

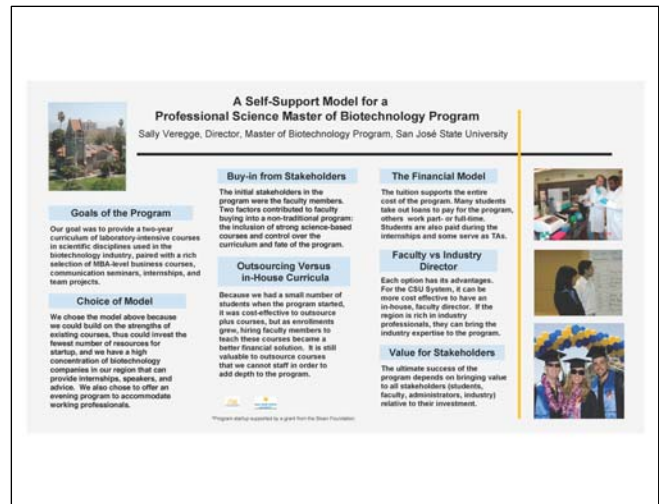
Professional Science Master's Program, Department of Biological Sciences, San Jose State University

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Professional Science Master's programs often require resources above and beyond what a public university (e.g., a California State University) can support. Because of this resource issue, the Professional Science Master of Biotechnology Program at San Jose State University was established using a self-support model. The Program has run successfully under this model since 2003. This poster will outline the challenges of maintaining and enhancing such a program with the perspective of balancing quality with financial viability.

Some of the key topics addressed in the poster are: goals of the program, buy-in from stakeholders, outsourcing versus in house curricula, choice of program model, value for the students, unintended consequences, staying nimble, and future directions towards quality and sustainability.

The first key event in establishing our program was obtaining buy-in from the faculty to establish a program that was "foreign" to the academic model in both structure and content. Although buy-in seems removed from financial viability, it has been an essential element for the sustainability



of our program. Buy-in from other stakeholders has also been a key factor in growing and sustaining the program. Our model strives to provide value to all participants and stakeholders in the program, including the students, faculty, departments, colleges, university, and internship hosts.