

SOLANO COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE

BY-LAWS

*Ratified by the Solano Community College District [SCCD] Academic Senate:
April 2024; May 2022; May 2020; February 2018; May 2013*

ARTICLE I Meeting Procedures

Section 1:

The Senate shall meet twice a month generally on alternating Mondays of the academic year, subject to holidays and the actual beginning and ending dates of the Fall and Spring semesters, or other factors which impact the regularity of the academic year. Additional and/or Special Meetings of the Senate may be called by the President, or as directed by a majority vote of the Senate members. The Senate shall hold a meeting of the Senate and a joint meeting of the Senate and Academic Administrators prior to the start of each semester, typically during Flex-Cal.

Section 2:

All Senate meetings shall generally be open to the public, in accordance with the provisions of Brown Act, CGC 54950. The Senate may meet in Closed Session for meetings of the Executive Council; discussions related to the Distinguished Faculty Member Award or other faculty awards; discussions related to discipline, termination or any other employment issue regarding a specific faculty member or college staff member; and consultation with legal counsel.

Section 3:

Any senator or subcommittee chair may request that an item be placed on the agenda of the Academic Senate by submitting a written notice to the President. The President will determine whether the issue is within the senate's purview as well as when it should be scheduled for discussion. If the President does not allow the item to be placed on the agenda, any faculty member may request, during the "Public Comments" portion of the Meeting, that the full Senate consider placing the item on the agenda.

Section 4:

The Academic Senate shall ensure that the approved minutes of Senate meetings are made available to the faculty, within a reasonable time period, as well as to ensure that the minutes are available to the general public.

Section 5:

Senate agendas, minutes and any related documents shall be posted and/or made available per Brown Act, CGC 54950, including the posting of agendas both electronically and in an accessible public space 72 hours in advance of a regular meeting, and no less than 24 hours prior to a special meeting. Visitors may speak at Senate meetings during the "Public Comment" agenda item, but may be asked to limit their comments to a specific time period, as determined by the President. Unless the President recognizes visitors during the course of the Senate meeting, they may not participate in Senate debate or discussion.

ARTICLE II

Faculty Representation on the Senate

Section 1: Elected Representation

- School of Applied Technology and Business – 2 Senators
- School of Health Sciences – 2 Senator
- School of Liberal Arts – 2 Senators
- School of Math and Science – 2 Senators
- School of Social and Behavioral Sciences – 2 Senators
- Part-Time (Adjunct) Faculty – 2 Senators
- At-Large – 2 Senators
- Counseling – 1 Senator
- President
- Vice-President

Where possible, School Senators will be full-time faculty members. In the absence of any full-time faculty interested in serving as Senate representative, no more than one (1) part-time faculty member may serve as full-time representative for their area. A single nomination of a full-time faculty would retain precedence over any part-time faculty nominations. Part-time Senators will be part-time faculty. A Part-Time Faculty Senator must be teaching at least one class during the semester when running for election.

The Senate may choose to change or revise the representation or composition of Senators on the Senate, based on Divisions, Departments, Disciplines, Schools, Colleges, or other reasonable designations and/or groups of faculty, by a two-thirds majority vote of all Senate Members (but not just by a two-thirds vote of Members present).

Section 2: Re-Organization

When the College is Re-Organized, the current standing Senate shall determine the new Senate representation and/or composition, which will become effective the following Academic Year. (See Article II, Section 1, above.) Once a Re-Organization is announced, standing Senators shall complete their current year of service, at least through that Academic Year and/or as soon as possible thereafter to allow for elections, to occur no later than the sixth week of the semester. By the end of September, each new designated faculty unit or group shall elect or re-elect a Senator or Senators according to the new Senate representation and composition format. When a Re-Organization occurs, and the Senate President, and/or Senate Vice-President, have completed one year of their two-year term, either or both shall continue in Office for their second year of service.

Section 3: School Elections

Each School shall elect two (2) Academic Senators, for alternating two-year terms, or to finish out an incomplete term. By March 15, all Schools that have a Senator completing a two-year term of office shall hold an election to choose the Senator for the next two-year term. The election will be conducted as follows:

- A. It is the responsibility of the outgoing Senator to conduct the election, unless the Senator is going to run for re-election. If a Senator runs for re-election, then that Senator must designate another Full-Time School Faculty Member, who is not a candidate, to run the election. When possible, this designee should be the other Senate representative.
- B. Each School shall determine the method used to elect their Senator.

C. Only Full-Time School Faculty members shall have a vote for the School Senator.

Section 4: Senators-at-Large

Two Senators-at-Large will be elected for alternating two-year terms. Election for the one Full-Time Senator whose term has ended shall be held in conjunction with the election every two years for President and Vice-President or in off-years as a separate election. Part-Time faculty members are eligible as long as there is funding available to support them. A single nomination of a full-time faculty would retain precedence over any part-time faculty nominations. A Part-Time Faculty Senator must be teaching at least one class during the semester when running for election.

