

Constitution

of the
San Bernardino Valley College Academic Senate

CHARTER:

In order to promote the best educational interests of the San Bernardino Valley College, the full cooperation of the Board of Trustees, the Administration, and the Faculty is necessary. While the Board of Trustees formulates policies, it is agreed that these policies should be developed following receipt of the best possible advice. In order to provide the Board of Trustees and the Administration with advice and assistance from the faculty, the creation of an Academic Senate is hereby authorized.

PURPOSE:

The general purpose of the Academic Senate is to advise and assist the Administration and the Board of Trustees in the formulation of policies on academic and professional matters and in the selection of major administrative personnel, deans, presidents, and Chancellor.

MEMBERSHIP:

- A. All full time faculty members who fulfill a major part of their duties at San Bernardino Valley College will be eligible to be elected as Regular Senators except those faculty members temporarily assigned in management positions. Each division shall be entitled to at least one (1) representative. In totaling division membership for representation on the Academic Senate, each major fraction of five (three) will entitle a division to an additional representative. Each representative shall be elected for a maximum of no more than three years, but representatives may succeed themselves.
- B. Adjunct faculty shall be represented by Adjunct Senators. Up to three positions are available. Adjunct Senators will serve one-year terms.
- C. The immediate past president of the Academic Senate, the President of the San Bernardino Valley College Faculty Association, and the presidents of the San Bernardino Valley College chapter of any recognized professional faculty

organization, and a faculty representative from both Professional Development and Program Review, if not already elected members of the Academic Senate, shall be members of the Academic Senate.

ORGANIZATION:

- A. The Board of Trustees by official Board action, the Administration, or an individual faculty member may refer matters of academic and professional policy to the Academic Senate. The Academic Senate may assume such responsibilities and perform such functions as may be requested of it by the Administration or the Board of Trustees. The term "academic and professional matters" is interpreted to mean anything that the Academic Senate determines to be of proper concern
- B. Upon the request of the Academic Senate, and subject to Government Code Section 54950 ff. (the Brown Act) when applicable, the governing board or such board members or administrative officers as it may designate, shall meet and confer with representatives of the Academic Senate with respect to recommendations made or proposed to be made by the Senate. The designation of board members or administrative officers as provided herein shall not preclude the representatives of the Academic Senate from meeting with, or appearing before the governing board with respect to the views, recommendations, or proposals of the Senate at a regular or special meeting of the Board.
- C. Decisions of the Academic Senate may be reviewed by the entire faculty if at least one-fourth (1/4) of the Academic Senate, or if the President of the College or the Chancellor requests a referendum on an Academic Senate decision. (Referendum conducted by secret ballot requires 2/3 of all ballots are returned. To overturn a decision of the Academic Senate, a majority of returned ballots must approve.)
- D. The Academic Senate or its executive committee shall meet monthly with the President or designate and when the need arises, with the Chancellor. The agenda of this meeting shall be prepared by the President of the Academic Senate and the Administration.
- E. The President of the Academic Senate or designate shall attend all regular meetings of the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the Academic Senate and present the written views and recommendations to the governing board. The governing board shall consider and respond to such views and recommendations.
- F. A report from the Academic Senate shall be included on the agenda of the

Board of Trustees as part of the President's report.

AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by recommendation of either the Academic Senate or by petition from ten percent (10%) of the faculty. Sixty percent (60%) of those voting members of the faculty must vote to approve with a quorum of not less than thirty-three and one-third percent (33-1/3%) of the faculty participating. The amended Constitution goes into effect upon approval of the Board of Trustees.

Adopted by the SBCCD Board of Trustees, June 14, 1964.

Amended:

November 10, 1967

April 12, 1968

April 10, 1970

October 5, 1973

April 4, 1975

June 29, 1979

April 12, 1995

May 11, 2006