

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS
OF
THE FOOTHILL COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE

PREAMBLE

On behalf of the faculty who collectively led the State of California in establishing and affirming Shared Governance as a core principle and pillar of the California Community College System, we proudly affirm our legal, educational, and ethical right to convene and confer as a Faculty under the structures and functions of the Foothill College Academic Senate as set forth in this Constitution.

We convene this Academic Senate in order that the Faculty may have a formal and effective procedure to participate in the formation and implementation of college and district policies concerning all Matters Academic and Professional, as explicitly permitted by the California Code of Regulations Title 5 Section 53201 and Foothill-De Anza Board Policy 2223, and honored as the foundational governance tradition at Foothill College.

This Academic Senate will vigorously promote educational quality and equity at Foothill College and throughout the California Community College System. To achieve these ends we pledge our mutual support and cooperation.

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be known as the Foothill College Academic Senate, hereafter referred to in this document as the Academic Senate or Senate.

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Objectives.

The purpose of the Academic Senate shall be to provide the Foothill College faculty with a formal, representative voice on matters affecting the operation and welfare of the college, and to give the Foothill College faculty a formal and effective procedure for participating in the formation of college and district policies on academic and professional matters. (Reference: Title 5, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 53201, AB 1725, and FHDA BP 2223.) Moreover, the Senate will facilitate communication between the Senate and the administration, the Foothill-De Anza Community College Board of Trustees, the academic divisions, Foothill Classified Senate, the Associated Students of Foothill College, and the De Anza Academic Senate.

Section 2. Responsibilities.

With regard to academic and professional matters, the Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees rely upon the recommendations of the Academic Senates. Therefore, it shall be the responsibility of the Academic Senate to be primarily concerned with and to make

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recommendations to the appropriate college and district administrators and management teams, the Board of Trustees, and state educational agencies on local and statewide community college educational issues, including but not limited to the following (Reference: Title 5, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 53200, paragraph (c)):

- (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 Senate.

Section 3. Powers

After consultation with the college and district administration, if no resolution is achieved on a particular policy or issue (or a portion thereof), the Academic Senate is empowered by Title 5, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 53203, to present its written views and recommendations to the District Board of Trustees which, in accordance with said section, shall consider and respond to such views and recommendations.

Furthermore, the Academic Senate is empowered to request the Board of Trustees, or such Board members or administrative officers as it may designate, to meet and confer with representatives of the Academic Senate with respect to recommendations made or proposals to be made by the Academic Senate. The designation of Board members or administrative officers shall not preclude the representatives of the Academic Senate from meeting with, or appearing before, the Board of Trustees with respect to the views, recommendations, or proposals of the Senate at a regular or special meeting of the Board. (Reference: Title 5, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Sections 53203 and 53204.)

Section 4. Definitions.

Faculty are defined as those employees of Foothill College who are employed in positions that are not designated as supervisory or management, and for which minimum qualifications for hire are specified by the Board of Governors as defined in Title 5. (Reference: Title 5, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 53200, paragraph (a).)

Quorum shall consist of a majority of members eligible to vote at regular Executive Committee meetings. At a general meeting of the electorate, a quorum shall refer simply to the number of persons present at that time.

Voting shall be as follows:

- (1) Executive Committee members will have one vote each at regular Executive Committee meeting.

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- (2) All faculty, full-time and part-time, receive one vote in faculty wide elections.
- (3) Any action, including an election, shall be taken by a simple majority of the present voting members unless this Constitution specifies otherwise.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership.

Membership in the Foothill Academic Senate shall consist of all faculty at Foothill College. Membership begins with employment as a full-time or part-time member of the faculty and continues throughout employment.

Section 2. Responsibilities of Membership.

Members shall participate in the formation of college and district policies through a strong and active Senate by:

- a. supporting the officers and elected representatives of the Executive Committee through informed suggestions, recommendations, and feedback on issues under discussion,
- b. informed voting on all issues presented to the Academic Senate,
- c. volunteering to be an active member of at least one shared governance council, study group, committee, subcommittee or ad hoc workgroup of the Academic Senate and
- d. voluntarily paying dues.

