

Academic Senate (Faculty Senate)

The faculty of Las Positas College have established an Academic Senate, which participates in the formation of District policy on academic and professional matters. Faculty may secure information about the Academic Senate through Senators elected from each division, or from Senate officers elected college wide.

The Academic Senate represents the faculty in collegial consultation related to certain academic and professional matters as defined in Title V of the Ed Code. On these selected matters, the Board of Trustees "rely primarily"* upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate in the following areas listed in Ed Code and is consistent with Board Policy.

- Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses in disciplines;
- Degree and certificate requirements; grading policies;
- Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success;
- Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation process, including self-study and annual reports.

The Academic Senate will also participate through "mutual agreement"* in the following areas:

- District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles;
- Policies for faculty professional development activities;
- Processes for institutional planning and budget development;
- Regulations and procedures relating to health and safety;
- Educational program development;
- Processes for program review.

*The complete *College Governance Model* is posted on the Intranet and is available from the Office of the President.

Academic Freedom

Academic freedom exists and is nurtured in our community for the common good of all citizens. Students, faculty, administrators and society itself derive benefits from the practice of academic freedom with its open search for truth and its free exposition. Academic freedom is fundamental for the protection of the instructor's right in teaching and the student's right in learning in the classroom and on the campus. Academic freedom carries with it responsibilities correlative with rights, such responsibilities being implicit in all freedoms and assured by all members of the college to ensure the rights of others.

Academic freedom with regard to communications, including general operation parameter and the implications of academic freedom and the Internet are covered under Article 23 of the Contract. The rights and conditions by the District to inspect, monitor or disclose of email or computer usage are also covered under Article 26.

Academic Honesty (Students)

Las Positas College promotes student success by providing high quality instruction and learning resources. The primary factor in student success, however, is the student's devotion of considerable time and energy to the learning process. A high grade in a Las Positas College course is, therefore, something of which both the College and the student can be proud. It indicates mastery of the material achieved through hard work.