

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 2511 ROLE OF ACADEMIC SENATES IN DISTRICT AND COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

The Governing Board of the Peralta Community College District, through its Chancellor, affirms the recognition of the District Academic Senate (DAS) and the Academic Senates of Berkeley City College, the College of Alameda, Laney College, and Merritt College (College Academic Senates) under Title 5 of the California Administrative Code and as provided for in law (specifically AB 1725).

- A. The District Academic Senate, representing the four College Academic Senates, is recognized to make recommendations to the District Chancellor, and to the Board of Trustees with respect to “academic and professional matters.”
- B. Each College Academic Senate shall be recognized to make recommendations with respect to “academic and professional matters” to their respective College President and the Management Team; and may consult collegially with the Board of Trustees about College matters. The administrative leadership of each college shall consult collegially on these and any other procedures established to carry out this policy.
- C. The definition of “academic and professional matters” as stated in Title 5 regulations means the following policy development and implementation matters:
 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
 11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate (Title 5 §53200)
- D. The DAS may assume additional responsibilities and perform such functions as may be delegated to them in writing by the Board or designee pursuant to Title 5. Additional academic and professional matters may be added through formal resolution of the Board.
- E. The Board, Chancellor, and College Presidents and their Management Teams shall “consult collegially” and “rely primarily” on the DAS and the College Academic Senates in the above cited “academic and professional matters” areas. The requirement to consult collegially shall not limit other rights and responsibilities of the DAS and the College Academic Senates which are specifically provided for in statute, regulations, or other Board policies.
- F. The Board shall receive and consider advice from the DAS on the above cited “academic and professional matters” and the Board shall accept the DAS recommendation unless there are exceptional circumstances or compelling reasons not to. Should the Board not accept a DAS recommendation, the Board shall communicate promptly the reasons in writing (which may include Board minutes).
- G. The DAS and/or College Academic Senates shall present a report to the Board at least at its first regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting and shall be extended an opportunity to meet with or appear before the Board with respect to their respective views, recommendations, and proposals.
- H. As directed by the Board, the DAS President shall serve an active role and represent the DAS at all Board meetings and throughout the District’s service areas as necessary.

- I. Further, per California Education Code, the governing board will “consult collegially” by “relying primarily on the advice and judgment” of the District Academic Senate in the following areas:
 - 1. Procedures for the waiver of minimum qualifications/ equivalency [§70902 (b) (7)];
 - 2. Hiring criteria, policies, and procedures for hiring new faculty [§87360 (b)]; and
 - 3. Process and procedures for administrative retreat rights [§87458 (a)].

- J. The Peralta Federation of Teachers, prior to engaging in collective bargaining, will consult with the District Academic Senate in the following areas:
 - 1. Tenure evaluation procedures [§87610.1 (a)];
 - 2. Faculty evaluation procedures [§87663 (f)]; and
 - 3. Faculty service areas [§87743.2].

- K. Nothing in this administrative procedure shall be construed to neither impinge upon the due process rights of faculty, the negotiation rights of the faculty collective bargaining representative (the Peralta Federation of Teachers), nor detract from any negotiated agreements between the collective bargaining representative, and the Board.

- L. In alignment with section “K” above, please refer to Board Policy 2510 which addresses participation in local decision-making (shared governance) for faculty, staff, and students.

Reference:

Title 5: California Administrative Code
California AB 1725
California Education Code §53200; 70902; 87360; 87458; 87610; 87663; 87743.

Renumbers: BP 2.23, Role of Academics Senates in District and College Governance; Board approved, October 10, 2011.

Approved by the Chancellor: January 21, 2014