

A Reaffirmation of The Academic Senate's Commitment to Shared Governance

Whereas, California's Community Colleges are committed to shared governance in their decisions and actions, both in law and by agreement. The ASCCC Local Senates Handbook 2022 avers that:

"The basis of the governance system in the California Community Colleges emanates from a fundamental belief in the importance of participatory decision-making. Education Code §70902(b)(7) directs local Boards of Trustees to "Establish procedures that are consistent with minimum standards established by the board of governors to ensure faculty, staff, and students the opportunity to express their opinions at the campus level, to ensure that these opinions are given every reasonable consideration, to ensure the right to participate effectively in district and college governance..."

Whereas, Shared governance is an ACCJC accreditation standard. Standard IV: Leadership and Governance states:

"The institution recognizes and uses the contributions of leadership throughout the organization for promoting student success, sustaining academic quality, integrity, fiscal stability, and continuous improvement of the institution... Through established governance structures, processes, and practices, the governing board, administrators, faculty, staff, and students work together for the good of the institution... (S)ystematic participative processes are used to assure effective planning and implementation."

Whereas, the KCCD Board Policy's Institutional Code of Ethics directs all members of the college community to respect the equal dignity of persons and to conduct ourselves with civility in all circumstances. BP 3050 avers that:

"The first is recognition of the dignity of all persons, which respects the inherent value and worth of each person. The second principle is a commitment to fulfilling our obligations to others using fair and honest means."

"The inherent dignity of all persons requires that we conduct ourselves with civility in all circumstances of our professional lives. This means that we do not participate in or accept, condone, or tolerate physical or verbal forms of aggression, threat, harassment, ridicule, or intimidation."

Whereas, the Academic Senate has a primary role in appointing the faculty representatives to shared governance committees. The Academic Senate Constitution sets forth procedures for the selection and appointment of faculty to nearly all College-wide committees, task forces, and work groups.

Resolved, the Academic Senate reaffirms its commitment to both shared governance and the values, norms, and actions which requires that we conduct ourselves with civility in all circumstances of our professional [lives/responsibilities/interactions]. The Academic Senate, its officers, representatives, and faculty confirmed to governance committees do not condone or tolerate acts which disrespect, demean, threaten, ridicule, or intimidate any stakeholder of the College.