



ACADEMIC SENATE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1.0 The organization governed by the constitution shall be known as the Academic Senate.

Membership

Section 2.0 All at-large faculty are members of the Academic Senate and as such participate through elected representatives.

Section 2.1 Faculty are defined as academic employees whose primary responsibility requires regular and direct contact with students for the purpose of educating or providing direct educational support to students or other faculty or staff. Faculty includes, but is not limited to, classroom instructors, coaches, coordinators, counselors, health service professionals and librarians.

Purpose

Section 3.0 The Academic Senate, as the official representative body of the faculty, shall make recommendations to the College President of Folsom Lake College and to the Los Rios Community College Board of Trustees with respect to academic and professional matters including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines;
- B. Degree and certificate requirements;
- C. Grading policies;
- D. Educational program development;
- E. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success;
- F. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles;
- G. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including institutional self evaluation and annual reports;
- H. Policies for faculty professional development activities and instructional

improvement days;

I. Processes for program review;

J. Processes for institutional planning and budget development;

K. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the College President and the Folsom Lake College Academic Senate (Title 5 Regulations, Subchapter 2, Section 53200, 53203).

For each of the above academic and professional areas, the Academic Senate will be the primary recommending body. This manner of consulting is defined in the Collegial Consultation Agreement (CCA) agreed upon by the Academic Senate and the College President. The CCA identifies which of the academic and professional matters the College President will “rely primarily” and which require that the Academic Senate and the College President “reach mutual agreement.”

Section 3.1 Additional Senate responsibilities include but are not limited to:

A. Presenting a formal, representative voice on any matter affecting the conduct and welfare of the college.

B. Recommending appointment of faculty representatives to committees requiring faculty representation; appointing faculty to serve on college or district committees, task forces, or other groups dealing with academic and professional matters (Title 5, section 53202,f).

C. Assuming such appropriate responsibilities and functions as may be requested by college faculty including any senator as defined in Article III of this document.

D. Implementing responsibilities, powers, and duties not denied to faculty by union contract or law.

E. Promoting communication and mutual understanding among and within all segments of the Folsom Lake College community and with the other colleges of the Los Rios Community College District.

F. Promoting the best interests of higher education by sharing in the governance of Folsom Lake College.

G. Directing the development of college hiring criteria and job descriptions as they affect faculty positions (Title 5, section 87360).

H. Participating in the implementation of district policies and procedures regarding equivalencies to minimum qualifications (Title 5, section 87359), reassignment of administrators (Title 5, section 87458), and exceptions to the minimum degree requirements for tenure (Title 5, section 87615), and providing the administration with the advice and judgment of the faculty in regards to these matters.

Section 3.2 The Senate may have standing committees and may define and limit the powers and the duties of these committees. The Senate shall form special committees as it deems necessary to conduct its business.

Limitations

Section 4.0 No person or group should be interpreted as speaking for the Senate unless so designated by the Senate.

ARTICLE II

Electorate

Section 1.0 The electorate for Academic Senate Officers shall be limited to full-time tenured, tenure-track, and long term temporary faculty.

Section 2.0 The electorate for the full-time Academic Senators shall be limited to full-time tenured, tenure-track, and long term temporary faculty in the respective area.

Section 3.0 The electorate for the adjunct Academic Senators shall be limited to adjunct faculty employed the semester of the election.

Section 4.0 In special circumstances, the Academic Senate determines who is qualified as an elector.

ARTICLE III

Representation

Section 1.0 Representation of full-time faculty

A. Full-time faculty representation is based on academic area. Senators representing full-time faculty will be elected by the full-time faculty within their academic area, with an area defined as a grouping that is recognized on the college organizational chart as negotiated through the collegial consultation process.

B. In addition, faculty chairs of participatory governance committees shall serve as senators upon confirmation by the Senate.

C. For purposes of representation, Senate officers are not considered area representatives.

D. There will be a senator acting as a liaison for each of the educational centers.

Section 2.0 Representation of Adjunct faculty

A. The adjunct faculty senators will be nominated at-large by the adjunct electorate.

B. Adjunct nominees shall come from the pool of adjuncts as defined in the LRCFT contract.

Section 3.0 Apportionment

A. By the end of the third week of the Spring semester, the Senate, acting through procedures set forth in the bylaws, will reapportion itself, based on the best available faculty strength figures which include the approved new faculty hires for the following fall semester.

