Participatory Governance at City College of San Francisco

Values
Our participatory governance system at City College of San Francisco is action oriented, while fostering collegiality and trust. Processes grounded in solid practices and effective outcomes yields a governance system that features simple transparent structures, and seeks out the experience and expertise of a full range of diverse stakeholders. Timely, evidence-based dialogue empowers participants to initiate student-centered improvements in education and services and to promote effective institutional operations. It promotes respect for and broad understanding of the recommendations and decisions that are made.

Structure
Our participatory governance system strives to:
- Be accessible and include representation from students, faculty, administrators and staff
- Define clear roles and responsibilities with explicit decision-making authority given to administrators
- Define clearly the advisory role of committees
- Clearly outline the process to introduce, dialogue and act on any proposal
- Ensure effectiveness through regular training of all constituent groups to clearly understand levels of authority, responsibility and accountability of governance participants.

Operations
The operations of the participatory governance system must derive from and reflect the values of the system. Below are concepts discussed in the workgroup which note a few, but not all, of the operations of the system and likely belong in the operating procedures document, not the policy document.
- Our governance committee leadership is responsible for ensuring that meetings are conducted in an efficient and equitable manner, using publicly distributed agendas to drive committee business forward and publishing meeting minutes in a timely manner.
- Term limits, where applicable, are honored in order to guarantee the opportunities for new leadership