

Senate Appointee to Governance Committee

As an appointee to a governance committee, your duty is to contribute your considered thought and preparation to produce the best possible policy for the college. As a Senate appointee, you should bring a special sensitivity to issues and concerns of the Academic Senate. As you are no doubt aware, the Senate addresses the academic and professional aspect of our role as faculty, while the Guild addresses wages and working conditions. (By the way, there is some overlapping of concerns between the Guild and Senate. E.g., both have an interest in the hiring and evaluation of faculty, but they come at them from different angles.)

It is not always easy to understand what falls into the purview of the Academic Senate and we hope that this guide will be of some help. Consultation with the Senate president or the Senate Executive or with Senators can supplement this guide.

Monitor and promote the statutory role of the Academic Senate

The role of the Academic Senate is prescribed by California law and can be found in the Ed Code and Title 5 mandates. When the college makes certain decisions, it must reach agreement with the Senate in specified areas. These areas are usually referred to as the 10 +1 and are enumerated below.

- a. degree and certificate requirements
- b. curriculum including establishing pre-requisites and placing courses in disciplines
- c. grading policies
- d. faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes including the self study and annual reports
- e. the creation and development of educational programs
- f. standards or policies regarding student success
- g. district and college governance structures as related to faculty roles
- h. policies for faculty professional development activities
- i. processes for program review
- j. process for institutional planning and budget development
- k. others as mutually agreed upon

Advocate for Faculty Interests

Advocate for appropriate staff development funding, and ask to have such funding called out and earmarked in appropriate grants calling for your signature.

Ensure the effective participation of faculty in the joint development of institutional policy, e.g., minimum qualifications and equivalencies, faculty hiring procedures, tenure review, faculty service areas, and faculty evaluation procedures.

Maintain Contact with state-level action and organizations

Remain vigilant about legislation affecting the California community colleges.

Monitor communications from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (e-mails, the Senate Rostrum, etc)

Maintaining Effective Relationships with Other Governance Groups

Ensure good relations with the bargaining agent.

Work with the bargaining agent in the joint development of institutional policy, e.g., minimum qualifications and equivalencies, faculty hiring procedures, tenure review, faculty service areas, and faculty evaluation procedures.

Work to ensure the effective participation of staff and students in the areas that have substantial effect on them.

Foster Communication

Engage in ongoing discussions with faculty on the issues of the day.

Facilitate in developing and airing faculty views.

Facilitate communication among the Faculty and with Administration and the Governing Board.

Secure Resources to Ensure Senate Success

Assure adequate resources for the Senate and manage them.

Advocate for the use of staff support of the senate.

Further Efforts to Appoint and Retain Qualified Personnel

Advocate for the appointment of faculty representatives to college committees, sub-committees, and task forces.

Participate, as permitted by law, in the evaluation of staff, including administrators with whom you work