

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION AGREEMENT

Introduction

Professional Consultation has its foundation in the desire for honest, open, viable two-way communication between the Faculty and the President. The concept is a positive one which affords an opportunity for input by the faculty into the decision making process. Concurrently, it recognizes the responsibilities of the faculty to the institution and to providing quality education for its students. Professional Consultation enhances a spirit of collegiality and shared participation in the common concerns of faculty and administration.

Purposes and Functions

Professional Consultation is a vehicle to consider situations where it is appropriate for the President and the Professional Consultation Committee to meet and discuss matters of concern to the Faculty and/or to the President in an effort to arrive at mutually agreed upon solutions. Faculty Council is the recognized representative body of the faculty. The Professional Consultation Committee is a special committee composed of faculty members elected by the Faculty Council to represent the faculty regarding matters of concern. It shall be made up of the Faculty Council Officers and at least four additional members of Faculty Council.

Guidelines and Procedures

1. Professional Consultation sessions shall be informal listening/talking sessions and may be called whenever there is a need perceived by either party. No official records of the proceedings shall be kept.
2. Proposals may be made for consideration and discussion as a possible solution to problems which may exist. Information pertinent to the discussion will be made available by both parties.
3. The consultation sessions shall involve the President and the Professional Consultation Committee members unless, by mutual agreement, others are invited to participate.
4. During the process of discussion and consultation, information discussed shall be contained within the consulting group. When consensus has been reached, a joint position statement may be issued. If consensus cannot be reached, separate position statements may be issued.
5. Members of the Professional Consultation Committee serve on this committee at the request of the faculty and shall be assured of freedom to act professionally in the discharge of their responsibilities.
6. This agreement shall be amended by mutual consent.
7. Upon approval of the Board of Trustees, the agreement and guidelines herein shall become effective.