A. Organization of the District

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1. Rely Primarily

The Board of Trustees shall "rely primarily" upon the advice and judgment of each Academic Senate independently on selected college matters and the two senates jointly on selected District matters. College and District matters will be distinguished as described in the section below on the Chancellor's Council.

"Rely primarily" means that all recommendations in the areas specified below will be forwarded to the Board through the Chancellor by the Academic Senate(s) and will be accepted by the Board in most cases. In instances where a recommendation is not accepted, the Board's decision must be based on a clear and substantive rationale which puts the explanation for the decision in an accurate, appropriate, and relevant context. If a recommendation is not approved, the Board or its designee shall promptly communicate its reason in writing to the respective senate(s). If such recommendations are not accepted, existing policies and procedures will remain in force.

The Board will "rely primarily" on the Academic Senates in these "academic and professional" matters:

- a. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses in disciplines;
- b. Degree and certificate requirements;
- c. Grading policies;
- d. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes including self study and annual reports.

2. Mutual Agreement

"Mutual agreement" shall be reached between the Board of Trustees or its designee and the Academic Senates on items specified below. On college matters, mutual agreement will be reached by a process agreed to by the college president and senate as defined in separate Board policies for each college. On District matters, mutual agreement will be reached between the

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Chancellor and the senates as defined in the section on the Chancellor's Council. "Mutual agreement" means that the Board of Trustees and the Academic Senate(s) shall each ratify such policies or procedures before they are put into effect. If such agreements are not ratified by both parties, existing policies and procedures will remain in force.

The Board will reach "mutual agreement" with the Academic Senates in these "academic and professional" matters:

- a. Educational program development
- b. Standards and policies regarding student success
- c. District and college governance structures as related to faculty roles
- d. Policies for faculty professional development activities
- e. Process for program review
- f. Process for institutional planning and budget development

3. District Councils and Committees

District Curriculum Committee

Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses in disciplines.

Degree and certificate requirements Grading policies Educational program development

District Matriculation Council

Standards or policies regarding student success

District Institutional Planning Council

Process for program review Process for institutional planning

District Budget Study Group

Process for budget development

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College Governance Process (See College Policies)

Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes including self study and annual reports;

College governance structures as related to faculty roles; Policies for faculty professional development activities.

Chancellor's Council (Exclusively District Issues)

District governance issues;

- a. To provide a means for the colleges to communicate, with one another and to their constituents, the district- and college-developed recommendations in the above ten areas of collegial consultation;
- b. To serve as a vehicle for identifying and resolving District matters. Should there be issues which college-developed on recommendations are in conflict or require a joint effort, such issues shall be identified as district matters. Prior to Board presentation, such District matters will be referred to the Chancellor's Council for resolution. District matters should be of sufficient import that the policies of one college result in a significant impact on the ability of the other college to carry out its own policies. The Chancellor's Council will develop a recommended resolution which will be ratified by the Chancellor and by each college President and senate following the processes established in the separate college governance policies. Typically, such a recommendation will be developed by the appropriate council. The administrative procedures for the council are located in the Administrative Rules and Procedures.
- c. To serve as a vehicle for the Chancellor to identify the need for policies and procedures in any of the ten areas of academic and professional matters, the Council will be asked for direction on the development of these policies and refer such issues to the colleges or district councils for creation of such policies.

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- d. The composition of the Council shall be jointly agreed upon by the Chancellor and Academic Senates.
- e. The membership for the District Curricular Committee, the District Matriculation Council, the District Institutional Planning Council, the District Budget Study Group, and the Chancellor's Council is located in the Administrative Rules and Procedures.

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