Section 3. Dues.

The dues for Academic Senate membership are set by the Executive Committee (as defined in Article II, Section 4) and approved by a vote of the Senate membership prior to fall commencement. Dues for full-time faculty are set at \$5.00 per month, and dues for part-time faculty are set at \$3.00 per month.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. Positions.

The officers of this organization shall be: President, Executive Vice-President, Vice-President of Curriculum and Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. Terms of Office.

The officers shall each serve for a term of two years, with the terms of President and Executive Vice President being staggered. Officer positions are not restricted by term limits. The new officers assume their office at the last Executive Committee meeting of the spring term.

Section 3. Removal from Office.

Any officer may be removed from office by the two-thirds vote of the full Executive Committee casting a written affirmative ballot.

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Section 4. Vacancies.

If any of the offices mentioned in this Article become vacant for more than one quarter for any reason, replacements shall be obtained through the election procedures outlined in Article VI, Section 1. In the event that an office becomes vacant for a single quarter, the Executive Committee may appoint a temporary officer from the body of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Duties of the President.

The President shall:

- a. serve as the chief executive officer of the Academic Senate and of the Executive Committee,
- b. prepare, with the assistance of the Executive Vice-President and the Secretary-Treasurer, an agenda for all meetings of the Academic Senate and of the Executive Committee,
- c. chair the meetings of the Senate and of the Executive Committee, ensuring there are agreed upon meeting norms, and that they are followed,
- d. exercise his/her vote in the Executive Committee only in the case of a tie breaker,
- e. supervise all the affairs of the Academic Senate and execute such plans and policies as the members of the Executive Committee or the Academic Senate may have authorized, directed, or approved,
- f. serve as the faculty tri-chair of the College (Advisory) Council,
- g. serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, except the election and nominating committees,
- h. make an end-of-the-Academic year written report to the Academic Senate at least one week prior to leaving office,
- i. appoint or remove committee members (governance, hiring, tenure, program review, student grievance pool, district participatory governance, etc.) with the consent of the Executive Committee,
- j. attend, or delegate one or more Executive Committee members to attend, any college, district, or state meeting where faculty representation is sought or needed,
- k. represent, in conjunction with the Executive Vice-President when possible, the collective opinions, Committee desires, and recommendations of the members of the Academic Senate and Executive Committee in meetings with community officials or with college or district administrative and management staff,
- l. attend regular meetings of the FHDA Board of Trustees, and give leadership reports and address the Board of Trustees on matters relevant to the Senate,
- m. sign all financial vouchers and bills in the absence of the Treasurer,
- n. review the Senate constitution every three years,
- o. attend both plenary sessions of the state-wide Academic Senate as a voting delegate,
- p. provide training and support to the incoming officers, and
- q. serve as a member of the Senate Summer Cabinet and the Executive Council

Section 6. Duties of the Executive Vice-President.

The Executive Vice-President shall:

- a. attend and participate in all Executive Committee meetings, following the agreed upon

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- meeting norms of the Executive Committee, and serve as a voting member,
- b. assume, in the temporary absence of the President, the duties of that office,
- c. assist the President in the performance of the functions and responsibilities of that office,
- d. serve as the Parliamentarian of the Executive Committee,
- e. serve as the Senate's Equity Officer, which includes:
 - a. support the development and implementation of senate action plans in alignment with the College's Equity Plan/Strategic Vision for Equity
 - b. monitor reporting related to Equity metrics and communicate regularly to all faculty on progress
- f. sign all financial vouchers and bills in the absence of the Treasurer and the President,
- g. inform all faculty of committees, and invite them to participate,
- h. coordinate quarterly committee reports,
- i. coordinate the membership of all Senate committees for presentation to the Executive Committee the last meeting of spring quarter,
- j. attend the fall and/or spring plenary sessions of the state-wide Academic Senate as budget allows, and serve as a voting delegate in the absence of the President,
- k. serve as a member of the Senate Summer Cabinet and the Executive Council, and
- l. perform other duties for the President as mutually agreed upon, or as requested

Section 7. Duties of the Vice-President of Curriculum.

