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BP 2511 ACADEMIC SENATES

References:

Education Code Sections 70901, 70902;
Title 5 Sections 53200-53204

Chapter 973, Statutes of 1988 enacted a new structure of governance for the California Community College System. In accord with this directive as implemented by Title 5, the Board of Trustees shall consult collegially with the San Jose City College, Evergreen Valley College, and District Academic Senates when adopting policies and procedures on academic and professional matters.

The Board or their designee or Academic Senates or their designee, shall initiate the consultative process. While consulting collegially, the Academic Senates shall retain the right to present their views and recommendations directly to the Board of Trustees.

In consulting collegially, the Board of Trustees will rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senates on all policies and procedures related to Academic and Professional Matters listed as numbers one through eight in BP 2512 titled Academic and Professional Matters. For Academic and Professional Matters numbers nine, ten, and eleven of BP 2512, collegial consultation shall be defined as mutual agreement between the Senates and the Board of Trustees or their representatives.

Where the Board of Trustees has elected to rely primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senates, the recommendations of the Senates will normally be accepted, and only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons will the recommendations not be accepted. If the recommendations are not accepted, the Board of Trustees or its designee shall promptly communicate its reasons in writing to the Academic Senates.

Where the Board of Trustees has elected to provide for mutual agreement with the Academic Senates, and agreement has not been reached, existing policy shall remain in effect unless continuing with 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 the exposure to legal liability or substantial fiscal hardship requires policy to be changed, the Board of Trustees may act, after good effort to reach agreement and only for compelling legal, fiscal, or organizational reasons.

The appointment of faculty members to serve on college or District committees, task forces, or other groups dealing with academic and professional matters, shall be by the Academic Senates. Faculty appointed to committees shall follow procedures established by the Academic Senates.

The District Academic Senate shall not be represented on any participatory governance or operational committee unless one or both college Academic Senates act to give up one or more representatives to the District Academic Senate.

Also see BP 2510 titled Participation in Local Decision-Making