

SANTIAGO CANYON COLLEGE ACADEMIC SENATE CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

To ensure advocacy, equity, effectiveness, and predictability for participating in the formation of district and college policies on academic and professional matters, we the Faculty of Santiago Canyon College, do hereby establish this representative organization to represent us to the administration, the Board of Trustees, and the community.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Academic Senate of Santiago Canyon College, herein referred to as the Senate.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Electorate

The Electorate shall consist of all full-time and part-time faculty/certificated personnel who has an assignment at Santiago Canyon College (hereafter, shall be referred to as the College) and whose assignment does not include evaluation of other faculty/certificated personnel in a supervisory role. A supervisory role does not include the “peer review” or “tenure review process” in which the general faculty is expected to participate.

Section 2: Senate

The Senate shall be composed of the following members:

- Representative Senators to be voted upon by the Electorate as dictated by the Bylaws
- The Executive Board of the Senate, which shall include the Senate President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Co-Chairs of the Curriculum and Instruction Council

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE & SCOPE

Section 1: The Senate shall have the following purposes:

- To promote the general welfare of the College, its faculty, and its students
- To ensure that the formal and effective procedures for participating in the formation of College policies on academic and professional concerns, in accordance with the provisions of the California Code Regulations providing for the establishment of college senates, especially Section 53200 through 53206
- To encourage a sense of responsibility among faculty for maintaining an exemplary level of instruction and professional commitment
- To represent the faculty in making recommendations to the Administration of the College and the Board of Trustees with respect to academic and professional matters
- To cooperate with the community and other organizations to improve the status of community college education in California, especially with respect to matters directly affecting faculty
- To assume properly the role of the Senate as mandated by AB 1725

Section 2: The Senate shall exercise its authority within the following scope:

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
11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the Senate

ARTICLE IV: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1: Actualize the purpose and scope

The primary function of the Senate is to ensure the realization of its purpose within the scope defined; to that end, it shall appoint committee members, hold regular meetings, and elect representatives who can perform the duties as described in the Bylaws.

Section 2: Appointment

The Senate shall be empowered to appoint committees, conduct studies, conduct business, and review concerns as deemed appropriate by the Senate. All committees shall report their findings to the Senate, unless otherwise instructed.

Section 3: Functions

The Senate shall conduct meetings, hold elections, and perform duties as outlined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE V: BYLAWS

Bylaws of this constitution may be adopted or amended at an official meeting by two-thirds vote of the Senate members present, provided that the proposal has been introduced at a previous meeting.

ARTICLE VI: ASSESSMENTS

Consistent with Section 13532 of the California Education Code, the Senate may call upon its members for the annual payment of professional dues in the amount of \$50.00. However, professional dues are not to be a condition of or eligibility for membership in the Senate, and no sanctions are to be imposed upon those members who do not pay such professional dues.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Procedure

An Amendment of the Constitution may be proposed in writing to the Senate by a member of the Senate. If accorded a two-thirds favorable vote, the proposed Amendment shall be submitted to the Electorate for approval.

Section 2: Adoption

If two-thirds of the votes cast by the Electorate favor adoption of the Amendment, it shall immediately become effective unless otherwise stipulated in the Amendment.

Ratified May 19, 2026