

## Faculty Senate Resolution on Shared Governance

Date Proposed: 02/21/20

Approved by the Faculty Senate: 10/23/2020

*Whereas*, the TBR Policy 1.03.10.00 states as its purpose, "To provide for shared governance at TBR institutions by establishing effective means whereby students and faculty can have input into the development of policies and programs relating to student and academic affairs, while recognizing that the authority for decision-making rests solely with the administration."

*Whereas*, the TBR Policy 1.03.10.00 on Student & Faculty Participation in Development of Campus Policies & Programs states that "while recognizing the value of input from the students and faculty of an institution on issues of common interest, the Tennessee Board of Regents has delegated to the presidents of its institutions the responsibility and authority to make decisions regarding the operation of the institution, subject to TBR policies and procedures and applicable laws. Students should have a primary interest in matters of student life, including discipline, and faculty should have a primary interest in academic affairs, including curriculum, program changes and development, and admission and graduation requirements."

*Whereas*, the RSCC Policy GA-23-01 on Student and Faculty Participation in Development of Campus Policies & Programs states that "provision is made for both student and faculty participation in development of campus policies and programs through standing and ad hoc committees, including but not limited to activities of the Student Government Association (SGA) and Faculty Senate, involvement in review of college policies and procedures, and input via surveys and meetings."

*Whereas*, the RSCC Policy GA-32-01 lists among the duties and powers of the Faculty Senate

- A. *To express the collective opinion of the faculty to the administration of the college on any matter of concern to the faculty, and to provide for the administration a significant avenue for the dissemination, discussion, and evaluation of all matters of concern to the faculty.*
- B. *To initiate faculty input for the planning and implementation of college programs, policies, and facilities, and to serve as a vehicle for recommendations faculty make to address current college issues, problems, and institutional goals.*
- C. *To define and recommend general educational objectives, subject to approval by the president, and to participate fully and actively in the determination of programs and policies that pertain to academic matters and faculty welfare.*
- D. *To aid in securing and maintaining adequate salaries, tenure, sound retirement systems, and such other benefits and improvements in conditions as will enable faculty to function effectively, and to provide a forum for the open discussion of faculty grievances and student concerns involving the faculty as a whole.*

**Be it resolved** that Roane State should renew its commitment to shared governance by establishing broad and continuous two-way communication and mutually informed dialogue between Faculty Senate and administrators, and that the role of Faculty Senate as an elected body whose primary purpose is to provide input, feedback, and recommendations to administration on all matters of concern to faculty should be recognized. Furthermore, Faculty Senate requests the establishment of a President's Forum to be held regularly throughout the academic year with both virtual and live attendance capabilities. The forum will be open for all faculty members, both full-time and adjunct, to ask questions and relay individual concerns to the administration and allow the administration a venue to respond to said concerns.