The Vice-President of Curriculum shall:

- a. attend and participate in all Executive Committee meetings, following the agreed upon meeting norms of the Executive Committee, and serve as a voting member,
- b. serve as faculty co-chair of the College Curriculum Committee (CCC), which includes:
 - a. coordinate and attend regular meetings with the AVPI, Curriculum Coordinator & Articulation Officer to set CCC priorities, create agendas, and propose/monitor new curriculum initiatives,
 - b. prepare and distribute all meeting materials following the Brown Act,
 - c. chair the CCC meetings,
 - d. serve as Parliamentarian of the CCC,
 - e. partner with the Curriculum Coordinator in the preparation and distribution of meeting minutes,
 - f. support the Division Curriculum Committees,
 - g. ensure curriculum is in alignment with value and mission of the college, Title 5 and Ed Code, Chancellor's Office guidance, and accreditation standards,
 - h. support the development and implementation of CCC action plans in alignment with the College's Equity Plan/Strategic Vision for Equity, and
 - i. facilitate communication between CCC and Executive Committee of the Academic Senate, Office of Instruction and shared governance councils
- c. partner with the Faculty Professional Development Coordinator to provide faculty professional development in support of CCC goals and plans,
- d. partner with the Faculty Association (FA) in curricular matters of a crossover nature between academic senate & FA,
- e. serve on curriculum-related steering committees, e.g. the Guided Pathways Steering

Committee, the Learning Outcomes & Assessment Committee (forthcoming), and the Enrollment Management Committee (forthcoming),

- f. attend, or delegate one or more CCC members to attend, any college, district, or state meeting where faculty representation on curricular matters is sought or needed,
- g. attend the summer ASCCC Curriculum Institute as budget allows,
- h. serve on the Academic Senate summer cabinet and the Executive Council, when matters relate to curriculum, and
- i. perform other duties for the President as mutually agreed upon, or as requested

Section 8. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall:

- a. attend and participate in all Executive Committee meetings, following the agreed upon meeting norms of the Executive Committee, and serve as a voting member,
- b. keep accurate attendance records of Senate executive committee meetings,
- c. produce minutes in a timely fashion,
- d. manage and communicate to the President requests for substitutes to the Executive Committee with the power of a proxy vote,
- e. collect dues, disburse funds, sign all financial vouchers and bills, maintain financial records, and submit financial reports to the Senate at the end of spring quarter, and as requested by the Executive Committee,
- f. set up the budget for the approval of the Executive Committee and Senate,
- g. act as President in the temporary absence of the President and Executive Vice-President,
- h. perform additional duties as may be required by the office,
- i. attend the fall and/or spring plenary sessions of the state-wide Academic Senate as budget allows,
- j. maintain or delegate responsibility for the Academic Senate website
- k. serve on the Senate Summer Cabinet and the Executive Council

ARTICLE V. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Composition.

An Academic Senate Executive Committee, elsewhere referred to in this document as the Executive Committee, shall be established and shall consist of the officers of the Academic Senate as listed in Article IV, plus the members who are the elected Senators representing the faculty in instructional and student support divisions and areas, as identified in Section 2, plus additional faculty members, as identified in Section 7, plus non-faculty members who are liaisons representing partnering constituencies, as identified in Section 8.

All members of the Executive Committee are voting members, with the exception of the President, who votes only in the case of a tie, and the non-faculty liaisons from the administration, who will have only an advisory vote. All voting members of the Executive Committee may make and/or amend motions or resolutions, and are equally responsible to uphold the objectives, responsibilities and purpose of the Senate.

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Section 2. Representation.

For purposes of representation of all Foothill College faculty, the Senate recognizes the following instructional and student support divisions, with their identified abbreviations, if applicable:

1. App - Apprenticeship
2. BHS – Biological & Health Sciences
3. BSS - Business & Social Sciences (includes faculty in KCI)
4. Counseling - Counseling (includes faculty in Student Affairs & Activities Division)
5. DRC/VRC - Disability Resource Center & Veterans Resource Center
6. FA/Comm - Fine Arts & Communication
7. KA - Kinesiology & Athletics
8. LA - Language Arts
9. LRC – Learning Resource Center (1 Library Rep & 1 Tutoring Rep)
10. PSME

Faculty working in administrative units other than those specified above are free to affiliate with the specified administrative unit of their choice for the purposes of Executive Committee representation.

