

Policy Subcommittee Report for 26 April 2017:

The board policy subcommittee met this past Monday, April 23, 2017 to review the latest packet of policies, this time in the category of board of trustees policy. Other policy areas include student services, academic affairs, general institution, business and fiscal, human resources.

To dispel some policy misconceptions, it is important to understand the process. All old existing MPC policies remained posted and valid throughout the revision process. To implement new and updated policies, the old policies must be rescinded and struck through because law requires this action to prevent two policies on the same topic from remaining in existence to prevent confusion. So what is the process?

The revision and updating of old policies and the inclusion of new legally required policies has been ongoing for several years now, and is not the result of the accreditation team visit or sporadic requests from public comment or staff reports at board meetings. Rather it has been a lengthy, arduous, and ardent task involving a multitude of entities and participation at many levels. To use a botanical analogy, the process is like the planting of seeds, the germination period, then the cultivation, flowering, and pruning stages. The seemingly sudden appearance of policy packets is the product, or the fruit, of this long development process.

Just as the college is undergoing extensive changes and restructuring due to state and federal legislative and budgetary evolving laws, regulations, education code revisions, and accreditation standards, so it is with policies. We have many new MPC policies that are legally required. We have many policies that have been or are being updated to meet the new legally required language or new legally required

policies. New and updated policies must incorporate any pertinent language from old MPC policies to insure this information is retained and used to customize new or updated policies to fit the MPC culture and environmental unique features. Once this task is accomplished, the old policies are rescinded, struck through, and deleted from the record. The CCLC provided policy and procedure templates to facilitate the process, but MPC participants enabled the all important customization of all MPC policies. These policies were attorney vetted, saving the college much money.

We are grateful to all those who have been participating in the shared governance process to complete their part on the policies and administrative procedures that fall within their jurisdiction and area of expertise. The completion of all policies cannot happen without this participation and hard work. It is a tedious but extremely important endeavor. We thank you all for your patience and attention to detail. The many new policies are a result of new laws, regulations, or education code requirements.

I hope this summary encourages us all to persevere in completing the final stages of policy and procedure renewal. A cyclical calendar has been established for each policy area to keep all policies updated and compliant with existing legal requirements. The PRIE committee is working to ensure Accreditation Standard IV A7, and all other policy requirements, are in compliance as well.

We award a special gold star to Vicki Nakamura for her steadfast diligence and dedication to this policy project. Without her devotion to duty and desire to complete the work prior to her retirement in June, we would not have all our policies in place. It is indeed admirable and

an outstanding lasting contribution to all of us, to MPC, to our students.
Thank you so much, Vicki.