

Bakersfield College Academic Senate

What overarching work has been done the last couple of years related to this topic?

Pursuant to Title 5 of the Administrative Code of California, Section 53200, the Academic Senate is the faculty organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters as it relates, in particular to the following areas:

- 1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and places courses within disciplines;
- 2. Degree and certificate requirements
- 3. Grading policies;
- 4. Educational program development;
- 5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success;
- 6. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles;
- 7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports;
- 8. Policies for faculty professional development activities;
- 9. Processes for program review;
- 10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development;
- + Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon.

As noted above, the Academic Senate shall assume primary responsibility in the areas of curriculum and academic standards.

At Bakersfield College the Academic Senate membership consist of all faculty not designated as management, confidential employees, or supervisors and is employed by the college on the Basic Faculty Salary Schedule. Part-time, non-contract faculty, shall be associate members.

The purpose of the Senate, elected officers and elected Senators, is to provide the means to represent the "Academic Senate" in the formation and implementation of policies and procedures of academic and professional matters referred to as 10+1 matters. In implementing policies and procedures of 10+1 matters, the Senate represents its members to the President of the College, the district Chancellor, and to the Board of Trustees.

To assist the Senate in the daily college responsibilities of academic and professional matters, campus and district-wide committees are formed, most under the consent of the Senate. The composition and duties of college-wide committees are found at the Senate office. The Senate reviews and updates this listing of college-wide committees, their charge and their membership, on an annual basis. Currently, the list of these committees under the purview of the Senate are as follows:

- Accreditation & Institutional Quality Committee (AIQ)
- Assessment Committee
- Bookstore
- Budget Committee
- Commencement Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Enrollment Management Committee

- Equal Opportunity & Diversity Advisory Committee (EODAC)
- Equivalency Committee
- Facilities & Sustainability Committee
- Information Systems and Instructional Technology Committee (ISIT)
- Professional Development Committee (PDC)
- Program Review Committee (PRC)
- Safety Committee
- Scholarship Committee
- Student Conduct and Complaint Hearing Committee

The Senate President shall nominate from among Academic Senate members all faculty to Senate committees, college-wide committees, and other such college and/or district committees (i.e. hiring committees) which shall be formed. Also, Ad Hoc Committees of a temporary nature may be approved by the Senate at any time. The Senate President may designate the leader of a faculty caucus for any college-wide committee.

Annually the Senate reviews its own charge and establishes its own goals. The Senate goals for academic year 2020-21 are as follows:

- Focus on improving Student Success.
- Foster a sense of community and improve collegial consultation and communication in college and district communities.
- Embed Accreditation, Assessment, Curriculum, Equity, Program Review and processes into the culture of the college.
- Develop, focus and review processes regarding grants and new initiatives such as Guided Pathways and Early College.

Beyond the annual review of committee charges and numerous faculty appointments, examples of overarching work conducted within the past few years on behalf of the Academic Senate by the Senate and its Executive Board (faculty co-chairs of committees) leadership include:

- Resolution in support of a BC Southwest Center
- Resolution with regard to Institutional Planning and Budgeting
- Resolution in support of Campus-wide Equity Plan
- Development of new Education Department
- Development of new Curriculum Handbook
- Support of campus initiatives including guided pathways, inmate scholar and dual enrollment
- Development of, and participation in, new District-wide Budget committee working on new budget allocation model
- Participation in the District Consultation Council efforts to completely overhaul Board Policy Manual
- Participation in development, implementation, and current review of district office annual unit reviews
- Participation in district-wide review of student accessibility and accommodations

- Participation in evaluation of student registration processes

What goals/initiatives do you envision, to move the work forward on this topic [Academic Senate Leadership], for the next 3 years?

Every fall semester, the Academic Senate reviews its charge and establishes its goals. The goals for the 2020-21 academic year are:

- Focus on improving Student Success.
- Foster a sense of community and improve collegial consultation and communication in college and district communities.
- Embed Accreditation, Assessment, Curriculum, Equity, Program Review and processes into the culture of the college.
- Develop, focus and review processes regarding grants and new initiatives such as Guided Pathways and Early College.

Many of these goals will probably be carried over to the following years. Specific initiatives we foresee in the next few years include:

- The development of a comprehensive equity plan for the college led by a collegewide team with representation from all areas of the college. The team will be created and overseen by EODAC.
- If Bakersfield College is accepted into the CCCCCO collaborative on Competency-Based Education, the Senate will create an implementation task force that will bring recommendations to the Academic Senate on all matters pertaining to the implementation of competency-based education that are under the Senate's 10+1 responsibilities.
- Active participation in the development of a new Budget Allocation Model for KCCD that is based on the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF).
- The mid-term accreditation report for ACCJC that must be submitted in 2022.