

Principles and Role of Governance

Governance involves the opportunity for campus constituent groups to engage in discussions over the future direction of the college. The Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) requires in Standard IV.A.5 that the “institution ensures the appropriate consideration of relevant perspectives”:

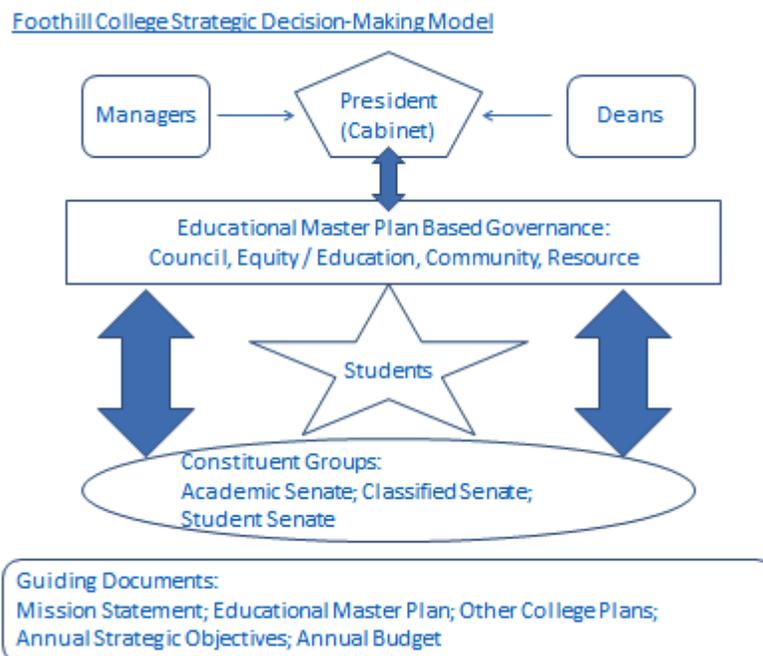
IV.A.5 Through its system of board and institutional governance, the institution ensures the appropriate consideration of relevant perspectives; decision making aligned with expertise and responsibility; and timely action on institutional plans, policies, curricular change, and other key considerations.

In addition, education code also requires that various “opinions are given every reasonable consideration” in decision-making:

Education Code-70902

Establish procedures that are consistent with minimum standards established by the board of governors to ensure faculty, staff, and students the opportunity to express their opinions at the campus level, to ensure that these opinions are given every reasonable consideration, to ensure the right to participate effectively in district and college governance, and to ensure the right of academic senates to assume primary responsibility for making recommendations in the areas of curriculum and academic standards.

Governance is an important part of the decision-making process at Foothill College and involves administration and the constituent groups:



The principles Governance adopted by the Governance Redesign Leadership Council include:

- a. Governance should allow participants to feel engaged and empowered.
- b. Governance should be fun – allowing us to brainstorm ideas together.

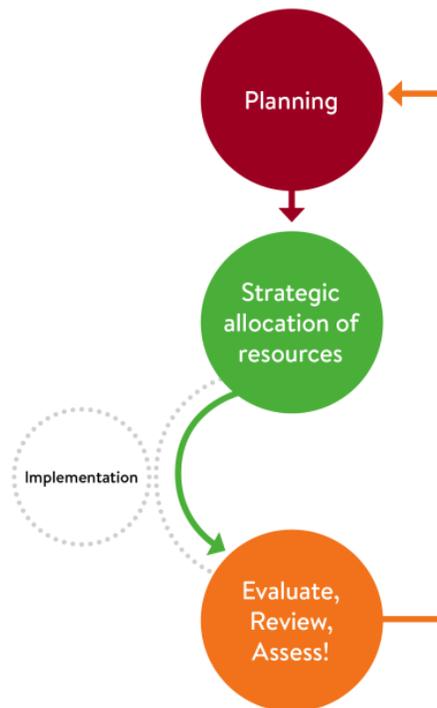
The Governance Council proposed that the focus of the governance committees will be on the assessment of progress on the Educational Master Plan and related college plans:

- Planning
- Strategic allocation of resources
[Implementation]
- Evaluate / review / assess institutional effectiveness (I.E.)
- Re-plan – identify changes to the plan

The cycle of planning is depicted in the image below – the Role of Governance.

Governance may also involve the opportunity to share information and get feedback on issues facing the college.

Role of Governance



Governance involves discussions that are about setting college goals and plans. Governance involves making suggestions and recommendations, with the President responsible for final decision-making.

Critical Recommendation Items for Governance Committees

The governance committees will each have responsibility for the following planning functions:

- Assess progress and changes to institutional plans
- Assess progress on Educational Master Plan goal activities
- Program review, creation, discontinuance
- Strategic objectives
- Resource prioritization
- Evaluate governance processes

The Educational Master Plan Model of Governance

The new governance model will follow the Educational Master Plan goals and will include a committee for each goal area (Equity and Education, Community and Communication, Revenue and Resources), as well as a committee for overall college planning (Council). Therefore, there will be 4 independent governance committees. The Academic and Classified Senates will continue to operate, as well as subcommittees of the Academic Senate such as the Curriculum Committee. Operational committees (such as financial aid scholarship readers) will continue to operate.

Foothill College Governance Model

