



Constitution

Revised and Adopted - December 2020

Preamble

In order to have a formal and effective procedure for participating in the formation of district and college policies on academic and professional matters, we, the faculty of Golden West College, do hereby establish a representative organization, known as the Academic Senate to represent us to the administration and the Board of Trustees.

Article I

Name

The name of the representative organization herein established shall be the Golden West College Academic Senate, herein called the Senate.

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of the Senate shall be to represent the faculty in the formation of policy on academic and professional matters. This may include but is not limited to policies and practices as specified in Title 5, Chapter 2, Section 53200. The Coast Community College District Board Policy 7837, delineates the following:

Section I. Rely Primarily---

The Board of Trustees of the Coast Community College District shall rely primarily on the advice of the Academic Senate for policies and procedures related to the following academic and professional matters:

- *Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines*
- *Degree and certificate requirements*
- *Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success*
- *Educational program development*
- *Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports*
- *Policies for faculty professional development activities*
- *Processes for program review*

The Governing Board is also required to rely primarily on the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate in establishing policies and procedures for Faculty Hiring Criteria (Ed. Code 87360 (b) and (c), Equivalencies to Minimum Qualifications (Ed. Code 87359 (b) and

Administrative Retreat Rights (Ed. Code 87458 (a)). These areas may also have collective Bargaining aspects.

Section II. Mutual Agreement---

The Academic Senate shall act in good faith to come to mutual agreement with the District Board for policies and procedures related to the following academic and professional matters:

- *Grading policies*
- *District and College governance structures, as related to faculty roles*
- *Processes for institutional planning and budget development*
- *Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon*

ARTICLE III

Responsibilities

The Senate shall represent the faculty position on the matters as stated in Article II and shall promote communication and mutual understanding within the framework of the college.

The Senate shall consider in good faith any recommendation submitted by a member of the college community for Senate action.

The Senate operates pursuant to the California Administrative Code and the approved Golden West College Academic Senate Constitution and By Laws. The Senate shall conduct meetings according to the Brown Act and *Robert's Rules of Order (Revised 4th edition)*.

ARTICLE IV

Composition

The Senate shall be composed of full-time and part-time faculty members and a student body representative. The Executive Board of the Academic Senate shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, and Chairs of the Academic Senate Standing Committees, and any designees selected by the Senate President. The election, duties and privileges of each member shall be specified in the Academic Senate Bylaws.

ARTICLE V

Affiliation

The Golden West College Senate shall not affiliate with any professional association, organization, or group, except associations of Faculty Senates; however, nothing in this constitution shall be construed to discourage members of the faculty from freely associating in other groups or organizations, and through such association independently expressing their views to the Academic Senate, administration and Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VI

Procedures for Amendment

Section I. Proposal of Amendments

- A. Proposed amendments to this Constitution may be
 - i. proposed by a simple majority of the Senate; and/or
 - ii. initiated upon written petition of at least thirty (30) full-time faculty members

Section II. Approval of Amendments

- A. Upon verification of proposed amendments, the Executive Board shall
 - i. provide and distribute a copy of the proposed amendments to all full-time faculty at least ten days prior to the next Senate meeting
 - ii. place a special election on the next possible Senate meeting agenda
 - iii. provide a written notice of said election of the amendments to the Senate body at least three days prior to the election
- B. Voting on the proposed amendment shall be limited to full-time faculty senators
- C. The proposed amendment shall pass if it is approved by two-thirds of those voting, provided that at least 60% percent of the full-time faculty senators have voted.
- D. The votes shall be made public on the Academic Senate minutes.

ARTICLE VII.

Ratification and Adoption

The Academic Senate constitution shall go into effect upon approval of a 2/3 vote of the full-time faculty senators, provided that at least 60% of the full-time faculty senators have voted.