

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE  
CLASSIFIED SENATE**

*Reviewed: February 2016    Revised: May 2016    Adopted: June 2016*

**Article I - Name**

***Section 1.***

The organization shall be known as the Classified Senate, also referred to as the Senate in this document.

**Article II - Philosophy**

***Section 1.***

The Classified Senate is the representative voice and advisory body elected from the classified staff at ARC. It provides classified employees and the college community with a formal organization to maintain communication and representation in the on-going development and implementation of State, district, college, and community programs, goals, and planning. This body shall represent itself to the college community and administration in matters of participatory governance, staff development, and staff recognition.

## **Article III - Purpose**

### ***Section 1.***

To promote the voice of classified staff on non-collective bargaining issues.

### ***Section 2.***

To provide classified staff with a formal structure and effective procedure for participation in state, district, and campus governance, including the formation of campus goals, objectives, and policies.

### ***Section 3.***

To provide classified staff members an opportunity to serve on, or aid in the facilitation of, campus, district and statewide standing committees, ad-hoc committees, task forces, and councils dealing with governance, planning, and policies.

### ***Section 4.***

To foster communication, understanding, and mutual support among the classified staff.

### ***Section 5.***

To provide a centralized means of communication between classified staff and the rest of the college community, including but not limited to administrators, faculty, students, and the Board of Trustees. The Senate shall communicate, to the best of their abilities, to all classified staff in order to keep its members informed of its actions and current issues of interest to the college community, provided the communication or information disseminated does not infringe upon union communications.

### ***Section 6.***

To promote and articulate the professionalism of the classified staff so that its value is recognized in the campus community.

## **Article IV - Membership**

### ***Section 1.***

The Classified Senate shall be comprised of employees at American River College who fill permanent blue collar, white collar, confidential and non-management employees and supervisory classified positions.

### ***Section 2.***

Although temporary classified employees at American River College shall not be members of the Classified Senate, they are encouraged to bring topics of consideration to the Senate at any time.

## **Article V - Ratification and Amendments of the Constitution**

### ***Section 1.***

This Constitution shall become effective by a simple majority vote defined as fifty-percent plus one of the permanent classified staff at American River College who votes in an announced Constitution Ratification Election.

### ***Section 2.***

The Constitution can be amended by a simple majority of the permanent classified staff at ARC.

### ***Section 3.***

Any permanent classified staff member, any Senate Officer, or Senator may propose additions or amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws. (see Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3).

### ***Section 4.***

If any portion of this Constitution is found to be in violation of local, state, or federal laws, it will be the responsibility of the Senate to amend that portion to attain compliance rather than to declare void the entire Constitution. The Senate shall use the amendment procedures in this Article to carry out this responsibility.