



NORCO
COLLEGE

ACADEMIC SENATE BASICS

Presented by
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Purpose of the Academic Senate



The Academic Senate:

- represents all faculty members employed at Norco College (NC);
 - facilitates communication among faculty, students, administration, and the Board of Trustees in all matters related to community college education; and
 - makes recommendations to college administrators on *academic and professional matters*, as defined in the California Education Code (Section 53200).
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- The NC Academic Senate is governed by its [Constitution and Bylaws](#).
 - Senate meetings follow [Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, In Brief \(3rd Edition\)](#)

The Purview of the Academic Senate (“10+1”)



California legislation requires college administrators to work with faculty through their Academic Senates in policy development and implementation of all items within the following 11 areas (better known as the “10+1”):

1. Curriculum including establishing prerequisites and places 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. Policies for faculty professional development activities
7. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles
8. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports
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 Academic Senate

The 10+1 in RCCD



In RCCD, the Board of Trustees *relies primarily* on the Academic Senate for items 1-6 and strives to *mutually agree* on items 7-11 of the 10+1 ([BP2005](#)).

Relies Primarily

1. Curriculum
2. Degree and Certificate Requirements
3. Grading
4. Program Development
5. Student Preparation and Success
6. Professional Development

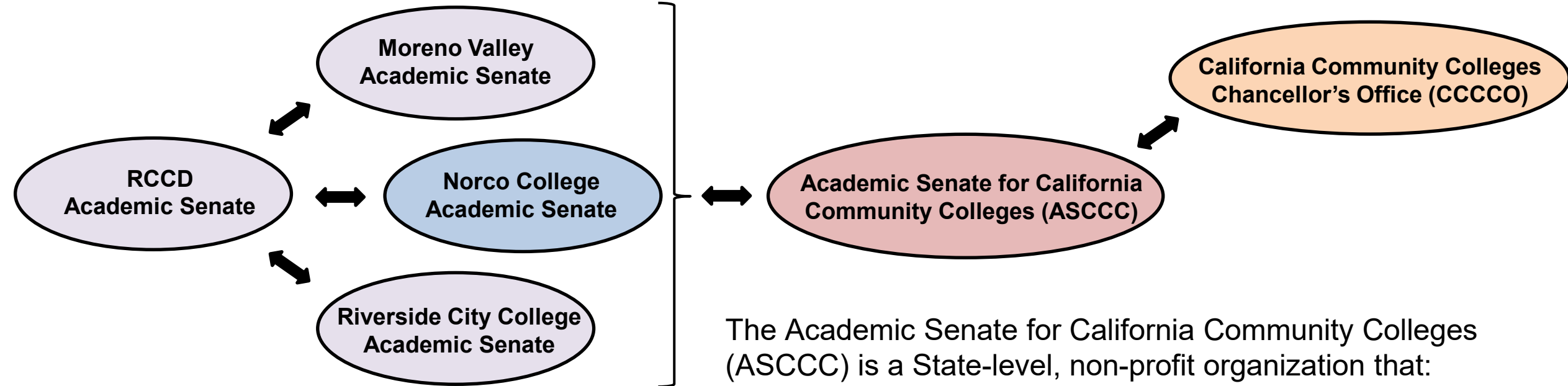
Relies Primarily means that recommendations of the Academic Senate will normally be accepted by the Board.

Mutually Agree

7. Governance Structures
8. Accreditation
9. Program Review
10. Institutional Planning and Budget
11. Other Academic and Professional Matters

Mutually Agree means that the Board will act in good faith to reach an agreement with the Academic Senate.

The Academic Senate Organization



RCCD Senate Structure

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) is a State-level, non-profit organization that:

- works closely with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO),
- supports local Academic Senates at all 116 California Community Colleges,
- advises the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges,
- develops and promotes policy through resolutions, and
- makes recommendations on legislation affecting community colleges.

Academic Senate Verses the Faculty Association

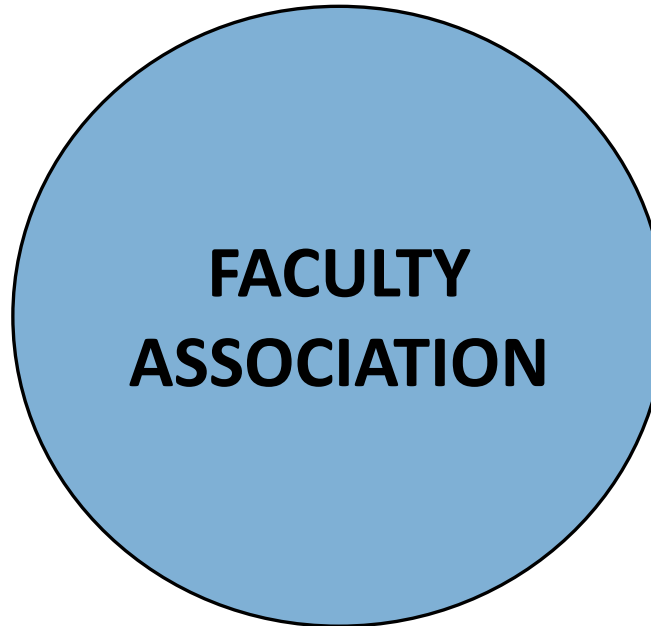
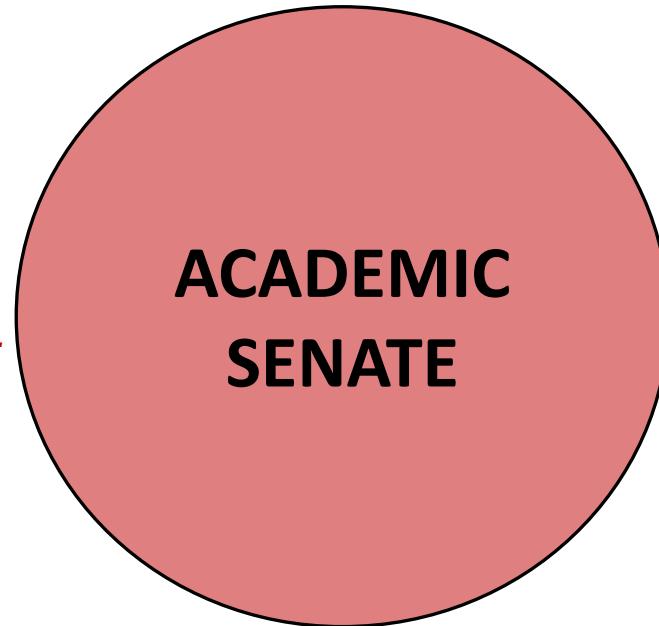


