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**PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE GUIDANCE**  
**February 21, 2025**

As discussed at College Council, Andrea and I will be coming forward with a proposal for the mission and membership of College Council. In addition, we want to provide your task force with some guidance about the SBVC College Committee Structure. We are mindful of the upcoming deadline in April for faculty to select committees and want to help facilitate movement on our committee structure.

President Hecht and I have agreed on the criteria to evaluate changes (mainly elimination of committees or combining of committees). The goal is to advance inclusive decision-making, consistency among participants, and clear guidance on the charge and membership of each committee. Any changes to the committee structure should minimize disruption to inclusive decision-making and campus operations.

Here are some important criteria for eliminating a SBVC College Committee as part of participatory governance:

1. The committee is from an area that is no longer relevant in the California community college system. Some committees are named after areas that no longer exist.
2. The committee is in the purview of management-only.
3. The committee is in the purview of faculty-only.

We want to be clear that the reduction in the number of committees is not an indication that the work of the committee is unimportant. Rather, the work is not necessary as part of the participatory governance framework. All of the current committees are doing important work for the College. As we look to foster inclusive decision-making, it is important to have an optimal number of committees with clear deliverables and timelines.

With the above points in mind, we would like you to consider the following changes as you prepare recommendations for the Academic Senate and College Council:

1. In alignment with the state, consider making the recommendation to combine SSSP, Basic Skills, Guided Pathways, and Student Equity.
2. Consider recommending the elimination from participatory governance:
  - a. Honors
  - b. Campus life and commencement
  - c. Scholarships
  - d. Student policies and scholastic standards
  - e. Technology
3. In an effort to provide consistency, please review faculty re-assignments for participation in certain committees and consider eliminating all re-assignment time for faculty participation in campus committees.

Thank you for your leadership. We welcome the ideas from your task force regarding this request and any suggestions to strengthen the spirit of this work. Please feel free to contact us for further guidance or any additions/recommendations to this communication.

With appreciation,

Gil & Andrea