

ROLE AND SCOPE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE: 10 + 1 AGREEMENT

References: Educational Code §66700 §70901 & 70902; Title 5 §53200 (d) (1) & (2) and §53203 (d) (1) & (2); AB 1725.

The Governing Board agrees to consult with the Academic Senate and to either rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate or mutually agree with respect to all academic and professional matters as defined by law. The Governing Board designates the Superintendent/President as its sole designee for purposes of implementation of this policy. Regarding all academic and professional matters, the Board of Trustees recognizes the Academic Senate as the representative of the faculty and will rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate in accordance with processes of collegial consultation as defined by law and outlined in this procedure.

a) Title 5 Mandate:

Academic and professional matters are delineated in Title 5, Section §53200 (c), the Governing Boards of individual Community College Districts are directed by this section and §53200 (d) to "*consult collegially*." This means that the District Governing Board shall develop policies on academic and professional matters through either or both of the following methods. At the Governing Board's discretion, they may either Rely Primarily or Mutually Agree with the Academic Senate. Academic and professional matters are defined in regulation, which includes policy development and implementation.

b) Definitions & Procedures:

"Rely Primarily" means that the Governing Board shall rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate. The recommendations of the Senate will normally be accepted, and only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons will the recommendations not be accepted. If a recommendation is not approved after a good faith effort to reach agreement, the Board or its designee shall promptly communicate in writing its reason to the Academic Senate within a period of ten (10) days.

"Mutually Agree" means that recommendations will be prepared by either the Academic Senate or the Board's designee and are subsequently ratified by both. If mutual agreement cannot be reached, the Board or its designee shall promptly communicate in writing its reason to the Academic Senate within a period of ten (10) days.

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A. The Governing Board of Southwestern College shall **rely primarily** upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate in the following areas:

- 1 Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines.
- 2 Degree and certificate requirements.
- 3 Grading Policies.
- 4 Educational programs development.
- 5 District and college governance structures as related to faculty roles.
- 6 Policies for faculty professional development activities.
- 7 Standards and Policies regarding student preparation and success
- 8 Processes for Academic Program Review.

B. Matters that require the SWC Governing Board and the Academic Senate to **mutually agree** include:

- 9 Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self study and annual reports.
- 10 Processes for institutional planning, budget development, and program review.
- 11 Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the Governing Board and the Academic Senate.

Policy No. 2515 and its corresponding Procedure No. 2515 cannot be changed without full agreement of the Academic Senate.