



Board Policy
Chapter 2 – Board of Trustees

BP 2513 PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE: ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the Associated Students as the duly elected representatives of the student body of Santa Monica College, as provided by Education Code Section 76060. The Associated Students are encouraged to voice opinions and make recommendations to the administration of the college and the Board of Trustees with regard to District and college policies and procedures that have or will have a significant effect on the student body.

The Board of Trustees of Santa Monica Community College District hereby authorizes the students of the college to establish the Associated Students and charges them with the responsibility to:

- A. Fix and amend by vote of the A.S. Board of Directors the composition, structure, and procedures of the Associated Students.
 - B. Provide for the selection, in accordance with accepted democratic election procedures, of the members of the Associated Students.
1. District policies and procedures that have or will have a significant effect on students include the following:
- A. grading policies
 - B. codes of student conduct
 - C. academic disciplinary policies
 - D. curriculum development
 - E. courses or programs which should be initiated or discontinued
 - F. processes for institutional planning and budget development
 - G. standards and policies regarding student preparation and success
 - H. student services planning and development
 - I. student fees the adoption of which are within the authority of the District
 - J. any other District and college policy, procedure, or related matter the Board of Trustees (and the Associated Students) determine(s) will have a significant effect on the student body

This list does not preclude the opportunity for students to request participation in other District committees as appropriate.

2. The Associated Students of Santa Monica College shall be provided an opportunity to participate in the formulation and development of District and college policies and procedures that have or will have a significant effect on the student body, as defined in item 3. This right includes the opportunity to participate in processes for developing recommendations for the Board of Trustees regarding such policies and procedures in collaboration with the appropriate college organization(s).
3. The Board of Trustees, except in an unforeseeable emergency, shall not take action on a matter having significant effect on the student body until it has provided the Associated Students with an opportunity to participate in the formulation of the policy or the procedure or the joint development of recommendations regarding the action.
4. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that at the District and college levels, recommendations and positions developed by the Associated Students are given every reasonable consideration.
5. The selection of all student representatives to serve on all appropriate college committees, appropriate Academic Senate Joint Committees, task forces, or other governance groups shall be made by the Associated Students after consultation with the Superintendent/President and the President of the Academic Senate.
 - A. In order that the recommendations and opinions of students are given every reasonable consideration, the Associated Students will designate students to participate in each of the appropriate college committees: Academic Senate Joint committees, task forces, or other governance groups, according to item number 3 and in the spirit of AB 1725.
 - B. To facilitate student attendance, the prior commitments of all student members of any given committee should receive equal consideration in scheduling meetings. Students should have ready access to campus resources to carry out adequately committee responsibilities.
 - C. Student members on committees will annually review, evaluate, and make recommendations for any changes in the governance structure, if needed, to insure an adequate voice. The recommendations will be given to the appropriate committee chairs, organizational leaders, administrators and the Board of Trustees.
6. Administration, faculty, and staff should provide appropriate means and understanding of governance issues in order to increase student preparedness, self-confidence, and credibility in the collegial governance process.
 - A. Administration, faculty, and committee chairs will provide training and orientation at the beginning of each academic year for the purpose of building trust, fostering teamwork, and preparing for meaningful participation in the governance process.

- B. Both faculty and administration will provide ongoing consultative services such as regular, timely meetings with committee chairpersons, the development of mentorships, or other alternative means of sharing with students.
- 7. The A.S. President, or a designee, regularly shall be accorded the opportunity to present positions and recommendations of the Associated Students to the Board of Trustees.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall give reasonable consideration to recommendations and positions developed by the Associated Students regarding District and college policies and procedures pertaining to the hiring and evaluation of faculty, administration, and staff.
- 9. The Associated Students embrace the philosophy of participatory governance by encouraging faculty, staff, and administration to participate effectively on appropriate Associated Student boards, committees, and task forces. Appointment of faculty and staff to A.S. Committees shall be made by appropriate representative organizations after consultation with the President of the Associated Students.
- 10. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impinge upon the due process rights of faculty, staff, and administration, nor to detract from any negotiations or negotiated agreements between collective bargaining agents and the Board of Trustees.

Also see BP/AR 2410 Board Policies and Administrative Regulations, BP/AR 2510 Participation in Local Decision-Making, BP/AR 3250 Institutional Planning, and BP/AR 5400 Associated Students.

References:

Education Code Section 76060;
Title 5 Section 51023.7

Adopted: May 1, 2000

Revised: June 6, 2017

(Replaces former SMC BP 2230)