



Policy No. 1-9

Subject: Shared Governance Committees

Last Revised: 02/16/2021

Historical Status: 02/16/2021

Division	Policy Manager	Administrative Supervisor	Reference
Finance and Campus Operations	College President	College President	

I. POLICY

It is the policy of Virginia Highlands Community College (VHCC) to engage in shared governance through representative, diverse groups of key College stakeholders. The Faculty Senate, Classified Support Staff Association, and the Student Government Association shall provide regular input and advice to the College President for the benefit of the institution.

II. PERTINENT INFORMATION

- A. Respecting the roles and responsibilities of the President and the President's Cabinet, shared governance invites and respects the diversity of experiences and perspectives of the College community and provides a forum for input and feedback on institutional operations.
- B. Individuals appointed or elected to the Faculty Senate, Classified Support Staff Association, or Student Government Association have a responsibility to professionally, respectfully, and meaningfully contribute to the mission of VHCC. They are expected to prepare for and attend meetings, solicit and discern input from the College community, and disseminate information as appropriate.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Classified Support Staff Association (CSSA): a representative body of full-time or part-time support staff at VHCC.
- B. Faculty Senate (FS): a representative body of individuals employed full-time by VHCC as Teaching or Professional Faculty.
- C. President's Cabinet: a working group consisting of the College President and designated direct reports, usually all Vice Presidents.
- D. Student Government Association (SGA): a representative body of all students currently enrolled at VHCC.

IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A. The FS, CSSA, and SGA are open to all eligible participants, without restriction due to age, race, gender, disability, national origin, religion, creed, genetic information, or other legally protected class.
- B. The FS, CSSA, and SGA shall meet regularly in accordance with their respective constitution or bylaws.
- C. The FS, CSSA, and SGA, shall elect officers in accordance with their respective constitution or bylaws.
- D. Information regarding FS, CSSA, and SGA, including elected officers, meeting schedules, and constitution or bylaws, shall be available to all VHCC students and employees.

V. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- A. The College President has the authority and the responsibility to establish procedures to meet the requirements of this policy.

APPENDIX

VI. RELATED STANDARDS, LEGAL CITATIONS, OR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

VII. OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

- A. The FS, CSSA, and SGA shall establish respective constitutions or bylaws which include:
 - 1. Stated purpose
 - 2. Election, function, and term of elected officers
 - 3. Schedule of meetings
- B. Where appropriate, the FS, CSSA, and the SGA shall designate representation to College committees or councils.
- C. The President shall designate a VHCC employee to serve as a sponsor for the SGA.
- D. On behalf of its respective membership, the FS, CSSA, and SGA will communicate with President's Cabinet on matters concerning College policies, procedures, services, activities, or any topic germane to VHCC's mission.