

Seattle Central College College Council Bylaws

January 18, 2005

Revised 1/26/2021

I. Statement of Purpose

- A. The College Council is a representative participatory body that advises the President and President's Cabinet on matters that are of the highest importance to the College. It is representative in that students, faculty, and classified and exempt staff are all represented in membership. It is participatory in that members are expected to engage their campus constituents in order to provide opportunities for contributions to policy formation, resource allocation, and other significant issues or processes.
- B. The purpose of the Council is to gather and share information, give input to the budget process and other issues, and to vet ideas.

II. Values

- A. The Council provides the opportunity for all Seattle Central College constituencies to work collaboratively to advise the President and the College on matters relating to Seattle Central's mission, values, goals, resource allocations, student success and achievement, and institutional assessment and effectiveness.
- B. It advises on proposals that affect members of the College community outside of any one department or any one constituency.
- C. College Council is committed to making collaborative, transparent, student focused, and data based decisions. The Council functions in an honest, respectful, congenial, and productive atmosphere. The Council represents and respects different viewpoints.

III. Membership

- A. Members of the Council include students, classified staff, administration, exempt management professionals and faculty.
- B. The composition of the College Council is designed to reflect all constituencies of Seattle Central College.
There are 18 voting members, including the standing member, the Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness. The chair is a non-voting member, except in the event of a tie. The President, Vice President of Instruction, Vice President of Student Services, Vice President of Administrative Services, and a representative from the Office of Strategic Partnerships will serve as ex officio members.
- C. Composition:
 - 1. Standing Member (1)
 - 2. Faculty (5)

3. Classified Staff (5)
4. Exempt (3)
5. Students (4)
6. Ex-officio members (5)

D. Eligibility for Membership

1. Membership is open to full-time and part-time employees and full-time and part-time students. Any employee interested in serving on the College Council must complete an application (see attachment).
2. Every effort will be made to make selections that will be representative of home departments and satellite sites (Health Education Center, Seattle Maritime Academy and Wood Technology Center; to the extent that broad and balanced representation across college departments is assured.
3. The selection process for the coming year will occur before the end of May. This is so that all new members and incoming chair can be invited to the June Council meeting as observers in order to assist in the transitioning of new membership.
4. Students will be selected as follows:
 - a. Student representatives will be appointed by the Dean of Student Development.
 - b. They may choose alternates to fill in as needed.
 - c. This is offered in recognition of the difficulty such membership imposes on studentschedules.
5. Selection of Chair
 - a. The chair may be a member of any employee group (classified, exempt/administrative, or faculty) except for student representatives.
 - b. At the April meeting, current members of College Council may volunteer or be nominated (nominees are able to decline the nomination) to serve as vice-chair for the next academic year. The list of nominees or volunteers is sent to the President's Cabinet to be vetted. The President will appoint the vice-chair at the October meeting.
 - c. The vice-chair will serve on one of the workgroups.
 - d. The vice-chair will become the chair at the beginning of the next academic year.
 - e. In the event the chair and/or vice-chair is unable to fulfill their responsibilities, the President will consult with College Council and appoint a new chair and/or vice-chair.
6. Members are selected from the applicant pool by the President using the following criteria:
 - a. Basic understanding of and commitment to the concept of college-wide planning, group decision-making and teamwork.

- b. Ability to consider interests of the college above narrow self-interests and predetermined notions.
- c. Belief that organizational change is possible.
- d. Ability to function as a contributing member of a committee or group.
- e. Ability and willingness to be a conduit of information to and from the constituency represented.
- f. Commitment to the required time and effort.

IV. Terms of Office

- A. With the exception of students, members will serve for two years. Students serve for one year, and may apply to serve up to one more additional year. If a member is unable to fulfill their responsibilities, efforts will be made to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.
- B. The vice-chair will serve October through June as the vice-chair with the current chair.
- C. The chair will serve for one year as presiding chair, having served as vice-chair the previous year.
- D. To balance the dual requirement for continuity and turnover, the membership must rotate every two years. Ideally, half of the members rotate out in any given year so that there is a mix of first and second year members on Council.

V. Responsibilities of the Council

- A. Council
 - 1. May be assigned responsibilities for planning and reviewing the strategic plan elements which include, but are not limited to, the mission, values, a review of local needs and opportunities, vision and strategic goals when assigned by the president.
 - 2. With broad participation from college constituencies, the Council will finalize the college's strategic plan and goals and review implementation on an annual basis.
 - 3. Make recommendations on the college budget congruent with the mission, values, strategic plan and priorities of the institution.
 - 4. Review and make formal recommendations on plans and proposals that involve any major change or decision for the college, including: new or revised policy, new programs or new services, new facilities, new marketing assessment and recruiting efforts, institutional effectiveness, and evaluation.
 - 5. Use internal and external data and information in support of the above activities, and request additional information as needed.
- B. Individual
 - 1. Attend meetings regularly. If absences are required due to extenuating

circumstances, member will inform the chair in advance. If repeated absences are an issue, the chair and member will discuss whether the members is able to commit to completing the term.