Section 5: Part-Time Senators

Two Part-Time Senators will be elected for alternating two-year terms. Election for the one Part-Time Senator whose term has ended shall be held in conjunction with the election every two years for President and Vice-President or in off-years as a separate election. Only Part-Time Faculty shall be eligible to be Part-Time Senators. A Part-Time Faculty Senator must be teaching at least one class during the semester when running for election. The Part-Time Faculty Senator will also serve as Part-Time Representative to Senate Executive Board during the second year of their term.

ARTICLE III
Senate Election Voting Procedures

Section 1:

When the Senate chooses to or is required to conduct an election, notification to the faculty shall be done within two weeks of the Senate's decision to hold the election, or within a reasonable time.

Section 2:

If the election requires faculty candidates to be nominated, submit nominations and/or submit their reasons for running, those faculty shall be given a minimum of one week, Monday through Friday, to respond, or a reasonably longer period of time.

Section 3:

Faculty shall receive at least Ten (10) School Days (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday are School Days), to vote in Senate elections. The Academic Senate may choose to adopt and use any reasonable method when conducting an election involving the entire Faculty, including but not limited to: Paper Ballots, Postal Ballots, Email Ballots, or by Electronic/Digital methods of voting. The Senate may change the method or methods used for any Senate election, by a two-thirds majority vote of all the Senate members.

ARTICLE IV

Duties of Officers

Section 1: President

The Academic Senate President shall:

1. Preside over Senate meetings;
2. Call special meetings of the Senate;
3. Prepare the Agenda for all Senate meetings;
4. Serve as a member of College Governance Council;
5. Make appointments of Faculty to all committees on campus, as necessary;
6. Take an active role in Statewide Academic Senate activities;
7. Ensure that the Academic Senate is represented at ALL meetings of the Governing Board;
8. Attend meetings of Fiscal Advisory Committee and/or other appropriate Budget Committees;
9. Perform other duties as authorized by the Academic Senate;
10. Supports the Academic Senate Administrative Assistant, to maintain an Academic Senate webpage.
11. Attend Summer Leadership Institute;
12. Attend regional Academic Senate meetings;
13. Serve as voting delegate to Spring and Fall State Academic Senate Plenary Sessions;
14. Meet with and make presentations to college committees, as required and requested;
15. Serve as Grand Marshal at Commencement;
16. Give a State of the Senate address during Convocation at the start of each semester;
17. With the VP of Academic Affairs, create agenda for bi-annual joint meetings with Educational Administrators.

Section 2: Vice President

The Academic Senate Vice President shall:

1. Preside at Senate meetings in the absence of the President;
2. Serve as Parliamentarian of the Senate;
3. Succeed to the office of President for duration of unexpired term, if that office becomes vacant;
4. Perform any other duties as authorized by the Academic Senate or Senate President;
5. Attend Summer Leadership Institute, when possible;
6. Attend State local-area network meetings;
7. Attend State Spring/Fall Plenary sessions, when possible;
8. Serve on the Senate Executive Board

Section 3: Secretary-Treasurer

The Academic Senate Secretary-Treasurer shall:

1. Write the Senate Hot Topics newsletter
2. Keep the accounts and other financial records up to date.
3. Give a financial report once per semester to the Senate; With the approval for the Senate, make all properly authorized payments
4. Serve on the Senate Executive Board

Section 4: Past President (If the Past President is not available, the Academic Senate President will designate someone to fulfill these duties 1 and 2.)

1. Directs Campus-wide elections for the Academic Senate.
2. Serve as Legislative Liaison
3. Serve on the Senate Executive Board

Section 5: Adjunct Representative to Senate Executive Board

The Part-Time Representative to Senate Executive Board shall:

1. Serve on the Senate Executive Board

Section 6: Standing Senate Subcommittees

The following committees are standing subcommittees of the academic senate. Additional standing subcommittees, task forces, or other work groups may be established per these Bylaws.

1. Academic Program Review Committee
 - a. Charge: To examine the state of academic programs, highlighting strengths and areas of needed improvement. Program Review is a faculty-driven process bringing faculty and administration together to work toward program improvement, setting goals and prioritizing initiatives related to student, college, and community needs. Program review has three essential goals:
 - to maintain academic integrity and rigor
 - to facilitate integrated, long-range planning
 - to provide continual program improvement to ensure student success.
 - b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - APR Coordinator (Chair)
 - c. Membership (Voting):
 - School of Liberal Arts (1)
 - School of Health Sciences (1)
 - School of Social and Behavioral Science (1)
 - School of Applied Technology and Business (1)
 - School of Mathematics and Science (1)
 - Library (1)
 - Counseling (1)
 - d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio):
 - Academic Dean (1)
 - Office of Research and Planning (1)
 - Assessment Committee Coordinator (1)
2. Assessment Committee
 - a. Charge: To provide institutional support and guidance on outcomes assessment including student learning outcomes (SLOs), program learning outcomes (PLOs), general education learning outcomes (GELOs), institutional learning outcomes (ILOs). The committee helps shape institutional policy regarding assessment; supports faculty in the completion of timely, quality assessments; helps faculty create quality outcomes and tools for measuring them; and disseminates information about outcomes assessment.

