

Participation in Local Decision Making— Academic Senates

Reference:

Education Code Section 70902(b)(7); Title 5, Section 53200, et seq., (Academic Senate)

Date Issued:

The Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District governance structure provides each constituency group with the opportunity to participate in planning processes, initiatives, and the development of District and college policies and procedures through their representatives. The District is committed to effective collegial consultation as a foundation for all policy-making within the District.

Academic Senate participation is outlined in, but not limited to, the "Organizational and Governance Structures" publications, including the functionality of standing committees, councils, task forces, ad-hoc committees, union and senate memorandums, and other references located in the appendices of the handbook. "Organizational and Governance Structures" documents developed by each campus community and the District offices outline collegial consultation and detail the participatory practices at each site.

The Governing Board or its designee(s) shall consult collegially with the Academic Senates of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges through their respective designated representatives to reach mutual agreement in the development of policies and procedures on academic or professional matters as defined by law.

- 1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing 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; and
- 11. Other academic and professional matters as are mutually agreed upon between the Governing Board and the Academic Senates.

In the development of policies or procedures, after consultation with the administration of the colleges/district, the Academic Senates may present their views and recommendations to the Governing Board.

In instances where agreement is not reached, existing policy shall remain in effect unless continuing such policy exposes the District to legal liability or causes substantial fiscal hardship.

In cases where there is no existing policy, or in cases where exposure to legal liability or substantial fiscal hardship requires existing policy to be changed, the Governing Board may act, after a good faith effort to reach agreement, for compelling legal, fiscal, or organizational reasons.