

November 14, 1983  
As amended and approved April 10, 1984  
As amended and approved October 4, 1985  
As amended and approved September 18, 2007  
As amended and approved April 17, 2009  
As amended and approved December 6, 2011  
As amended and approved November 20, 2014

## **RIO SALADO COLLEGE FACULTY SENATE**

### **CONSTITUTION**

#### **PREAMBLE**

Governance of Rio Salado College is the joint responsibility of the Governing Board and the Administration, in consultation and collaboration with the Rio Salado College Faculty. In order to promote full participation of the Faculty in the determination and execution of educational policy, this Constitution establishing the Rio Salado College Faculty Senate was ordained in 1983, and amended and approved in 1984, 1985, 2007, 2009 and 2011.

#### **PURPOSES**

The primary functions of the Rio Salado College Faculty Senate, or its appointees, shall be to serve as the exclusive representative of the Rio Salado College Faculty with the Administrations of the College or District, and with the Governing Board in academic and professional matters, and to participate in the formation and implementation of policies affecting education and professional working conditions and/or relationships with Rio Salado College and the Maricopa Community College District.

#### **ARTICLE I – DEFINITIONS**

SECTION 1. “Faculty” is used in this Constitution to mean all full-time board-approved residential faculty members. Residential faculty can be appointed as Faculty Chairs. All residential faculty members report directly to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

SECTION 2. “Faculty Senate” is used in this Constitution to mean the Faculty Senate of Rio Salado College, which is composed of all Rio Salado College residential faculty members.

SECTION 3. "Executive Committee" shall be composed of the President, President-Elect, and immediate Past-President of the Faculty Senate.

SECTION 4. "Faculty Association" is used in this Constitution to mean the MCCCCD Faculty Association. Residential faculty members who have paid their association dues by November 15 of each year are members of the District Faculty Association.

## **ARTICLE II – FACULTY SENATE OFFICERS, LISTED**

SECTION 1. The officers of the Rio Salado College Faculty Senate shall include a President and a President-elect.

## **ARTICLE III – FACULTY SENATE OFFICERS, ELECTION**

SECTION 1.

The term of the current President concludes at the last Faculty Senate meeting of the academic year. The current President-elect will assume office as President at the conclusion of this meeting.

SECTION 2.

The President-elect shall be elected from among Faculty Senate members by a simple majority vote via secret ballot prior to the last Faculty Senate meeting of the academic year.

SECTION 3. In the event that the President leaves office prior to completion of the term, the President-elect will serve for the remainder of that academic year followed by a full two year term. If the President-elect leaves office, an election for this office will be held within one month, unless it occurs during the summer, in which case the election will be held within the first month of the fall semester.

## **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS, TERM OF OFFICE**

SECTION 1. The term of office for all officers shall be two years, beginning immediately upon election.

## **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS, DUTIES**

SECTION 1. PRESIDENT. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Faculty Senate and of the Executive Committee; represent the Rio Salado College Faculty Senate at District Faculty Association Executive Committee and Council meetings; appoint members to serve on all special committees; be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; have the right to call special meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Faculty Senate; set meeting agendas; assure that a residential faculty member's due process is followed in grievance/resolution of controversy/student complaint process/internal investigations; and be the official spokesperson for the Faculty Senate.

SECTION 2. PRESIDENT-ELECT. The President-elect shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Committee, and preside in the absence of the President. The President-elect shall assume the duties and office of the President when the term of the current President expires.

SECTION 3. TREASURER. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting yearly dues from all Rio Salado College Residential Faculty members, keeping all financial records, and making periodic financial reports.

## **ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS**

SECTION 1. The Faculty Senate shall meet monthly, as needed-during the academic year, and at other times as requested by the President.

SECTION 2. Faculty Senate meetings shall be open to residential faculty members only. However, non-faculty members may attend for official business as time allows on the agenda, and upon approval or invitation of the Faculty Senate President.

## **ARTICLE VII – QUORUM**

SECTION 1. A simple majority of Faculty Senate members shall be considered a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VIII– COMMITTEES**

SECTION 1. There shall be no standing committees of the Faculty Senate other than the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. Special committees may be established by the President and will be dissolved upon completion of their purpose.

SECTION 3. Special committees shall serve at the pleasure of the Faculty Senate or the President.

#### **ARTICLE IX – AGENDA**

SECTION 1. Any Rio Salado College Administrator or member of the Faculty Senate may request that the President place an item on the Faculty Senate agenda.

#### **ARTICLE X – PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

SECTION 1. The Faculty Senate shall of its own determination concern itself with any academic and/or professional matters which it deems important to the welfare of Rio Salado College and its Residential Faculty.

SECTION 2. The Faculty Senate shall be the agency of the Rio Salado College Residential Faculty in exercising its primary responsibility for such matters as curriculum, subject matter, instructional design, and delivery, and those aspects of student support services provided by Service Faculty which relate to the educational process.

SECTION 3. The Faculty Senate, on behalf of the Rio Salado College Residential Faculty, shall actively participate, directly or through its representatives on District Association committees, in the discussions about policies and procedures governing salary increases, benefits, and general conditions of employment.

#### **ARTICLE XI – FINANCES**

SECTION 1. The President shall appoint a Treasurer to oversee the finances of the Faculty Senate.

SECTION 2. The annual dues for residential faculty shall be proposed by the President upon the recommendation of the Treasurer and approved by the Faculty Senate membership. The assessment may be pro-rated for faculty members joining mid-year.

SECTION 3. Additional assessments may be levied with Faculty Senate approval.

## **ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Faculty Senate members at any general meeting. Any proposed change shall be presented in writing to each residential faculty member at least one (1) week prior to the voting deadline. Hereafter, amendments will be entertained at the last regular meeting Faculty Senate for the academic year.

## **ARTICLE XIII – RATIFICATION**

SECTION 1. This Constitution shall become effective by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate.