CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE
OF OHLONE COLLEGE

ARTICLE I. Statement of Purpose

In order that the faculty may participate effectively in the formation of district educational and professional policies and in the selection of major administrative personnel and faculty for the Fremont-Newark Community College District, the Ohlone College Faculty Senate (an organization formed in accordance with Section 131.6 of Title 5 of the California Administrative Code) shall make recommendations to the College Administrators and/or the Fremont-Newark District Board of Trustees on matters of educational and professional significance pertinent to the College and/or the District.

ARTICLE II. Composition of the Senate

A. The electorate shall include all certificated personnel who teach eight or more hours (lecture) and whose primary responsibilities for the College do not require an administrative or supervising credential.

B. All members of the electorate shall be members of the Senate and all members shall have the right to speak at any Senate meeting. Voting rights at Senate meetings shall be limited to a 15 member Governing Council.

C. The Senate may meet but shall not act without a quorum consisting of a simple majority of the Governing Council. Meetings will be announced at least 72 hours in advance.

ARTICLE III. Functions of the Senate

A. The Ohlone College Faculty Senate shall be a deliberative as well as a coordinating body.

B. Matters of educational and professional significance may be brought before the Senate in the following ways:

1. From an individual faculty member on the floor of the Senate during the time provided for such actions.

2. From a committee chairperson or his/her representative in response to the will of the committee which he/she chairs.

3. From the College Administrators either indirectly through the President of the Senate or directly by invitation of the Senate.
4. From the Board of Trustees either indirectly through the President of the Senate or directly by invitation of the Senate.

C. Except as provided in Section B, Paragraph 1, all business coming before the Senate must be on an agenda published and released to (the) Senate (members) at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting of the Senate.

1. An individual member of the faculty will prepare for inclusion in the agenda a brief statement of the resolution, problem or question to be deliberated.

2. When making committee reports, the committee chairperson or his/her representative will give to the Secretary of the Senate a typed copy of the committee report when representing the committee. Or if representing him/herself, he/she will conform to the regulation in Section C, Paragraph 1.

3. Administrators and Board Members must have in the agenda a statement of the resolution and/or problem to be delivered if the presentation is to be made in person or a separate precis must be submitted as an addendum to the agenda if the issue is presented by the President of the Senate on behalf of Administrators or Board Members.

As soon as practicable, recommendations voted in the Senate shall be published and distributed to the College Administrators, the Board of trustees, and all Senate members.

ARTICLE IV. Governing Council and Officers: Selection and Terms

A. The officers of the Faculty Senate Governing Council shall consist of a President, Vice-president, President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Representative to Staff, Representative to ASCCC, Representative to CCLC, and Chairperson of the Committee on Committees.

B. Terms of Office

1. For the 1993-94 elections, Division Representatives will be voted in for a one year term, Building Representatives will be voted in for a two year term. Thereafter the terms of office shall be two (2) years for each representative and will be staggered to provide continuity from year to year.

2. The Governing Council shall meet within ten school days after their election and shall, from their own ranks, via nomination and secret ballot elect among themselves the following officers: Secretary, Treasurer, Representative to ASCCC, Representative to CCLC, Chairperson of the Committee on Committees.
3. A vacancy in any of these offices shall be filled by nomination and
election by the Governing Council from the ranks of the Governing
Council.

4. The Governing Council shall meet during the first week in May and
nominate and elect, by secret ballot, one of their number to serve the
following year as an at-large representative to the next Governing
Council.

ARTICLE V. Committees: Structure and Functions

A. Committees of the Faculty Senate shall be established to investigate issues in
their designated areas and recommend actions on these issues to the Senate
only.

B. Each committee, when it is formed, shall choose a chairperson from its own
ranks by majority vote.

C. Under normal circumstances, committees will study and report on issues
before the Senate acts upon them.

D. Issues shall be presented to committees by the President of the Senate, or by
acceptance by the appropriate committee when one-fourth of the members of
the committee approve, or by action of the Senate.

E. Committees shall investigate the issues before them and report their findings
to the Senate with all due dispatch.

F. When a committee is prepared to make a report to the Senate, the President
shall be obliged to include the committee report on the earliest possible Senate
meeting agenda.

G. A committee report shall include both majority and minority opinions and it
shall be reproduced and issued to all Senate members as early as possible
before the meeting at which it is to be presented.

H. Committee reports shall be presented to the Senate by the chairperson of the
reporting committee or by any person or persons the chairperson designates.

I. The chairperson of the Committee on Committees shall assist the President in
organizing and staffing committees needed to carry on the work of the Senate.

The chairperson of the Committee on Committees shall serve as chairperson
of the nominating committee. The nominating committee shall consist of no
less than three (3) nor more than five (5) members, one of whom shall be the
chairperson of the Committee on Committees, and who shall chair the
nominating committee. The membership of the nominating committee shall
be appointed by the President of the Senate.
ARTICLE VI. The Amending Process

A. This constitution may be amended on a motion of any member of the Faculty Senate through a member of the Governing Council provided that the majority (50% + 1) of the entire electorate ratify the proposal by secret ballot. A member of the Governing Council may not refuse a Senate member's request to present a constitutional amendment.

B. The amending process may be initiated at any Faculty Senate meeting, including a special Senate meeting which shall be called for the purpose of initiating amendments at the request of any three (3) members of the Governing Council or any five (5) non-Council Senate members.

C. All proposed amendments must be presented in written form to all Senate members five (5) teaching days before a vote can be taken.

ARTICLE VII. Recall of Officers

A. Any Senate member may initiate a recall hearing involving any council member at any meeting of the Faculty Senate providing that a majority of the Governing Council present concur.

B. A Senate meeting shall then be called for the purpose of hearing the charges and the defense against the charges. The officer charged shall determine the specific date of this meeting which shall take place not less than one week nor more than two weeks subsequent to the initial proposal.

C. The recall election shall be held within three (3) days of the hearing by secret ballot. A building or division representative to the Governing Council may be recalled by a two-thirds vote of the Senate members of his/her building; an at-large representative of the Governing Council may be recalled by a two-thirds vote of the total Senate membership.

ARTICLE VIII. Procedures

Section 1. By-Laws:

The Ohlone College Faculty Senate Governing Council may adopt By-Laws to establish rules or procedure(s) and other provisions for implementing the intent and purposes of this Constitution.
Section 2. Rules of Order:

Unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution or in the By-Laws, the rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order Revised shall govern the proceedings and the conduct of the meetings of the Academic Senate and its committees.

ARTICLE IX. Ratification

Section 1. Procedure:

This Constitution shall become operative when ratified by a majority of (the) Ohlone College Faculty Senate Membership.