

**In Solidarity: Faculty Primacy in Evaluation
And
Regular and Substantive Interaction as an Academic and Professional Matter
Resolution 2024-02**

Whereas, the Academic Senate 10+1¹ purview, as established by Title 5 § 53200 (b), the matter of Regular and Substantive Interaction is clearly an Academic and Professional Matter that should be led by faculty expertise as it minimally falls directly within areas #1: *Curriculum including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines*; #5: *Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success*; and #7: *Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports*;

Whereas, Mt. San Antonio College has transformed in the post-pandemic era with the rise of distance education becoming a significant modality of instruction², and as the college looks to the future answer to meet the Chancellor’s call in Vision 2030 to bring “instruction through flexible modalities, like short term and online classes, for all students” this trend is likely to continue;

Whereas, “Distance education” means instruction in which the instructor and student are separated by time and/or distance and interact through the assistance of technology to instruct students with Regular and Substantive Interaction and it is highly regulated by both Federal³ and State⁴ entities and the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) which follows Federal Guidelines and to meet these standards the Distance Learning Committee created the Regular and Substantive Interaction rubric approved by the Academic Senate at the September 1, 2022 meeting⁵ that the Faculty Association is now in active negotiations with the District to add to the Faculty Contract; and

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) in 2023 adopted its Paper “Effective and Equitable Online Education: A Faculty Perspective⁶” and in 2024 approved Resolution 107.01 SP24 “Supporting Regular and Substantive Interaction as an Academic and Profession Matter to Enhance Student Success and Meet Standards⁷” have recognized the role of the faculty in establishing and maintaining excellence in online learning environments.

¹ https://www.asccc.org/10_1 and <https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mtsac/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=AWZQGW5E3871>

²

https://www.mtsac.edu/accreditation/college_accreditation/2024/evidence/standard2a/IIA7_17_DL_ReportBOT_2022.pdf and <https://www.mtsac.edu/dlc/reports/2021-22DistanceLearningReporttoAcademicSenate.pdf>,

³ CFR 34 600, 602, and 608

⁴ Title 5 Sections 53200, 55005, 55200, 55202, 55204, 55206, 55208, 55370

⁵ [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mtsac/Board.nsf/files/CJ9PRW65E13B/\\$file/Senate%20Minutes%202022.09.01.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mtsac/Board.nsf/files/CJ9PRW65E13B/$file/Senate%20Minutes%202022.09.01.pdf)

⁶ [https://asccc.org/sites/default/files/2023-](https://asccc.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/Effective%20and%20Equitable%20Online%20Education_Final_03_16_2023.pdf)

[03/Effective%20and%20Equitable%20Online%20Education_Final_03_16_2023.pdf](https://asccc.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/Effective%20and%20Equitable%20Online%20Education_Final_03_16_2023.pdf)

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[https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mtsac/Board.nsf/files/D4N5NX111EF4/\\$file/ASCCC%20RSI%20Taskforce%20Resolution.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mtsac/Board.nsf/files/D4N5NX111EF4/$file/ASCCC%20RSI%20Taskforce%20Resolution.pdf)

Resolved, The Mt. San Antonio College Academic Senate asserts primacy in instituting standards and practices for Regular and Substantive Interaction as an Academic and Professional matter under the body's purview as firmly established by the Academic Senate for California Community College's record on this subject,

Resolved, The Mt. San Antonio College Academic Senate emphatically agrees with the Academic Senate for California Community College Paper "Sound Principles for Faculty Evaluation" statement that faculty must maintain primacy in evaluating their peers because faculty are "experts in instructional practices and serving students, and thus they are best positioned to offer beneficial input to the evaluatee⁸"; and

Resolved, The Mt. San Antonio College Academic Senate stands in solidarity with the Faculty Association that the appropriate method of evaluation for online teaching should continue to be conducted by "Peer Professors" with online teaching expertise reflecting standards prepared by the Academic Senate, such as the RSI rubric, rooted in California Education Code⁹ in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

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Passed by Acclamation at Academic Senate on 4/25/24

⁸ https://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/publications/Principles-Faculty-Evaluation2013_0.pdf

⁹ EDC § 87663