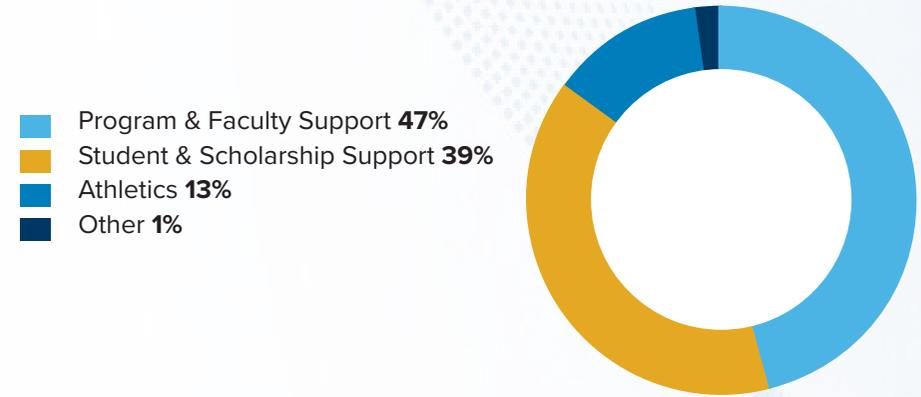


GIVING AT A GLANCE

WHO GAVE



GIFT PURPOSE



Data from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

4,782

TOTAL DONORS

\$25.1 M

TOTAL SUPPORT

SJSU TOWER FOUNDATION

The Tower Foundation of San José State University is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that was established to encourage philanthropic connections between alumni, donors and the community. The increasingly challenging funding environment requires San José State University to augment public funding with private donations. As part of the University Advancement Division, the Tower Foundation is San José State's auxiliary organization dedicated solely to philanthropy. The Tower Foundation is responsible for the investment, administration and banking of all philanthropic donations. The Tower Foundation is dedicated to growing San José State's endowment through donations, bequests and prudent investment management.

AN ENDURING LEGACY

The late Betty (Pat), '48 Education, and Arm Hanzad, '50 Social Science, '51 Teaching Credential, were among San José State University's most devoted supporters, says Pat Smith, '64 Education, who met the couple when she started teaching for San José's Alum Rock School District. After he retired, Arm mentored Spartan student-athletes while his wife co-founded the Women's Walk for Sparta, raising funds for women's sports and helped establish the Connie L. Lurie College of Education Alumni Board.

"Arm and Pat were lifelong advocates for the students at SJSU," Smith recalls. "For years, they volunteered their free time and money to ensure students knew how to navigate the college system of scholarships and how to stay on track to receive their degrees. Their friendships also provided guidance for students and eased the loneliness that some students face when away from home."

**"Arm and Pat were
lifelong advocates
for the students at
SJSU."**

—Pat Smith

The Hanzad legacy lives on in an endowment they established to create scholarships, which Smith describes as a "continuation of the care they always had for the students at SJSU."



Arm and Betty Hanzad provided invaluable support at SJSU. Photo courtesy of Pat Smith.



ALL TOGETHER NOW

Professor Emerita of Music Charlene Archibeque served as the Director of Choral Activities at SJSU's School of Music and Dance for 35 years. During her tenure at San José State, she led SJSU choirs on 16 concert tours to Australia, Mexico and Europe. Throughout her career, she conducted at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Berlin Philharmonic and Royal Albert Hall in London.

Archibeque is a steadfast supporter of the arts community at San José State, establishing only the second named endowment in the College of Humanities and the Arts. She believes music education empowers Spartans to discover new perspectives. Her generous gift will be used to create the Charlene P. Archibeque Endowed Professor of Choral Music. This fund will provide the SJSU Choral Director with professional development and research opportunities. Archibeque's support will help grow SJSU's world-class choral program, where students can hone their talent and perform and compete at national and international events.

She says, "I was very fortunate when I was teaching at SJSU to see people come to our concerts and donate money to help students go on trips or provide scholarships. If you can connect students to alumni and see how successful they are in various fields, our students feel that support. I encourage alumni to get to know more about the choral program, to attend concerts, and to support students in their education."

“Music education empowers Spartans to discover new perspectives.”

