ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLUTION 47.5
TO FORM A LBCC CAUCUS STRUCTURE
PASSED FOR FIRST READING ON FEBRUARY 24, 2012
INTRODUCED FOR SECOND READING ON MARCH 9, 2012

WHEREAS a Long Beach City College caucus structure would allow faculty with common goals and interests to meet, discuss and plan activities related to academic and professional matters, and

WHEREAS by becoming a caucus of the Academic Senate faculty can solicit support from the Senate on projects and issues of concern and receive special consideration to be placed on the agenda, and

WHEREAS a caucus structure would provide the Academic Senate a unique opportunity to better communicate with faculty; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Senate approve the document Proposal for Initiating a Long Beach City College Academic Senate Caucuses Structure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the caucus structure be reviewed after one year with suggestions for improving the structure and its relationship to the Senate.

DRAFT
Proposal for Initiating a Long Beach City College Academic Senate Caucuses Structure

Modified From the Academic Senate of California Community College Caucus Structure

Purpose:
The Long Beach City College Academic Senate’s caucuses serve as forums within the Academic Senate in which faculty with similar interests may meet to address concerns they feel are vital to faculty and the success of students. The purpose of an Academic Senate caucus is to provide an opportunity for individuals to network and discuss issues of like interest as they relate to academic and professional matters. By promoting dialog on issues of interest to faculty, the caucuses strive to strengthen relations between faculty and the Academic Senate, promote solutions, enhance communication, and seek to improve the overall relationships of all faculty on our campus by giving voice to many faculty in a variety of forums. The caucuses serve to inform their participants and the Academic Senate, but they do not represent the Academic Senate.

Process for Recognition of a Caucus:
1. Individuals interested in forming a caucus will identify at least five faculty members with common goals and/or interests, as related to academic and professional matters.
2. At any time during the year, the interested members of the proposed caucus may send a letter to the Academic Senate president to request caucus status. This letter shall include the caucus’ name, statement of purpose, and list of members.
The Senate president shall include the request on the next Academic Senate agenda.

3. After the Academic Senate approves the caucus proposal, the Senate president will forward to the requester official notification that the caucus is recognized as an Academic Senate caucus. If the caucus is not approved the Senate president will meet with the interested faculty and provide an explanation.

4. Once the caucus is recognized and official, it will elect a caucus chair annually at the first meeting of the caucus. Each caucus shall meet at least twice per semester.

5. Each May, the caucus chair will inform the President of the caucus’ intent to remain active and provide a current list of membership.

6. If a caucus fails to alert the Academic Senate President of the desire to stay active, the caucus shall be deemed inactive and a new letter of intent will need to be submitted to re-activate the caucus. The intent is to have caucuses that are active and represent current faculty at Long Beach City College.

**Ways the Senate can Support Caucus Efforts:**

- Caucus Chairs are encouraged to attend Senate meetings and participate as a non-voting member of the Senate, unless the Caucus Chair is a Senator, then they are voting members.
- As a body of the Senate a caucus request for an agenda item will receive special consideration.
- Seek solutions to concerns and issues raised by members of the caucus through the Colleges Shared Governance structure.
- Technology support via networking tools, such as a place on the Senate website to post members, agendas, and meeting schedules.
- Ways a Caucus Can Support the Senate’s efforts:
- Provide a forum within the Academic Senate in which faculty with particular interest may meet to address concerns and share information vital to faculty and the success of students.
- Disseminate Senate resources such as papers, announcements, and event information to members of the caucus.
- Communicate to the Senate office any suggestions for improving the caucus and its relationship to the Senate.