

October 4, 2023

Dear AHEPP Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Wolcott's application for the board of directors for the 2024-26 term. Dr. Wolcott has worked in higher education for over 25 years at several types of institutions, with 15 years of experience in parent and family programs. In addition, he has gained valuable experience in a variety of areas in student affairs including orientation, student activities, career services, cultural centers, academic support, and more. Dr. Wolcott has also admirably served in other professional associations including NODA and JASPA.

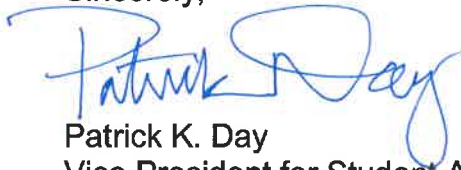
At San Jose State, Dr. Wolcott has led our parent and family programs since its inception six years ago, serving the parents and families of all 33,000+ students. He helped create the SJSU Family Advisory Board, which started as an advisory board of 10 people. The board has now expanded to 24 members and includes representatives from Central Coast, Southern California, and an international representative. The board has three structured board meetings per year where they discuss matters of importance to student success. Several committees were formed including the Spartan Family Volunteers, Parent and Family Orientation volunteers, and Survey Committee. The FAB now conducts an annual survey with parents/family members to collect feedback on how various parts of campus support students. Topics range from advising to housing to facilities, as well as food services, records, FERPA, and more. The surveys are shared annually with the VPSA as well as through liaison meetings with campus departments.

Parent and Family Orientation is a signature program on our campus. Attendance continues to climb and we are nearly back to our pre-pandemic participation numbers (1500 over the summer). This program is well regarded and parents and families continually give feedback that the program helped affirm their decision to send their student to SJSU. Parent and Family Weekend continues to be the signature event for parents and families. This program began with roughly 200 participants and has grown each year into what is now a nearly 2000 person event this fall.

Dr. Wolcott led the charge to contract with CampusESP to provide our parent and family communication strategy. This has helped the university provide timely and critical communications to parents and families and keep them connected. Dr. Wolcott has also encouraged our teams to provide parent and family materials in other languages to support our diverse population.

Dr. Wolcott is an excellent choice for the AHEPP Board of Directors and I am confident he would help the association move forward. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick K. Day". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patrick" and last name "Day" clearly legible.

Patrick K. Day  
Vice President for Student Affairs  
San Jose State University