Introduction

The purpose of this document is to describe the structure for making decisions at Modesto Junior College. The document outlines the processes and mechanisms through which the voices of the college’s constituent groups are heard in decision making. Representatives of all campus constituencies worked in good faith to develop these guidelines.

Processes outlined in this document address ACCJC Accreditation Standard IV.A.2: “The institution establishes and implements a written policy providing for faculty, staff, administrator, and student participation in decision-making processes. The policy specifies the manner in which individuals bring forward ideas from their constituencies and work together on appropriate policy, planning, and special-purpose bodies.” (ACCJC Accreditation Standards, Revised June 2012)

This document addresses four foundational elements of decision-making at the college:

1) Good faith effort
2) Groups that develop recommendations
3) Timelines and sequences for key college decisions
4) Communication to college stakeholders

Decision-making at Modesto Junior College is guided by the college’s mission, goals, and values.

Modesto Junior College Mission Statement

MJC is committed to transforming lives through programs and services informed by the latest scholarship of teaching and learning. We provide a dynamic, innovative educational environment for the ever-changing populations and workforce needs of our regional community. We facilitate lifelong learning through the development of intellect, creativity, character, and abilities that shape students into thoughtful, culturally aware, engaged citizens.

Modesto Junior College Values

Education is the reason our institution exists. To this end, we value innovation, professionalism, integrity, and responsible stewardship. We foster respect for and interest in the diverse individuals and histories of our community. These values are foundational to the way we shape our programs and services, make and communicate decisions, reinforce collaborative relationships within our community, and promote civic engagement.

Diversity/Community

Modesto Junior College embraces a culture of collaborative decision making characterized by the effective participation of a variety of individuals and groups. Decision making responsibilities vary by the type of constituency group as described in California Education Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 5 §53200, and documented in YCCD Board Policy.
Decision-Making Guiding Principles at Modesto Junior College

Decision making at Modesto Junior College is guided by the following principles:

1. Utilize a consistent approach to data analysis
2. Access the most reliable information available
3. Produce a visual model of the process
4. Articulate clearly what the recommendation is and to whom it is being communicated
5. Provide an opportunity for all individual stake-holders to participate
6. Decide based on good of the institution and student success

The types of resources used will vary on the scope and charge of the group and what kinds of decisions are being made.

Decision making resources at Modesto Junior College

Master Plans at MJC

Decisions must align with the MJC’s master plans, of which there are several.

1. Educational Master Plan
2. Strategic Plan
3. Facilities Master Plan
4. College Technology Plan
5. Distance Education Plan
6. Yosemite Community College District Strategic Plan

Student Learning Outcomes

Each college governance council is responsible for supporting student learning outcomes and assessment as part of the ongoing, systematic process of continuous quality improvement. The councils will serve as a forum for evaluation of student learning outcomes processes to ensure that fine-tuning of organizational structures to support student learning is ongoing.