During my sabbatical in Spring 2013 I completed a significant number of projects that will benefit my students and colleagues as well as enhancing the reputation of SSU. Listed below are a few of major projects.

During my sabbatical I published “SPSS Manual to Accompany Discovering Statistics, Brief Version by Daniel Larose” Published by W.H. Freeman and Company, 2013. The publication of this Technology Activity Manual will make more professionals aware of Sonoma State University and contribute to a more pronounced reputation. Thus, the University benefits by attracting the best students to our school and getting our students into the best graduate schools. The university will also benefit by attracting highly qualified candidates for our future searches.

I completed two technology manuals, one for use with the TI-84Plus Graphing Calculator and one for use with the statistical software program IBM SPSS®. Each Technology Activity Manual contains step-by-step instructions on how to use the technology and numerous activities that the students complete in order to understand a statistical technique or concept at a deeper level while learning the technology. These manuals are written in such a way that they can be used in any course requiring technology. I will be using the manuals in several of my courses. The TI-84 Plus Graphing Calculator Manual will be used in Math 165: Elementary Applied Statistics. The IBM SPSS® Technology Activity Manual can be used in several statistics courses including Math 265: Intermediate Statistics with SPSS, Math 367: Statistical Consulting and Communication and Math 467: Statistical Consulting and Project Management.

Using these manuals in my courses will assist the students at the time they are in the course. These manuals will also prepare students to use technology in graduate school and in their careers. Thus, completing these manuals during my sabbatical will have both short term and long term benefits for the students. Thus, my sabbatical project will strengthen the statistics program at SSU.

Teaching is a passion for me. I have dedicated my life to my profession and love teaching my classes, serving my department and SSU. I spend long hours designing my courses, developing thought-provoking activities and exams, advising students, writing letters of
recommendation, grading and providing feedback to my students. Over the last several years the department had several professors leave and take FERP, we have lost student assistants and have limited office staff, but I have maintained my high standards of teaching and student interaction. I continue to be enthusiastic about my teaching, dedicated to my students and to serving SSU and refuse to compromise my ideals due to the budget crisis. I appreciate the opportunity to use my sabbatical to improve my courses, my students’ education, and the reputation of SSU.