

Resolution: Affirming the Purview and Authority of the Academic Senate of Sierra College

Unanimously Approved on August 27, 2025

Whereas, Title Five of the California Code of Regulations (Section 53200) establishes that the Academic Senate is the body that represents all faculty in making recommendations to the administration and governing board with respect to academic and professional matters, commonly referred to as the “10+1”; and

Whereas, the Academic Senate functions as a democratic body, with authority exercised through its elected representatives and established processes; and

Whereas, the integrity and legitimacy of the Academic Senate depend upon a fair and transparent democratic election process and upon the authority, established in Title 5, Section 53203(f), to appoint faculty without restriction to district committees, task forces, or other groups dealing with academic and professional matters; and

Whereas, individual faculty members, including those serving in appointed roles or on campus committees, do not have the authority to make decisions for the Academic Senate or to speak on behalf of the Academic Senate; and

Whereas, the integrity of participatory governance depends on clarity of role, respect for purview, and recognition of the Academic Senate’s right to make recommendations and be collegially consulted in the areas of the 10+1; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Academic Senate of Sierra College reaffirms its purview and commitment to the democratic process in exercising its authority in all matters of academic and professional concern (10+1); and

Resolved, that the Academic Senate of Sierra College remains committed to ensuring that its elections are democratic, transparent, and representative, and to exercising its authority, established in Title 5, to appoint faculty to district committees and participatory governance structures on matters of academic and professional concern (10+1); and

Resolved, that the Academic Senate of Sierra College affirms that it speaks and acts only as a body, through its processes and votes, and not through individual members; and

Resolved, that the Academic Senate of Sierra College calls upon all campus stakeholders to respect the clarity of governance roles and the authority of the Academic Senate in its purview, so that shared governance at Sierra College remains strong, collaborative, and transparent.