



**Faculty Council of Community Colleges
Presidential Search Guidelines
G3.2021-2022
Passed by the FCCC
April 2, 2022**

WHEREAS the SUNY Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) has always advocated for transparent and established processes for community college campus presidential searches; and

WHEREAS the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) promotes that open, transparent, and inclusive search processes in higher education represent a best practice in shared governance, as shown by its 1966 “Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities” and its 2015 “Statement on Presidential Searches”; and

WHEREAS the AAUPs 1981 statement, “Faculty Participation in the Selection, Evaluation, and Retention of Administrators” asserts that on any search committee that is made up of members from different areas of a campus, “each major group should elect its own members to serve on the committee” and that “the numbers from each constituency should reflect both the primacy of faculty concern and the range of other groups ...”; and

WHEREAS as succinctly stated by Muriel E. Poston in her 1997 article “Presidential Search Committee Checklist,” published in the AAUP’s *Academe*, “[t]he search for a new president is one of the most significant instances of shared governance in the life of a college or university”; and

WHEREAS the SUNY Board of Trustees last approved its “Guidelines for Presidential Searches for Community Colleges” in 2005 and are now outdated as evidenced by language identifying budgetary limitations, the absence of modern technology available to assist with searches, and the lack of specificity regarding the faculty that should be included on the search committee; and

WHEREAS community college faculty participation on a search committee is essential in a college’s ability to succeed; and

WHEREAS Senior Vice Chancellor Johanna Duncan-Poitier indicated at the Spring 2022 FCCC Plenary that she agreed that the current guidelines are out of date and supported them being updated.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the FCCC unequivocally recommends that the SUNY Board of Trustees review and revise the “Guidelines for Presidential Searches for Community Colleges;” and

RESOLVED this review and revision should be conducted by a committee inclusive of community college faculty selected by the FCCC using shared governance processes; and

RESOLVED the “Guidelines” should be updated to state that all local presidential search committees include the campus governance leader (CGL) and other faculty members in proportion to the size of the faculty body; and

RESOLVED the “Guidelines” should be updated to state that all campus constituencies serving on the presidential search committee elect their own representatives.