Section 4.0 Term of service for all senators

A. The term for a senate position will be two years.

B. The terms shall be arranged so that approximately one half of the elected membership is chosen annually so that terms are staggered to ensure that the Academic Senate has experienced Senators.

Section 5.0 Officers

A. The officers of the Senate shall include a Past President, a President, an Executive Secretary, and a Vice-President.

B. The officers shall perform the functions set forth in the bylaws.

C. Senate Officers must meet certain qualifications.

1. Candidates for the office of President must be tenured.
2. Candidates for the office of Vice-President must be tenured or completing the third full-time tenure-track year.
3. Candidates for the office of Executive Secretary must be full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty.

Section 6.0 Term of service for officers

A. The term of office for the President is two years. The President may be reelected to one consecutive term, two terms total, per each duration of service.

B. The term of office for the Past-President shall be two years. The Past-President will continue in office when the President is reelected.

C. The term of office the Executive Secretary shall be two years. The Executive Secretary may be elected to subsequent terms.

D. The term of office for the Vice-President shall be two years. The Vice President may be elected to subsequent terms.

Section 7.0 In the event of a vacant area senatorial seat, the President, after discussion with the area faculty and consultation with area department chairs, will appoint a faculty member from the respective academic area to the vacant position until the next election

cycle. Should the vacancy be the result of a recall of an elected senator, the President shall call for an election within ten instructional days under the provision of Article I of the Bylaws.

Section 8.0 In the event of resignation of the Executive Secretary, the President shall fill the position by calling for an election within ten instructional days under the provision of Article I of the Bylaws.

Section 9.0 In the event of the resignation of a Vice-President, the President shall fill the position by calling for an election within ten instructional days, following the provisions in Article I of the Bylaws.

Section 10.0 In the event of the resignation of the President during the President's first year, the Past President shall preside at the meetings and assume the responsibilities of the office for the remainder of that first year. After the end of the first year, the Vice President will assume the role of President for one year. In the event that a Past President is not available, then the Vice President will finish the remainder of the two year term.

Section 11.0 In the event of the resignation of the Past-President, the Senate shall consider appointing another past-president to the office. Should no past-president accept appointment, the position will remain vacant until the next election.

Section 12.0 Executive Council

The Executive Council consists of all elected officers plus the Past-President. The Executive Council assists the President in preparing the agenda for Academic Senate meetings and general faculty meetings not called by the administration. The Executive Council also serves as the steering committee for the Senate and the Faculty.

ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS AND RECALL

Section 1.0 The Constitution may be amended by recommendation of the Academic Senate Constitution Committee with approval by the Senate and ratification by the faculty.

A. The Senate may direct the Constitution Committee to make recommendations on revision or amendment to the Constitution.

B. If approved by over fifty percent of the Senate, the recommendations will go to the faculty for ratification.

C. If approved by over fifty percent of the full-time faculty, the amendment shall become effective on a date prescribed by the amendment.

Section 2.0 Officer Recall Procedures

A. A petition to recall an officer must be signed by twenty percent of the full-time

faculty and be presented to the Senate President or the Executive Secretary.

B. Upon receipt of the petition, the Senate President shall immediately inform the faculty and call for a vote of the full-time faculty within ten instructional days.

C. If over fifty percent of the full-time faculty supports the recall, the office shall be declared vacant and within ten instructional days, the Senate President or Executive Secretary shall proceed according to Article I section 4 of the Bylaws.

Section 3.0 Senator Recall Procedures

A. A petition to recall a senator elected by full-time area faculty must be signed by fifty one percent of the full-time faculty in the respective area and be presented to the Senate President or the Executive Secretary.

B. Upon receipt of the petition, the office shall be declared vacant and within ten instructional days, the Senate President or the Executive Secretary shall proceed according to Article I of the Bylaws to elect a senator to complete the remainder of the term.

C. A petition to recall a senator elected by the adjunct faculty must be signed by five percent of the adjunct faculty and be presented to the Senate President.

D. Upon receipt of the petition, the office shall be declared vacant, and within ten instructional days, the Senate President or the Executive Secretary shall proceed according to Article I of the Bylaws to elect a senator to complete the remainder of the term.