—Charlene Archibeque



—Professor Emerita of Music Charlene Archibeque



ENDOWMENT FUND PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

2023–24 Endowment Update

The Tower Foundation exists to support the great work of San José State University by growing future leaders to innovate and transform California and the world. Managed by volunteers and campus leaders, the Foundation promotes philanthropy and helps steward the resources donated to the university.

Endowment donations are invested in the Foundation's endowment which ensures that the university's most critical needs and highest priorities are funded in perpetuity. These endowments make a difference in the lives of many — from first-generation students and students who are working full-time while working toward a graduate degree, to the professors who are committed to teaching and research that will impact all of us. This work would not be possible without you and we are grateful for your support.

The Tower Foundation of San José State University's fiscal year is the 12-month accounting period that begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 the following year. The financial information in this report is reflective of Fiscal Year 2024, which began on July 1, 2023 and closed on June 30, 2024.

As of June 30, 2024, the Tower Foundation's investment portfolio had an aggregate market value of approximately \$248.7 million. The portfolio consists of more than 680 individual endowments whose market value was approximately \$203.6 million on June 30, 2024. For the twelve-month period, the portfolio produced an estimated return of 11.4%. The majority of asset classes generated strong returns as the economic data turned positive in 2024.

The Foundation takes a long-term approach to investing with a goal of achieving an annualized return greater than the rate of inflation plus spending, while preserving capital through a full market cycle. To that end, it implements a disciplined strategy that incorporates both active and passive management depending on the target market or manager strategy. This approach enables the foundation to maintain its long-term, strategic focus and avoids the turbulence of short-term market movement. The endowment is broadly diversified across multiple asset classes. Consequently, over any given period, its return may diverge significantly from popular indices such as the S&P 500, individual mutual funds or its peers.

Investment and spending policies are approved by the Board of Directors. The endowment distribution annually ranges from 0.0 to 5.0% of the endowment's average market value at the measurement date (12/31). The market value is calculated using a 36-month rolling average. The use of a rolling average smooths cash distribution allocations and minimizes dramatic swings in the cash distribution amounts. Spending policy distributions support students, faculty, facilities and programs. For 2024, endowments in a positive position at December 31, 2023 distributed 4.0% for FY24-25 spending. Endowments that were underwater as of December 31, 2023, distributed at 2.0% for FY24-25 spending.

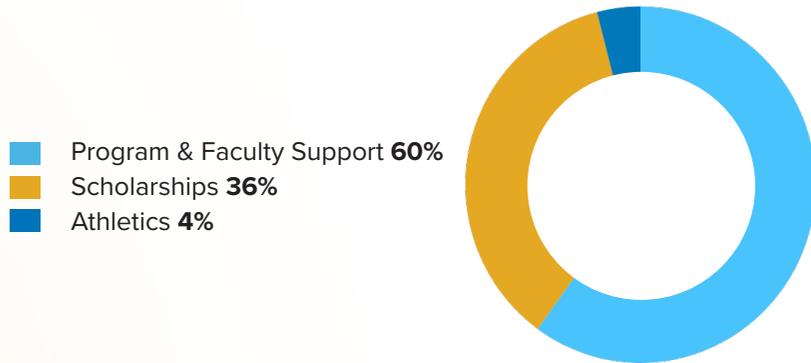
Sincerely,

Jeff Ricci
'86 Business Administration
Chair, Finance and Investment Committee
Tower Foundation Board of Directors

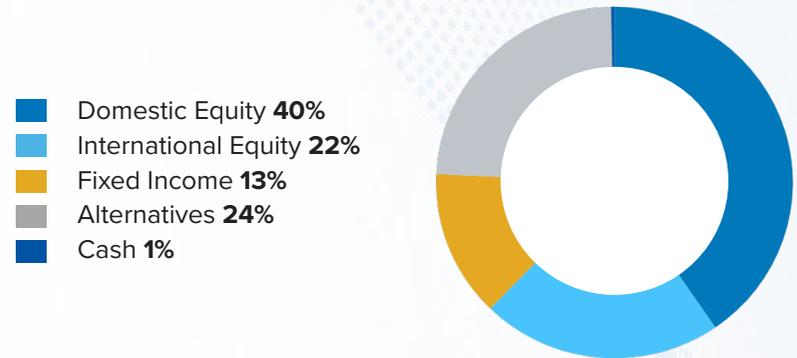
Phillip R. Boyce
'66 Business Administration
Board Chairman
Tower Foundation Board of Directors

