

ARTICLE VII - PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

A. PURPOSE

The intent of this Article is to establish and implement a means for providing broad participation by faculty, staff, administrators, and students in the decision-making processes that support student learning programs and services and improve institutional effectiveness, while acknowledging the designated responsibilities of the Board and the College President. In keeping with the Accrediting Commission's standard on Leadership and Governance (Standard IV), the College recognizes and utilizes institution-wide contributions for continuous improvement.

The Board and the Union agree that the faculty shall join in participatory governance of the College through the Faculty Senate and Governing Council. Committees for this purpose are defined in this Article.

B. THE FACULTY SENATE

The Faculty Senate represents the Faculty of the College in academic and professional matters. The Senate may delegate its authority to specific committees or to individual faculty members for limited duration and purposes. This provision shall not conflict with the Board/ Union Agreement, Personnel Rules & Regulations, or existing laws. The Faculty Senate is comprised of the Faculty Senate President, The Faculty Senate President-Elect, the Past Faculty Senate President, and two (2) at-large senators. All senators must be dues paying members of the Union elected by members of the Bargaining Unit.

For senators who are post-secondary instructional faculty: instructional hours are reduced to 180 per semester. For the Senate President who is a post-secondary instructional faculty: instructional hours are reduced to 135 per semester. For the Senate President who is a post-secondary non-instructional faculty: release from specific professional responsibilities will be reflected in the workload as mutually agreed upon. Secondary faculty participation will be reflected on their evaluation.

C. THE COLLEGE GOVERNING COUNCIL

This Council serves to provide broad participation by faculty, staff, administrators, and students in the decision-making processes regarding institutional issues. This Council will also serve as a conduit to this process by facilitating dialog where issues are clarified between the Council and relevant constituencies. Further the Council promotes participatory college decision-making processes and supports the Faculty Senate's role in making recommendations related to academic and professional matters. The Council, with the input from its respective constituencies, shall make and/or forward recommendations for action to the College President. The Council shall consist of a total of nine (9) members which shall be comprised as follows: three(3) members shall be appointed from the College Administration by the College President; three (3) members shall be the members of the Faculty Senate, specifically, the Senate President, the Senate Past President, and the Senate President-Elect of the Faculty Senate; two (2) members from the Staff of the College appointed by the Staff Union Chair, and one (1) member shall be a representative of the Student Body appointed by COPSA with one (1) vote on the Council (the student member shall not be employed by the College in excess of twenty (20) hours per week).

D. COMMITTEES

1. Committees at the College are composed of constituency representatives and consider matters pertaining to a designated charge or subject. A committee reports its recommendations to appropriate representative bodies.
 - a. Committee work shall be reflected on the Faculty Load Schedule (Appendix B) or on the faculty member's evaluation for each academic year based on the conditions identified in Articles XVI, XVIII, and XX for each faculty member's workload.