Every division shall be entitled to two Senators, with the exception of the DRC/VRC, which will have one designated Senator, as established by collegial agreement, custom and practice.

In addition, there shall be two At-Large Part-time Senators, chosen by a vote of currently teaching part-time Foothill College faculty (excluding full-time faculty teaching overload) once every two years. The At-Large Part-time Senators must a) have held a part-time faculty position for at least two of the three quarters in the academic year at Foothill College in the year elected, and b) hold a part-time faculty position for at least two of the three quarters in the academic year at Foothill College every year serving as a Senator. If the elected part time representative does not have a teaching assignment, his/her replacement will be determined via the procedure as outlined in Article VI, Section 4. The At-Large Part-time Senators elected to represent part-time faculty shall each be compensated from the Foothill College Academic Senate dues account at the rate per academic quarter of service specified in the most recent senate resolution on the topic, contingent upon the Senators carrying out their duties. The At-Large Part-time Senators shall be elected following the procedures found in Article VI.

Section 3. Terms of Office.

Each Senator shall serve for a term of two years. Senators are not subject to term limits, although divisions are highly encouraged to rotate appointments among all faculty willing and able to serve. Efforts should be made to elect approximately one-half of the Senators each year to assist with continuity. The terms of office for newly elected Senators shall begin with the convening of the first Executive Committee meeting of the fall quarter after being formally introduced to the other members of the Senate by the President at the last meeting of the spring quarter.

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Section 4. Duties of the Senators.

Senators shall:

- a. learn about the purpose and function of an academic senate, and their roles and responsibilities as Senators,
- b. attend and participate in all Executive Committee meetings, following the agreed upon meeting norms of the Executive Committee, and serve as a voting member,
- c. appoint a substitute with the power of a proxy vote in writing whenever an absence from an Executive Committee meeting is necessary. A proxy vote must be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Senate at least one calendar day prior to the vote being cast.
- d. maintain timely and consistent communication with all faculty within their division to:
 - a. inform division faculty of upcoming Senate discussion and action items relevant to their division,
 - b. solicit their constituents' feedback on Senate discussion and action items to ensure representation of division interests,
 - c. disseminate information Senators are asked to share with their constituents, and
 - d. be responsible for a division's concerns, and bring the division's recommendations or these concerns to the Senate President for consideration and/or action
- e. maintain consistent communication with individual or collective college and district administrative and management staff, the Board of Trustees, and the Faculty Association Governing Board when requested by the Senate President,
- f. serve during each year of a term in office, on at least one major or select Senate committee or ad hoc workgroup, as the President may request,
- g. ratify all appointments made by the President of the Senate

Section 5. Removal from Office.

Any Senator may be removed from office after notice from the President by a simple majority vote in a written affirmative ballot of either the Executive Committee or of the division that the Senator represents. Two consecutive unexcused absences from the Executive Committee meetings will result in a written warning from the President of the Academic Senate or his/her designee. Three consecutive unexcused absences from the Executive Committee meetings shall be grounds for removal by vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 6. Vacancies.

Vacancies on the Executive Committee of more than one quarter will be handled by the election procedure as outlined in Article VI.

Section 7. Additional Faculty Members of the Executive Committee.

In addition to the Officers and Senators, the Executive Committee shall also include the following faculty members, with distinct duties, as outlined in Section 9.

1. The Faculty Professional Development Coordinator
2. The Faculty Chair of the Committee on Online Learning (COOL)

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3. The Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator(s)
4. A representative from the Faculty Association (FA)

Section 8. Additional Non-Faculty Members of the Executive Committee.

In addition to the Officers and Senators, and the additional faculty members as named in Section 7, the Executive Committee shall also include the following non-faculty members, with distinct duties, as outlined in Section 9.

