

**Bakersfield College Academic Senate
Resolution on Faculty Primacy in 10+1 Matters**

Whereas California Education Code Sections 70901 and 70902 state that the Board of Governors shall establish "minimum standards" and local governing boards shall "establish procedures not inconsistent" with those standards to ensure the right of academic senates to assume primary responsibility for making recommendations in the areas of curriculum and academic standards; and

Whereas Title 5 §53200 identifies 10+1 "academic and professional matters" on which the Board of Trustees must "consult collegially" with the academic senate and that these matters include:

- degree and certificate requirements,
- curriculum,
- grading policies,
- educational program development,
- standards or policies regarding student preparation and success,
- district and college governance structures as related to faculty roles,
- faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes,
- policies for faculty professional development activities,
- processes for program review,
- processes for institutional planning and budget development,
- and other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate; and

Whereas the KCCD Board of Trustees and the academic senates of the district have agreed to use the "consult collegially" method of "relying primarily upon the advice and judgment of the academic senate" in the case of these aforementioned matters; and

Whereas the definition of "rely primarily" in Title 5 §53200 contains the following three components:

- recommendations of the senate will normally be accepted
- only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons will the recommendations not be accepted
- if not accepted, the board/designee shall communicate its reasons in writing, if requested; and

Whereas Academic Senate recommendations filtered through and/or altered by college or district administration, such as curriculum documents approved by a college curriculum committee but altered or withheld by college or district administration, are no longer senate recommendations, but instead are administrative recommendations; and

Whereas the KCCD Board of Trustees regularly requests a "recommendation for approval" from district administrators immediately preceding their vote on 10+1 academic and professional items, thereby demonstrating a desire to rely primarily upon this administrative recommendation rather than the Senate's recommendation;

Whereas the Academic Senates of Bakersfield, Cerro Coso Community, and Porterville College approved and presented a "Curriculum Resolution" at the November, 2009 KCCD Board of Trustees meeting with a resolve that "calls upon the KCCD Board of Trustees to act in accordance with legal mandates in Title 5 and work to ensure that KCCD administration does the same," and that, to date, no obvious evidence exists that attitudes or behavior of the KCCD Board of Trustees or KCCD administration have changed relative to "rely primarily upon" items; therefore

Be It Resolved, that the Bakersfield College Academic Senate calls upon the KCCD Board of Trustees to publicly acknowledge in the form of a written statement faculty primacy in the 10+1 "academic and professional matters" as set forth in Title 5 §53200 and to adopt meeting procedures that reflect this primacy; and further

Be It Resolved, that the Bakersfield College Academic Senate, working collegially with KCCD administration, develop and present a work-study session on the topic of "relying primarily upon" for presentation to the KCCD Board of Trustees at a future scheduled Board meeting.