- b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - Assessment Coordinator (Chair)
 - c. Membership (Voting):
 - Full-time Faculty representatives (preferably 1 from every division)
 - Program Review Committee representative (1)
 - Counseling/Accreditation Officer representative (1)
 - Adjunct faculty representative (1)
 - Academic Dean (1)
 - d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio/Guests):
 - Vice President of Academic Affairs (1)
 - Academic Senate President (1)
 - Research and Planning representative (1)
 - Curriculum Committee representative (1)
3. Curriculum Committee
- a. Charge: To provide leadership for all areas that involve the College's curriculum. It is a faculty committee that reviews and recommends additions, deletions, and changes to the College's courses and programs.
 - b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - Curriculum Committee Chair (1)
 - c. Membership (Voting):
 - School of Liberal Arts (2)
 - School of Health Sciences (2)
 - School of Social and Behavioral Science (2)
 - School of Applied Technology and Business (2)
 - School of Mathematics and Science (2)
 - Library (1)
 - Student Services (2)
 - Articulation Officer (1)
 - Academic Deans (2)
 - d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio):
 - Vice President of Academic Affairs (1)
 - Curriculum Analyst (1)
 - ASSC Student Representative majoring in an academic subject (1)
 - ASSC Student Representative majoring in a vocational subject (1)

Technical Review Committee: Sub-Committee of the Curriculum Committee

- a. Charge: Review of the Technical Aspects of curriculum proposals prior to content review by the Curriculum Committee, a subcommittee of the Academic Senate.
- b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - Curriculum Committee Chair (1)
- c. Membership (Voting):
 - Articulation Officer (1)
 - Assessment Coordinator (1)
 - DE Coordinator (1)
 - Faculty currently serving on the Curriculum Committee (2)
 - Academic Dean (1)

- d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio):
 - Vice President of Academic Affairs (1)
 - Curriculum Analyst (1)
4. Distance Education Committee
 - a. Charge: To deal with campus-wide instructional technology issues with special focus on pedagogical and curricular issues. The Distance Education Committee reviews and makes recommendations regarding Distance Education at Solano Community College, to include delivery methods, best practices, and state-wide compliance, as well as providing resources, training and support for staff and faculty as it relates to distance education. In addition, the Distance Education Committee certifies individual instructors to teach online courses to ensure regular substantive interaction hours and regular instructor-initiated contact, as well as compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and any other identified provisions relevant to accreditation, Chancellor's Office Guidelines, Title 5, CA Education Code, or other external approving agencies, as well as approved local practice.
 - b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - DE Coordinator (1)
 - c. Membership (Voting):
 - School of Liberal Arts (2)
 - School of Health Sciences (2)
 - School of Social and Behavioral Science (2)
 - School of Applied Technology and Business (2)
 - School of Mathematics and Science (2)
 - Library (1)
 - Counseling (1)
 - d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio):
 - Academic Dean (1)
 - Technology Services & Support (1)
 - Distance Education Technician (1)
 - Director of Distance Education (1)
5. Professional Development and Flexible Calendar Committee
 - a. Charge: To promote professional development opportunities for faculty and staff to broaden their knowledge, expand their skills, and enhance their abilities to benefit the students, the college, as well as the greater community including developing and implementing the Flexible Calendar plan.
 - b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - PDFC Coordinator (Co-Chair)
 - Dean (Co-Chair)
 - c. Membership (Voting):
 - Full-time Faculty (3)
 - Part-Time/Adjunct Faculty (1)
 - CSEA Representative (2)
 - d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio):
 - Coordinator – Center for Educational Excellence (1-2)

6. Student Equity and Success Council

- a. Charge: The Student Equity and Success Council (SESC) will provide institutional direction on student success and equity issues on campus. The council will strive to be a representative voice for the campus community and will put the interests and well-being of students first.
- b. Membership (Tie-Breaking Votes Only):
 - Student Equity and Success Coordinator (Co-Chair)
 - VP Student Services or Designee (Co-Chair)
- c. Membership (Voting):
 - Faculty Representatives (7, one from each Academic School, Counseling, Library)
 - Administrative Representatives (7, from SI-P, VPs, Deans, Directors, Outreach, Research and Planning, Finance, Admissions, etc.)
 - Student Representatives (7, SCC students)
 - Student Services and Program Representatives (14, from EOPS, IMANI, A2MEND, MESA, Pride Club, AANHPI, Puente, Athletics, ASTC, ASC, Career Center, Transfer Center, Basic Needs, Veterans Resource Center, Early Alert, Financial Aid, Student Life, Black Cultural Center, Undocumented Student Resources, SOAR, CARE, CalWORKS, NextUp, Wellness, etc.)
 - At-Large (7, Uncategorized and overflow from other categories)
- d. Membership (Non-Voting Ex-officio):
 - None

7. Ad hoc Awards Committee

- a. Charge: To oversee the selection of Distinguished Faculty awards and other faculty awards sponsored or supported by the Academic Senate. To make recommendations for Faculty Emeritus status when requested by the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
- b. Membership (Voting)
 - Awards Committee Chair to be elected from the voting members of the Senate for a two-year term
 - Past winners of the Distinguished Faculty award who volunteer to serve
 - Professor Emeriti who volunteer to serve.

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