

Academic Senate Constitution

Constitution Preamble

We, the faculty of the Napa Valley College District, in order to promote the best interests of higher education and the welfare of our profession; to ensure that the faculty assumes its legal role in the governance processes of our District; and to provide a forum for the faculty to discuss, debate, and formulate formal faculty opinions and resolutions both on academic and professional matters and on other issues of concern, hereby establish this constitution and subsequent Bylaws for the Napa Valley College Academic Senate.

The purpose of the Napa Valley College Academic Senate shall be to:

Promote and maintain the role that faculty plays in the District's governance processes; Promote cooperation among all constituencies of the campus community in order to promote the general welfare of Napa Valley College and its students.

Provide a forum for the faculty to discuss issues and to participate in a resolution process on all issues of concern and/or interest to the faculty that are outside the purview of collective bargaining;

Promote the development and maintenance of excellence in teaching within a framework of academic freedom, professional responsibility, and ethics.

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Napa Valley College Academic Senate.

Article II: Powers

The purpose of the Academic Senate is to provide the faculty with its formal representative voice. Through the shared governance process, the Academic Senate develops, reviews, and recommends to the Board of Trustees and Superintendent/President policies and procedures on all academic and professional matters. Napa Valley College BP 2510 and AP 2510, Local Decision-Making and Governance, describes the role of the Academic Senate in the process of decision-making at the college, characterized by open communication and collaboration practices to promote a sense of community campus-wide. Recognizing the Academic Senate as the body representing faculty in governance processes, the Board of Trustees affirms the Academic Senate's primary role and shall consult collegially in writing on all academic and professional matters, as defined in Title 5 of the State Code of Regulations (§53200).

§Title 53200(d): "Consult collegially" means that the district governing board shall develop policies on academic and professional matters through either or both of the following methods, according to its own discretion:

- (1) relying primarily upon the advice and judgment of the academic senate; or
- (2) agreeing that the district governing board, or such representatives as it may designate, and the representatives of the academic senate shall have the obligation to reach mutual agreement by written resolution, regulation, or policy of the governing board

Article VI: Governance

SECTION 1: POLICY-MAKING BODY

The policy-making body of the Napa Valley College Academic Senate shall be the general membership.

SECTION 2: MEETINGS

The Academic Senate shall hold regular meetings as prescribed in the Bylaws. The