ENDOWMENT FUND PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

ENDOWMENT PURPOSE

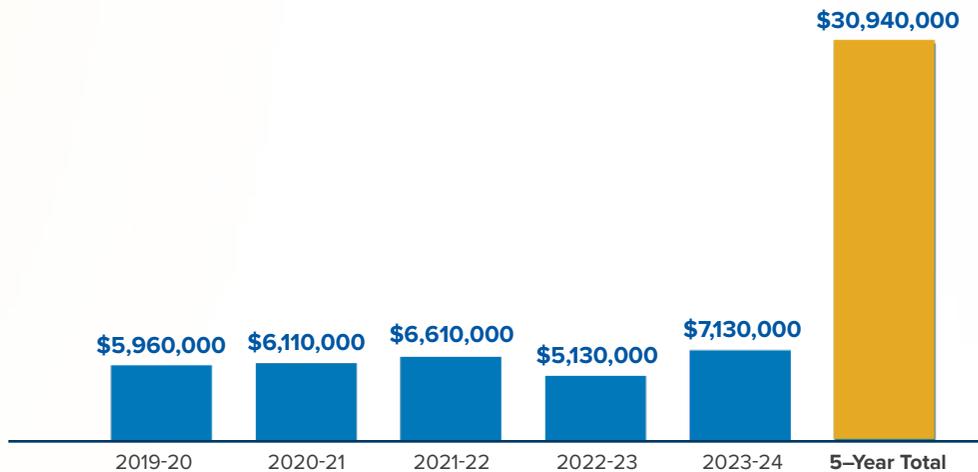


ENDOWMENT ASSET ALLOCATION



ENDOWMENT IMPACT

Annual Amount Distributed to SJSU to Support Students, Faculty, and Programs



ANNUAL RATE OF RETURN

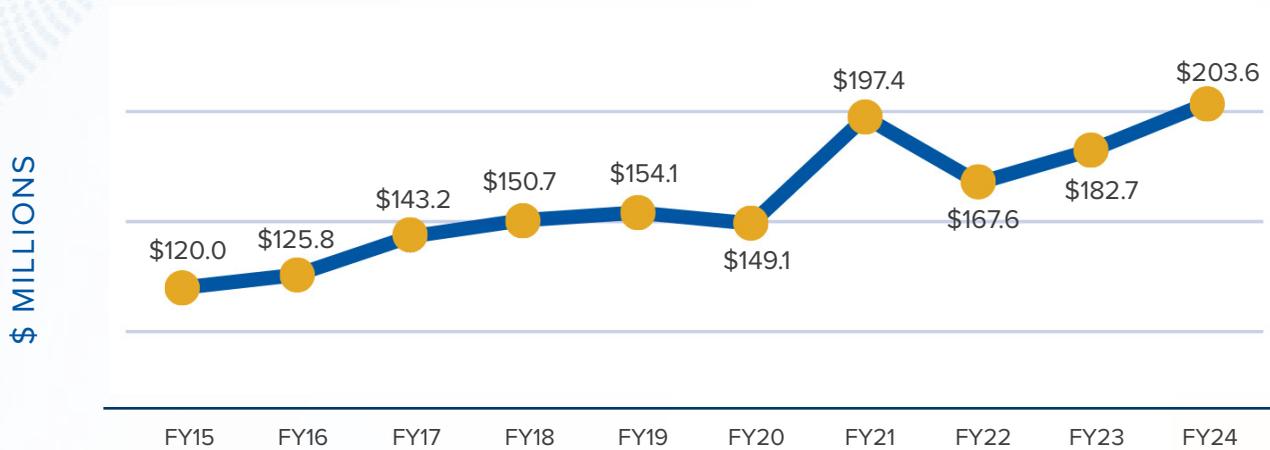
The Percentage Change in the Value of an Investment

Term	Total Investment Return
1 Year	11.4%
3 Years	3.4%
5 Years	7.9%
10 Years	6.1%

Data from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

ENDOWMENT FUND PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

Tower Foundation Endowment Market Value History 2015–2024



Data from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

\$203.6 Million

Endowment Value in Fiscal Year 24

TOTAL ENDOWMENTS

684

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is an endowment and why is it important to San José State University?