2. Prepare for meetings by reading necessary materials and complete other “homework” agreed upon by the committee.
3. Accept and carry out reasonable task assignments associated with the College Council functions.
4. As representatives of their respective constituencies members will consult with their colleagues to (1) report Council actions and (2) gather comments and concerns which may be appropriate for Council consideration.
5. Share information with constituent groups.
6. Actively participate in Workgroups.

C. Chair and Vice-Chair of the College Council

1. Develop the College Council meeting agenda.
 - a. Meet with the President, Vice Presidents and Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness to coordinate the agenda, and other information needed to support the meeting and activity.
2. Email agenda at least three working days in advance of meeting.
3. Conduct the College Council meetings.
4. Determine the workgroups required to accomplish the tasks; or any mutual assistance needed.
5. Distribute information to the college community as needed.
6. Ensure continuing input from and reporting to all constituencies.

D. The Secretary for the Council

1. Administrative support will be provided by the college to record and distribute the minutes. This person will function as the recorder and will have no voting privileges.
2. Minutes will be distributed to Council at least one week prior to the subsequent meeting.
3. Meeting minutes shall include listing of members present, absent, and tardy meeting objectives motions passed/denied an account of discussions and activities section designated for issues under consideration and a status report of any proposals brought to the council.
4. Approved minutes shall be distributed out to the entire campus within a week of approval.

VI. Operational Procedures

A. Meetings

1. College Council will meet at least twice a quarter during fall, winter, and spring quarters.

Meetings will typically last two hours, but can change based on the needs of the agenda. There will be one longer meeting at the start of each fall quarter to establish goals for the year.

B. Voting

1. As a representative body, it is the expectation that all members will vote having consulted with their constituency group.
2. Any item requiring a Council vote will be introduced and discussed, but unless the Council agrees to an exception, no action will be taken on the item until the following meeting. This is to ensure that members have the opportunity to share information and gather feedback from the broader campus community.
3. During the voting process there will be discussion of the feedback collected. Members should come prepared to share out a concise summary of the feedback in order to inform the Council.
4. One representative from each constituency group must be present for a vote to be binding. Members may submit vote by proxy if they cannot attend in person.
5. The chair will only vote in the case of a tie.
6. Whenever the Council votes to approve an item, that item will be offered to the President as a recommendation.

C. Communications

1. Minutes will be recorded by the Secretary at each meeting. Council will review and vote to approve minutes from the previous meeting at the start of each agenda. Approved minutes will be distributed out to the campus community.
2. The Council, as a representative body, will solicit input to inform its work from the campus community through various communication modalities which include Public Folders and other locations.

D. Changes or amendments to the bylaws

1. The Council can recommend the President make changes to the bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of each of the constituencies or their representatives.

VII. Related Workgroups

A. Workgroups will be established to focus on the priorities of Council.

1. Work groups may be formed annually or as needed based on Council priorities and needs.
2. Each Member is expected to actively participate in a Workgroup. Workgroups will meet regularly outside of the scheduled Council meetings and will report information and issues to the full Council membership on an ongoing basis.
3. Permanent workgroups will be formed to advise the President in the areas of strategic planning, resource allocation and critical issues.

B. Ad Hoc Groups

1. The Council or President can establish Ad Hoc groups as needed to focus on projects and issues. A majority of Council members must vote to establish an Ad Hoc group.
2. Ad Hoc groups must report information, progress, and issues to the full Council membership on an ongoing basis.



SEATTLE CENTRAL COLLEGE

One of the Seattle Colleges

College Council

Seattle Central College

2021-2022 Membership Application

Submit completed application to Heather Moore by May 15th at 5pm:

Heather.Moore@seattlecolleges.edu

Date:

Applicant's Name:

Job Title:

Department/Division:

How long have you worked at Seattle Central? years

Employee Type:

Faculty

Classified

Professional Exempt

Administrative Exempt

Please provide brief responses to the following questions:

Why are you interested in being a part of Central's shared governance process as a member of College Council?

What do you believe makes for an effective Council?

How do you plan to gather input and disseminate information to your constituent group and department?

For inquiries please contact Heather Moore Heather.Moore@seattlecolleges.edu