1. The President of the Associated Students of Foothill College (ASFC), or delegate
2. The President of the Foothill College Classified Senate, or delegate
3. The Dean of Equity
4. President's Cabinet Liaison

Section 9. Duties of the Additional Faculty and Non-Faculty Members of the Executive Committee

All members of the Executive Committee as outlined in Sections 7 and 8 shall:

- a. learn about the purpose and function of an academic senate, and their roles and responsibilities as members of the Executive Committee.
- h. attend and participate in all Executive Committee meetings, following the agreed upon meeting norms of the Executive Committee, and serve as a voting member, with the exception of the Dean of Equity and President's Cabinet Liaison, who will only have an advisory vote.
- b. in the case of voting members, appoint a substitute with the power of a proxy vote in writing whenever an absence from an Executive Committee meeting is necessary. A proxy vote must be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Senate at least one calendar day prior to the vote being cast.
- c. maintain timely and consistent communication with their constituencies, committees/councils and/or offices they represent to:
 - a. inform their constituencies or offices of upcoming Senate discussion and action items relevant to their division,
 - b. solicit their constituents' feedback on Senate discussion and action items to ensure representation of their constituents' interests,
 - c. disseminate information members are asked to share with their constituents, and
 - d. be responsible for their constituencies, committees/councils and/or offices they represent, and bring recommendations or concerns to the Senate President for consideration and/or action
- d. in the case of voting members, ratify all appointments made by the President of the Senate

In the instance that one of the members as identified in Section 7 simultaneously holds a position as Senate officer or Senator, the member will perform both duties, but only exercise his/her voting privileges as officer or Senator.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Election Procedures for Officers.

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- a. Election Committee. No later than second meeting of the winter quarter, the Senate shall confirm, from among the members of the Executive Committee, an Election Committee consisting of a faculty chairperson and at least two other faculty from different divisions. The current officers of the Senate Executive Committee will not serve as members of the Election Committee. By the first meeting of the spring quarter the Election Committee Chair will also appoint an official observer from outside the Executive Committee, subject to confirmation of the Senate. The purpose of this committee will be to find candidates for office and ensure proper procedure during elections. The Election Committee will conduct the election in an efficient and impartial manner, so the elected candidates can take office at the first meeting of the fall quarter. The Foothill College Academic Senate will provide an electronic voting process that can securely, reliably, and verifiably conduct an election. In all cases, an electronic election would require some authentication by each faculty member.
- b. The Election Committee will inform all faculty of vacant positions and seek nominees from the fourth week through the eighth week of winter quarter.
- c. After securing written acceptance from the nominees, the Election Committee will present a slate of one or more candidates for each office at a regular meeting of the Senate Executive Committee during the first meeting of spring quarter. Within three days after the Senate meeting, the Election Committee Chair will notify candidates of their nomination.
- d. In the case of an uncontested election, the candidate will be elected by acclamation at the first Senate meeting of the spring quarter.
- e. A general meeting of the faculty will be held by the fifth week of spring quarter to allow candidates to distribute a campaign statement of no more than one page, make a campaign speech, and answer questions. The time and place of the general meeting will be announced in the third week.
- f. Voting information will be distributed to all faculty who are employed during the spring quarter by the Election Committee during Election Week (usually the sixth week of spring quarter.) Special procedures will be taken to ensure voting representation as defined in Article II, Section 4.
- g. The Election Committee will ensure that the election procedures address the needs of the evening, part-time, off-campus as well as full-time day faculty and the security of the election process. Elections will be held for a minimum of two days.
- h. The Election Committee will tally the ballots the next workday following the elections. An official observer, previously chosen by the Election Committee Chair, will validate the results and will call the candidates to notify them of the results the following day. The Election Committee will then meet and report the results in written format to the electorate not later than one week following the election.
- i. An official document of ballot results, signed by the Election Committee members and official observer and indicating the number of votes counted per candidate, will be posted in a prominent area of the main campus and other auxiliary campus sites.
- j. The official document of ballot results will be placed in the archive of the Academic Senate.
- k. In case of a tie, the Election Committee will prepare a run-off election. Voting will take

place within two weeks and results will be posted as per (5) above.