An endowment is a type of fund where the entire gift is invested, and the earnings distributions generated are used to support San José State in perpetuity. The distributions support each fund's individual purpose, such as student scholarships or program and faculty support. These collective gifts over time, combined with strong investment performance, ensure the long-term stability and growth of San José State University. Creating an endowment demonstrates your commitment to making a lasting impact on the Spartan community for generations to come.

What is the minimum amount to establish an endowment at San José State University?

The minimum amount to establish an endowment is \$50,000. An endowed fund can be created through an outright gift of cash; appreciated assets such as securities or real estate; a provision in one's estate; a charitable trust or other life income plan; retirement plan assets; or an insurance policy. Endowment gifts can be pledged and paid over a period of up to five years. Additional gifts can be made at any point in time.



Who will oversee my endowment, and how are endowment investments managed at SJSU?

The Tower Foundation of San José State is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) auxiliary organization responsible for the investment, administration and banking of all philanthropic donations. The endowment investment portfolio is invested according to the Investment Policy set by the Tower Foundation Board of Directors. As part of the Foundation Board, the Finance and Investment Committee reviews the quarterly investment portfolio prepared by the investment firm Beacon Pointe Advisors.

How is the endowment distribution determined?

The spending policy is set annually by the Tower Foundation Board of Directors. The yearly distribution is based on a trailing three-year average market value. The use of a rolling average smooths market performance and minimizes dramatic swings in cash distribution amounts. A distribution is typically made regardless of challenging short-term investment performance so that the university receives consistent support. The distribution amount varies with a 10-year historic average of 4%.

Are any fees charged?

All endowments are subject to a management fee. The current management fee is annualized at 2%. The fee is assessed monthly based on the current market value of the endowment. The Tower Foundation is entirely self-supporting and receives no funding from San José State University. The management fee helps offset costs related to the charges incurred as a result of the investments within the endowment pool and supports the administrative, financial and operational costs of the Tower Foundation and its oversight of the endowment.

Questions:

Tower Foundation

408-924-1508

towerfoundation@sjsu.edu

LEADERSHIP



Tower Foundation Leadership and Executive Committee

Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson
San José State University President

Judy A. Nagai, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Robin Reynolds
Chief Operating Officer & Board Secretary

Phillip R. Boyce '66, '17 Honorary Degree
Board Chair

Connie Moore '77
Board Vice Chair & Development Chair

William Barton '67
Audit Chair

Wanda Hendrix '77, '94
Treasurer

Eric Kelly '80
Nominating and Governance Chair

Jeff Ricci '86
Finance and Investment Chair

Tower Foundation Board of Directors

John W. Baird, Ph.D.
Stephen Caplan '65
Vincent J. Del Casino, Jr., Ph.D.
Folarin Erogbogbo, Ph.D.
Charlie Faas
Janikke Klem '97
Mark Lazzarini '84
Linda Morasch '83
Sarab Multani '25
Edward A. Oates '68
Gary D. Radine '69
Karthika Sasikumar, Ph.D.
Kevin Swanson '87
Sandy Swanson
Marko Trapani, Jr. '87
Colleen B. Wilcox, Ph.D.

Emeriti Directors

Dana Ditmore
Les Francis '65, '66
Peter Ueberroth '59, '86 Honorary Degree



Spartan Village on the Paseo, the university's first major foray into large-scale, off-campus student housing, opened in August 2024. Nearly 700 students moved into the renovated, former luxury hotel tower – in what remains the region's largest post-pandemic conversion of a downtown commercial property into housing. This sizable investment in student housing is a bold expansion of the university's footprint and impact in downtown San José. The university's housing portfolio includes over 5,000 student residents across eight housing complexes. To meet our Transformation 2030 Strategic Plan goal of 20% of students housed on or near the campus, SJSU plans to create more large housing developments with both public and private-sector support and partnerships.

SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY

Tower Foundation
One Washington Square
Clark Hall, Suite 300
San José, CA 95192