## 3.7.5

## Faculty: Faculty role in governance

The institution publishes policies on the responsibility and authority of faculty in academic and governance matters.

## Judgment

☒ Compliant ☐ Non-Compliant ☐ Not Applicable

## Compliance Report Narrative

*Note: Text for all linked documents below can be increased/decreased for ease of reading by pressing your keyboard's Ctrl key while rotating the mouse wheel.*

Faculty rights, responsibilities, and authority in academic and governance matters are described in *The Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of the Texas Tech University System* (*Regents' Rules*), the ASU Operating Policies and Procedures, and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Faculty Senate, as described below.

### THE REGENTS' RULES

The TTU System Board of Regents defines the rights and responsibilities of faculty members in Chapter 4 of the *Regents' Rules*. Section 04.02 of the *Regents' Rules* addresses issues related to the tenure of faculty and gives responsibility for publishing and maintaining operating policies to the component institutions, with the caveat that changes to those policies must be approved by the board. Section 04.04 of the *Regents' Rules* addresses faculty responsibilities in teaching, research, and service (Sections 04.04.3–04.04.7, *Regents' Rules*). In these rules, the board specifically charges the faculty with the responsibility and authority to evaluate the quality of student achievement (Section 04.04.3, *Regents' Rules*) and to participate in the formulation of academic policies (Section 04.04.5, *Regents' Rules*).

### ASU OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The ASU Operating Policies and Procedures manual, published on the university's website, includes a number of policies describing the roles and responsibilities of the ASU Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and its faculty (see ASU OP Chapter 04, Academic Affairs—General, and ASU OP Chapter 06, Academic Policies—Faculty in the ASU OP Manual). Policies in Chapter 04 outline general policies for Academic Affairs and include, for example, ASU OP 04.01, ASU Councils and Committees, which defines membership on various university committees, and ASU OP 04.05, Approval Process for New Degree Programs. Policies in Chapter 6 outline faculty responsibilities and include ASU OP 06.01, Academic Deans and Department Chairpersons; ASU OP 06.04, Appointments and Reappointments to the Faculty; and ASU OP 06.23, Tenure and Promotion Standards and Procedures.

To ensure adequate review, modifications and additions to operating policies are provided to all faculty and staff for comment before becoming official. During the comment phase, staff and faculty are notified via email when policies are available for review. The email contains links to the policies for consideration. Drafts of operating policies and procedures are also posted on the institutional website, and a link to the OP drafts page is provided on the ASU OP Manual home page.

### FACULTY SENATE'S ROLE IN GOVERNANCE

The Faculty Senate is one of the most important vehicles by which the faculty shares governance of the university. The Constitution and Bylaws of the Faculty Senate outline the Senate's purposes (Article I, Section 1), functions (Article I, Section 5), and objective (Article III). Each department maintains representation on the Senate (Article I, Section 2; Article IV; Article V), which guarantees a direct connection to the issues and initiatives supported by the Senate. The Senate also works closely with the provost and vice president for academic affairs to bring forward any concerns or recommendations from the faculty. Full details about the Senate, including information about Senate membership and specific initiatives undertaken by the Senate as well as meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes, are posted on the Faculty Senate page of the institutional website.

## Off Site Team Comments

The institution publishes several documents which demonstrate the expected responsibility and authority of faculty in academic and governance matters. The Faculty Manual explains the areas of faculty governance as do the Graduate and Undergraduate Catalogs. However, no examples of faculty participation in governance matters were presented.

## University Response

The faculty at Angelo State University (ASU) has demonstrated responsibility and authority in academic and governance matters as they relate to the university. Examples of the Faculty Senate's role in governance during AY 2011-2012 are summarized in the Report of 2011-2012 Faculty Senate: Work Products of Entire Senate, Individuals, Committees and Sub-Committees. This work included revisions of faculty related Operating Policies that focus on departmental leadership (OP 06.01) and on the promotion of clinical and instructor/lecturer faculty (OP 06.25), as well as eight other Operating Policies.

Current Faculty Senate agenda items include:

- Shared Governance Structure
- Tenure and Promotion Guidelines Review
- Full Time Faculty Definition
- PAA/CAA/Instructor Promotions
- Faculty Workload Review
- Faculty Salary Review
- Instructor/Lecture Title Review