Section 2. Eligibility. Candidates for President shall have served on the Executive Committee. Candidates for Executive Vice-President shall have served on the Executive Committee or as a faculty tri-chair of a shared governance council. Candidates for Vice-President of Curriculum shall have served on the curriculum committee. Any present officer or division representative on the Executive Committee may run for that same or any other office for which there will be a vacancy, so long as they are qualified. Part-time faculty with re-employment preference who meet the above criteria for eligibility, and who meet the criteria for serving as a part-time Senator, as outlined in Article V Section 2 are eligible to serve as a Senate officer, as long as their employment at Foothill College remains active. Compensation for part-time faculty serving as officers will be comparable to the release time designated for this position out of the College-funded Senate release time budget and paid per standard negotiated agreements.

Section 3. Election of Senators.

- a. Division Selection of Senators. Senators starting a new term on the Executive Committee in the fall quarter shall be elected by each division prior to the end of the fifth week of the spring quarter, through an open, transparent and faculty-driven process within each division or area.
- b. Eligibility.
 1. Any faculty member, full or part-time, in a particular division shall be eligible for the office of Senator for that division.
 2. Part-time faculty wishing to serve as division senators shall meet the eligibility criteria for part-time Senators, as outlined in Article V Section 2. Compensation for serving as division Senator may be provided by the division.
 3. Senators shall be eligible for re-election.
- c. Voting. In the election of Senators, the Senate President will call for nominations at the first regular meeting of the Executive Committee in the spring quarter. Representatives should then notify their divisions of any vacancies.
- d. Vacancies. The President shall notify the division to elect a faculty replacement within two weeks of the date of the vacancy. Senators elected to fill a vacancy will assume office at the next Executive Committee.

Section 4. Election of Part-Time Senators.

- a. Part-time Senators will be elected on the same schedule as described in Article VI, Section 1.
- b. Elections for part-time Senators ideally shall be held every year, with staggered two-year terms.
- c. In the event that there are two open positions, the two candidates with the highest vote totals shall be elected to serve starting the following Fall.

Section 5. Replacement of the At-Large Part-time Senator Due to Non-assignment. In the event that the part-time senator is not teaching for two consecutive quarters at Foothill College, he or she will be replaced by the candidate in the most recent part-time election who received the

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most votes and meets the above qualifications. In the absence of any eligible candidates, the President will put out a call for nominations, and a new Senator will be elected by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1. General Conditions for all Meetings.

All meetings shall meet the following conditions:

- a. Notice and agenda for meetings. A notice, and the agenda for any meeting of the Academic Senate or the Executive Committee, shall be appropriately distributed as designated in the Brown Act.
- b. Agenda Items. Any member of this organization may submit to the Senate President an item related to the 11 points covered in Title 5, Subchapter 2, Article 2, Section 53200 or other Senate related business for consideration and action by the Academic Senate or the Executive Committee and this item must be on the agenda for any Academic Senate or Executive Committee meeting within three meetings of its submission.
- c. Attendance. All general and special meetings of the Academic Senate or of the Executive Committee shall be scheduled to ensure maximum attendance.
- d. Voting. Shall be as defined in Article II, Section 4.
- e. Parliamentary Authority for Meetings. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the organization's transaction and decision-making procedures at all meetings provided that these are consistent with this Constitution and any special rules that this organization may adopt.

Section 2. Academic Senate Meetings.

- a. General and Special Meetings of the Academic Senate shall be called, with at least 48 hours of notice, by:
 1. the President, or
 2. the President upon receiving a written petition signed by 10% of the Academic Senate membership, or
 3. the Executive Committee, who can
 - a. petition the President to call a meeting, or
 - b. by a majority vote, call a meeting.
- b. Power of the Academic Senate. Final executive and legislative powers shall be assumed by the membership at any Academic Senate meeting convened to discuss and act on specific agenda items presented at that meeting.

Section 3. Executive Committee Meetings.

