

Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS)
Statement of Shared Governance
Endorsed by ACFS October 7, 2011

This document is a suggested template for SUNY institutions interested in developing a Statement of Shared Governance for their own institution.

Definition of Shared Governance:

Shared Governance is the participation of faculty, staff and students as applicable administrators, the president and board of trustees (hereinafter referred to as stakeholders) in the decision and policy making process to promote the institutional vision and mission, academic integrity and sustainability of the dynamic academic environment while retaining public accountability.

Statement of the Purpose of Shared Governance:

The purpose of shared governance in an institution of higher education is to provide shared

An effective process of shared governance is characterized by:

- a) collegiality, mutual trust, and democracy– stakeholders openly voice support for shared governance, commit resources, convene meetings and set the agenda and priorities;
- b) seeking and incorporating views from stakeholders who have relevant information, expertise, and/or may be impacted by decisions;
- c) transparency and accountability to stakeholders throughout the process;
- d) ongoing monitoring, mutual review and assessment that result in recommendations that further the efficacy of Shared Governance and
- e) clarity of roles and guidelines for stakeholders with respect to academic activities, administrative activities, strategic planning, faculty status, selection and review of academic administrators and policy making related to academic welfare, shared