



Procedure Number:	AS 201
Procedure Title:	Shared Governance
Relevant Board Policy:	B.2.1 Organizational Plan
Relevant SACSCOC Principle:	10.4 Academic Governance
Originating Unit:	Vice President for Academic Success
Maintenance Unit:	Vice President for Academic Success
Contact for Interpretation:	Vice President for Academic Success

- I. Purpose:** Shared Governance is a carefully guarded tradition at Northeast Lakeview College. As such, the College affirms the responsibility and authority of Faculty in shared governance of the College, especially in relation to its academic units, the curriculum and degree programs, student learning, and academic program outcomes.
- II.** This common collegiate practice is based in the following two conceptual expressions:

First of all, there is Board of Trustees Policy, B.2.1, Organizational Plan, which expresses a foundational intent on shared governance:

In the interest of maintaining open communication and encouraging participative decision making, the Board wishes to provide avenues for the full-time faculty and staff and the part-time faculty of the College District to be appropriately involved in the governance of the institution.

Second is the defining 1966 Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities issued by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), which refers to an “inescapable interdependence among governing board, administration, faculty, students, and others” and cites communication between the components as critical.

More specifically, the College’s accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) has as a principle of accreditation that the College “publishes and implements policies on the authority of faculty in academic and governance matters“ (SACSCOC Principle 10.4).

Accordingly, this academic manual lays out procedures by which Faculty share

specifically in the governance of academic affairs.

Further, SACSCOC states within the *Principles of Accreditation* that the institution “demonstrates that educational programs for which academic credit is awarded are approved consistent with institutional policy” (SACSCOC Principle 10.4), that the institution “places primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty” (SACSCOC Principle 10.4), that “the institution assigns appropriate responsibility for program coordination” (SACSCOC Principle 6.2.c), and “Employs a sufficient number of full-time faculty members to ensure curriculum and program quality, integrity, and review” (SACSCOC Principle 6.2.b).

Accordingly, the Faculty has established procedures for reviewing and approving all educational programs and components of such by faculty academically qualified in the field. The Faculty also has established procedures for regularly evaluating and coordinating all educational programs and components of such.

III. Participation of Faculty in Shared Governance

The Faculty consists of those holding the academic rank of Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, or Professor Emeritus/a in one of the academic units of the College. Inclusion within the Faculty is irrespective of full-time or part-time employment status, or location or modality of instructional offering. (Voting privileges within Faculty Meetings are distinct from membership in the Faculty.)

Faculty participates in governance through established academic unit, committee, and representative structures, including the Faculty Senate, Faculty Meetings, and the Adjunct Faculty Council.

The most direct and comprehensive participation of Faculty in shared governance is through actions taken by the Faculty in Faculty Meetings, as reflected in the foundational concept approved by Faculty that “the Faculty... routinely conduct business related to the academic affairs of the College through a process of faculty votes at Faculty Meetings” (Minutes of Faculty Meeting, April 29, 2016).

The Faculty, acting through Faculty Meetings, share in governance:

1. The Faculty determines, defines, and approves College-wide regulations and practices regarding academic affairs, in particular as they pertain to the earning of academic credit and the awarding of degrees;
2. The Faculty reviews and formulates measures for the assessment of the College's comprehensive educational programs; and
3. The Faculty may also develop and articulate its opinion on any issue of interest to the College and may adopt resolutions to that end. Resolutions on issues not directly under the authority of the Faculty will be considered advisory.

Accordingly, "the decisions by the faculty at Faculty Meetings shall be legitimately considered as reflections of the faculty voice as a part of shared governance" (Minutes of Faculty Meeting, April 29, 2016).

IV. Administrative Support of Shared Governance

The academic administration supports shared governance in the following foundational ways:

1. The administrator of an academic unit renders necessary support, clerical and otherwise, to academic governance at the unit level. At the College level, this is the responsibility of the Vice President for Academic Success.
2. Academic administrators recognize a faculty member's participation in shared governance as an important and integral part of the individual's workload. Teaching schedules or other work assignments should be made consistent with regular committee or council meetings insofar as that is reasonably possible.

Attachment:

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Date Approved: 11/11/2016

Last Updated: 3/5/2019

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