The **Academic Senate** represents faculty in *academic* and *professional matters (10+1)*.

The **Faculty Association** (faculty union) represents faculty *working conditions*.

Examples:

- *Curriculum*
- *Degrees/Certificates*
- *Grading*
- *Program Development*
- *Faculty Professional Development*



Examples:

- *Academic Calendar*
- *Salary/Benefits*
- *Work Hours*
- *Leave*
- *Safety*
- *Evaluations*

Overlap of the Academic Senate and the Faculty Association



The Academic Senate and the Faculty Association have some shared purview, primarily in the following areas:

- Faculty Professional Development
 - ☐ FLEX content and FLEX days
- Faculty Evaluations
 - ☐ Ed Code §87663(f) requires the Faculty Association to consult with Academic Senates on procedures prior to negotiation
- Tenure Review
 - ☐ Ed Code §87610.1(a) requires the Faculty Association to consult with Academic Senates on procedures prior to negotiation
- Enrollment Management
 - ☐ The Senate consider areas from the “10+1” perspective, while the Faculty Association draws from its expressed areas to create sound practices

*Faculty Senates and faculty unions are political bodies
who advocate for the rights of faculty and must work together closely!*

Legislation Impacting Academic Senates



- Both the State Academic Senate and local Academic Senates are empowered by Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations and the California Education Code (Ed Code).
 - Certain sections of Title 5 and the Ed Code specifically pertain to the Academic Senate.
- Academic Senates and their subcommittees are also subject to the Brown Act restrictions.
 - Agendas must be published at least 72 hours before a meeting and must include all items that will be discussed.
 - Meetings must to open to the everyone, including faculty, staff, administrators, students and members of the public.
 - Everyone must be given an opportunity to speak on topics.
 - The Brown Act also disallows discussion of Senate topics by a quorum of Senate members outside of scheduled meetings.

Standing Committees of the Academic Senate



- The NC Academic Senate currently has the following 10 standing committees:
 - ☐ Academic Planning Chairs (APC)
 - ☐ Assessment
 - ☐ Curriculum
 - ☐ Course Materials Affordability Committee
 - ☐ Distance Education (DE)
 - ☐ Faculty Professional Development (FPDC)
 - ☐ LGBTQ+ Advocates
 - ☐ Program Review
 - ☐ Library Advisory
 - ☐ Teaching and Learning (TLC)
- Representatives of Academic Senate standing committees give reports on their committees' activities at Senate meetings.
- All faculty Chairs/Co-Chairs of these standing committees are non-voting members of the Academic Senate.

Faculty Representation at Norco College and RCCD



In addition to its standing committees, the NC Academic Senate chooses faculty representatives for:

- the College Council,
- all four of NC's Leadership Councils, and
- any workgroup/committee connected to the *10+1* (e.g. Guided Pathways, Accreditation, Equity, etc.)

The NC Academic Senate is also represented by faculty on the following District Committees and Councils:

- District Budget Advisory Committee (DBAC)
- District Enrollment Management Committee (DEMC)
- District Strategic Planning Council (DSPC)
- Facilities Planning and Development Council (FPDC)
- Professional Growth & Sabbatical Leave Committee (PG&SL)
- Any District workgroup/committee connected to the *10+1*

The NC Academic Senate Consists of 13 Voting Members



Senators/Alternate Senators (10)

1. Communication, Humanities & Languages (CHL)
2. Social and Behavioral Sciences
3. Visual and Performing Arts
4. Applied Technologies and Apprenticeship
5. Business and Management
6. Human and Public Services
7. Math, Engineering, Computer Science and Game Development
8. Natural Sciences, Health and Kinesiology
9. Counseling
10. Associate Faculty Representative

Officers (3)

11. Secretary/Treasurer (Hayley Ashby)
12. Vice President (Dan Reade)
13. President (Kimberly Bell)

Roles/Responsibilities of Senate Members



Academic Senate members should:

- attend (or have their alternate attend) all meetings of the Academic Senate;
- come to Academic Senate meetings prepared by reviewing agendas and reading all supporting materials before the meeting starts;
- keep your constituents informed on Academic Senate issues;
- represent the faculty in your Department/constituency group at Academic Senate meetings, including reporting any comments/concerns that faculty have about agenda issues; and
- serve on Academic Senate workgroups and taskforces (as needed).

Links to Web Pages of Interest to the Academic Senate



Norco College

- [Academic Senate Homepage](#)
- [Strategic Planning and Governance Manual](#)
- [Governance Resources](#)

RCCD

- [RCCD Academic Senate Homepage](#)
- [Board Policies \(BPs\) and Administrative Procedures \(APs\)](#)

Other

- [Academic Senate for California Community Colleges](#)
- [Robert's Rules of Order](#) (requires sign in with an RCCD email address)



Questions?