



Shared Governance Group Name: CT State College Senate

Currently the CSCU Board of Regents has recognized that *Shared Governance* can be conceptualized as:

*Consonant with the mission, vision, and goals of the CSCU System, the Board of Regents and the Faculty Advisory Committee recognize the importance of administration, faculty, staff, and student cooperation in contributing to the advancement of shared governance in the CSCU institutions. Shared governance is defined as communication, collaboration, and mutual accountability between administration, faculty, staff, and students which advances excellence in the operation of CSCU institutions. [CSCU Website; Regents: Shared Governance Award]*

Connecticut State Community College ("CT State") is a student-centered institution and is committed to collaborative decision making through shared governance.

The Shared Governance model for the Connecticut State Community College will foster:

- A student-centered and equity-focused culture, which supports the development of the whole student, including learning inside and outside of the classroom
- A voice for all members of the college, including students, faculty, staff, and administrators
- Transparency and trust through clear communication
- Freedom to respectfully debate or disagree without fear of recrimination
- Representation from all campuses and constituencies
- Participatory decision making, with the acknowledgement that the legislated authority for all decisions rests with the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR)

### Charge

The primary charge of the College Senate will be to deliberate and determine by majority vote recommendations to be forwarded to the Connecticut State Community College administration.

The College Senate is the main forum for discussion of issues that affect the entire college community, such as, but not limited to, the following:

- Statewide events, calendars, and scheduling issues
- College standards and policy recommendations (*non-curriculum related*\*)
- Statewide services, resources, and strategic initiatives
- Other issues concerning students, faculty, or staff of CT State Community College

Items may be forwarded by a campus senate to College Senate as needed; if the issue affects Connecticut State Community College broadly, it needs to be brought to CT State College Senate.

The College Senate shall develop mechanisms to ensure communication between the College Senate and the campus governance body.

\*If a policy under review is curriculum related, the College Senate shall develop a mechanism to gather feedback and/or recommendations from the Curriculum Congress prior to final action.

## Membership

To ensure adequate representation from all campuses the CT State College Senate will have a model that includes the same number of faculty and staff from each campus as well as non-management staff not affiliated with a specific campus and students:

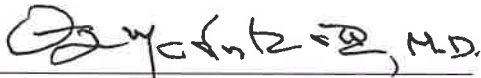
- 12 voting FT Faculty members (1 from each campus)
- 13 voting FT Professional/ Classified Staff members (1 from each campus and 1 not affiliated with a campus)
- 13 voting Non-Management "At-Large" members (1 from each campus and 1 not affiliated with a campus)
- 3 voting Students (1 SGA representative from each group of small, medium, large campuses)

The CT State President, or designee, will serve as an ex officio member.

Because the Senate does not approve curriculum, this group does not need to have a majority of faculty although that may occur based upon at-large elections.

The Senate will create and update its own charter/bylaws, subcommittees (as needed), and standard operating procedures. The charter/bylaws should include publishing agendas, minutes, and materials in a timely manner. The Senate shall define majority and quorum for voting purposes.

Detailed information on the Shared Governance model and the CT State Governance structure is available at <https://www.ctstate.edu/governance/>.

 M.D.

Charged by Dr. John Maduko  
President, CT State Community College

  
Charge Date