

CONSTITUTION FOR THE FACULTY SENATE
OF
BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Preamble

In order to provide for effective joint communication concerning the nature, direction, and pace of the Broward Community College program, and to encourage the development and maintenance of a climate conducive to excellence in teaching and learning within a framework of academic freedom, professional responsibility, and high ethical standards, the Faculty of Broward Community College does hereby adopt this Constitution for the Faculty Senate.

I. Name

The body hereby formed shall be known as the Faculty Senate of Broward Community College.

II. Purpose

Under the leadership of the President of Broward Community College, and subject to the approval of those agencies legally constituted to direct the public junior colleges of the State of Florida, the Faculty Senate of Broward Community College shall serve as an instrument through which the Faculty can initiate, study, discuss and recommend those objectives, policies and procedures which are properly the common concern of the Administration, Faculty and Staff of Broward Community College in academic areas.

III. Definition of Faculty

Faculty, for the purposes of this document shall be defined as: full-time, certified personnel employed by Broward Community College on the instructional salary schedule, who are assigned to a full teaching load, or who are designated as librarians or counselors.

IV. Senators

Section 1: Apportionment

There shall be one senator for each fifteen members, or major fraction(8) thereof, of the total faculty members on each of the three campuses, plus two additional Senators for each campus. All such Senators will be elected at-large from their respective campus.

Section 2: Qualifications

Senators shall be full-time faculty members, assigned to one or more campuses, running for office only from that campus where the majority of their classes/work is assigned.

Section 3: Nominations

On Tuesday of the first full week of February, the Enabling Committee shall circulate, among the Faculty on each campus, a memorandum stating the number of Senators to which the campus is entitled (less the number of Senators whose term shall not have expired by the end of the current academic year). This number shall be determined by the number of full-time faculty members in active service and holding either an annual contract or continuing contract with Broward Community College at the beginning of the current academic year and in accordance with Section 1 of this Article. Any full-time member of the faculty may send written, signed nominations to the Enabling Committee. Such nominations must be received by the Enabling Committee not later than Friday of the last full week in February to be listed on the ballot.

Section 4: Elections

Elections shall be conducted by the Enabling Committee of the Senate. Senators for a campus shall be elected by the full-time faculty members assigned to that campus. Sealed ballots containing the names of all qualified candidates, arranged alphabetically, shall be distributed to all faculty members of the respective campus, who shall vote for the appropriate number of Senators. Election shall be determined by a plurality vote. The enabling Committee of the Senate shall distribute, collect, and count the ballots before Friday of the third full week in March, and certify the newly elected Senators to all persons appropriately concerned.

Section 5: Term

The term of office shall commence upon election. Senators shall normally serve for two years. Special one-year terms may be instituted by the Enabling Committee, if this is necessary in order to insure staggering of terms.

Section 6: Vacancies

Should a vacancy exist for any reason, the President of the Senate shall appoint a replacement from the same campus. Such a replacement shall serve until the next regularly scheduled election. Such appointment shall be made prior to the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting following notice of the vacancy. Appointments are subject to confirmation by a two-thirds majority vote of the Senators present.

Section 7: Attendance

The Senate may, by a two-thirds vote of the Senators present, remove any representative who has missed two consecutive meetings.

V. Officers

The senate shall have the following officers: a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary. Other officers may be established as deemed necessary in the By-Laws to this Constitution.

Section 1: Election

The election of Senate officers shall be provided for in the By-Laws to this Constitution.

Section 2: Term

The term of all Senate officers shall be one year.

Section 3: Duties

The President of the Senate shall preside at all meetings of the Senate, shall conduct necessary correspondence for the Senate, shall attend the weekly meetings of the President of Broward Community College's Cabinet, shall be a member and attend all meetings of the Foundation, shall be available for consultation when requested by the President of Broward Community College, the Administrative Officers and Staff, the Committees of the College and the Committees of the Senate, and shall perform all other duties that may be necessary and proper to insure the effective operation of the Senate. The President will be available during the entire summer. The Vice-President shall assume the office of President should a vacancy appear, preside over meetings in the President's absence, and perform such other duties as the President shall assign. The Secretary of the Senate shall keep an accurate record of attendance, shall keep complete minutes of all meetings of the Senate, and distribute copies of the minutes to all members of the Administration, Faculty and Staff within two weeks after each meeting, and shall perform such other duties as are proper to the office.

VI. Meetings

All meetings of the Senate shall be open meetings, and all members of the Administration, Faculty and Staff of Broward Community College are encouraged to attend, participate in discussion, serve on committees of the Senate, but shall not vote.

Section 1: Regular

The Senate shall meet monthly during Terms 1 and 2, at least once during Term 3, and at such other times as the Senators, by majority, may decide.

Section 2: Special

The President of the Senate may call a special meeting, provided that at least three days shall elapse between notification and meeting.

The President of the Senate must call a special meeting, within three days, upon receipt of a written petition signed by a majority of the Faculty Senate members.

The President of the Senate must call a special meeting upon receipt of a written petition signed by at least twenty-five percent of the Faculty.

The President of the Senate may call a special meeting at the request of the President of Broward Community College.

VII. Quorum

A majority of the Senators shall constitute a quorum during Terms 1 and 2. A majority of the Senators on active duty during Terms 3A and 3B shall constitute a quorum.

VIII. Powers

All provisions of the Constitution shall conform to law, State Board of Education regulations, and Board Policies, and in the event any provision is inconsistent to these, it shall be null and void.

IX. Functions

It shall be the function of the Senate to represent the Faculty in institutional matters concerning philosophy, curricula, subject matter, graduation requirements, and those aspects of student affairs which relate to the educational process. The Senate shall bring together representatives from the total professional staff of the various campuses, areas, and divisions of Broward Community College, and shall be guided by the principle that the total personnel resources of the College relate to the policy-recommending process. The Senate may consider any subject that is germane to the academic interests of the College and make recommendations to the President of Broward Community College, for transmission to the appropriate official, committee, or person for further consideration. When appropriate, Senate recommendations may be

submitted by the President of Broward Community college to the District Board of Trustees.

X. Amendments

Proposed amendments may be initiated by any Senator present at a regular meeting of the Senate and shall be approved for circulation among the faculty by a majority vote of the Senate. Proposed amendments signed by twenty-five percent of the Faculty shall be circulated among the Faculty, upon receipt by the Senate without further Senate action. Proposed amendments shall become effective when they are approved by a two-thirds vote of the total Senate, ratified by a two-thirds vote of the voting Faculty, and the vote is certified in writing to the President of Broward Community College.

XI. By-Laws

Authority to adopt By-laws, consistent with this Constitution, is granted to the Senate.

Proposed By-Laws, and amendment s thereto, shall be published in full in the agenda for the meeting at which they are to be considered, and shall become effective upon a two-thirds vote of the total Senate.

Effective Date, Current Constitution: March 24, 2005