Executive Committee meetings shall be held under the following provision:

- a. Frequency. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once each month during the school year.
- b. Availability. All Executive Committee general and special meetings shall be open to all members of the Academic Senate as well as the general public.
- c. Organizational Meeting. The last Executive Committee meeting of the spring quarter

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shall be primarily an organizational meeting to:

1. introduce all newly elected Officers and Senators,
2. establish a time for all future Executive Committee meetings that will be convenient for most of the members, and
3. discuss:
 - a. the role of the Executive Committee,
 - b. the duties of the Senators and other members of the Executive Committee as given in Article V,
 - c. the current Senate Committees, and
 - d. the written report from the previous year and any current issues confronting the Executive Committee that need discussion and action.

Section 4. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee.

Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called with at least 48 hours' notice, by:

- a. the President, or
- b. the President, when a group consisting of one-third of the Executive Committee membership presents the President with a written petition for a meeting. Such a petition must also include an item or items that must be discussed and acted upon.
- c. the President, when a group consisting of 10% of the Academic Senate membership presents to the President a written petition for a meeting. Such a petition must also include an item or items that must be discussed and acted upon.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

The Academic Senate shall have as many committees as are necessary to fulfill the purposes and functions of this organization as outlined in pertinent sections of the Constitution. A list of these committees will be presented at the first meeting of the Executive Committee in the spring quarter.

Section 1. Committee Membership.

Any member of the Academic Senate shall be eligible to serve on any committee except such committees where part-time or probationary faculty participation is excluded by the Agreement between the Foothill-De Anza Community College District and the Foothill-De Anza Faculty Association.

Section 2. Types of Committees.

The Executive Committee may establish committees consistent with its objectives and responsibilities in Article II and District Board Policy #2223 which defines Senate areas of primary reliance and joint development.

Section 3. Primary Reliance Areas are:

- (1) Curriculum and general education
- (2) Program specific and degree requirements

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- (3) Grading policies
- (4) Standards regarding student preparation and success
- (5) Policies for faculty professional development activities

Such committees may include, but are not limited to, the Curriculum Committee and the General Education Committee.

Section 4. Joint Development areas are:

- (1) Units for degrees and certificates
- (2) Educational program development
- (3) Government structures as related to faculty roles
- (4) Faculty involvement in accreditation
- (5) Policies for program review
- (6) Processes for institutional planning and budget development

Examples of such committees are the Accreditation Self-Study Committee and campus and district budget committees and program review committees.

Section 5. General Duties of Committees.

The general duties of all committees shall be to:

- a. study current college and district policies and/or problems for which that committee was established,
- b. inform the Executive Committee, regularly and in a timely manner, about issues of the committees,
- c. vote on and present to the Executive Committee recommendations, additions, and actions to be taken by the Executive Committee concerning these policies or problems currently under study, and to
- d. present an annual oral or written report of the committee's activities to the Executive Committee at the second to last meeting of the school year. Primary Reliance Committees shall present oral reports upon request and select committees shall present reports upon the termination of their temporary assignment.

ARTICLE IX. CONSTITUTIONAL ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the Constitution.

- a. Initiation of Amendments. Amendments to the Constitution may be initiated in one of the following ways:
 1. by a singular or group petition to the Executive Committee where one-half of its members must approve the amendment, or
 2. by submission to the Executive Committee of an amendment on a petition signed by at least 10% of the Academic Senate membership.
- b. Notification. The President of the Academic Senate shall notify each member of the Executive Committee of all properly initiated amendments, who will in turn distribute a written copy of each proposed amendment to all faculty members of his or her division.
- c. Approval. Amendments to the Constitution shall be approved by a 50 % plus 1 vote of the Academic Senate in election procedures such as those outlined in Article VI.

Approved by the Executive Committee on May 24, 2021

Ratified by vote of the general electorate, and confirmed by external party on June 7, 2021

- d. Documentation. All amended language in the Constitution will contain a footnote indicating the date when the voters approved the amended language.

Section 2. Special Voting Committee,

By precedent the Constitution is revised once every three years. In these cases Amendments fall under the election procedures defined in Article VI. For off-year amendments, a select committee for Special Voting Procedures will be created by the President from among the members of the Executive Committee to handle ballot and voting certification procedures for constitutional changes and amendments and any other non-candidate issues as necessary. The President shall call an election of the full faculty to ratify the Constitution within 15 working days of the receipt of the amendment validated by the Executive Committee and shall announce the results of the election within one week.