

ARTICLE II

THE MISSION OF THE LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

1200. MISSION. “*Changing Lives in a Changing Los Angeles*”

In an era of civic renewal, economic change, and cultural revitalization that is unprecedented in the history of Los Angeles, we—the faculty, staff, and administrators of the nine Los Angeles community colleges—dedicate ourselves to the goal of expanding access to educational opportunity across the many, diverse communities that contribute to the greater Los Angeles area.

We serve all Angelenos by providing an unparalleled array of educational offerings, including programs that prepare students for successful careers, for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, for the improvement of essential life and workplace skills, and for civic engagement and life-long learning.

To achieve this mission, we strive to create supportive instructional environments that challenge students to meet rigorous academic standards, to become active, self-directed learners, to develop critical and creative habits of mind, and to develop an abiding appreciation for other peoples and other cultures.

Adopted	12-02-69
Amended	02-04-76
Amended	12-17-86
Amended	02-07-07

1201. GUIDING PRINCIPLES. This District mission is informed by the following eight guiding principles.

Access & Opportunity: We are committed to expanding educational opportunity and access to everyone who has the desire to learn, and we actively welcome all students, including those from communities that have traditionally been underserved by higher education or who require special accommodation or support.

Excellence & Innovation: In all of our services and institutional activities, we strive to create a culture of excellence and innovation, and we challenge our students to meet the highest educational standards.

Student Learning & Success: All of our institutional efforts and resources are dedicated to one central purpose—the support of our students as they work toward the achievement of their academic and professional goals.

Free Inquiry: We value the vigorous, critical and free exchange of ideas and opinions, and we work actively to create communities of mutual respect and shared concern that support and sustain open debate and constructive, democratic discourse.

The Power of Diversity: We embrace diversity as a central part of our civic and institutional identity and as a powerful element in the education and development of every individual.

Community Connection: Our colleges must be rooted in the communities they serve, and we are determined to build and maintain strong, durable, and responsive collaborations with our educational partners across Los Angeles, and with business, labor, and other organizations that contribute to the fabric of our larger community.

The Promise of Technology: Technology plays a critical role in all of our institutional operations and educational programs, and we are committed to keeping both our District systems and classrooms on the forefront of technological innovation and efficiency.

Public Accountability: We are accountable to the public for all aspects of our mission, and we owe the students we serve, the people of Los Angeles, and the State of California regular and timely assessments of all of our efforts in support of student learning and student success.

Adopted 01-14-87
Amended 02-07-07

1202. **Board Rule 1202 was repealed on 06-13-07 and replaced by Chapter XV of the Board Rules.**
1203. **Board Rule 1203 was repealed on 06-13-07 and replaced by Chapter XV of the Board Rules.**
- 1203.10 **Board Rule 1203.10 was repealed on 06-13-07 and replaced by Chapter XV of the Board Rules.**
- 1203.11 **Board Rule 1203.11 was repealed on 06-13-07 and replaced by Chapter XV of the Board Rules.**
- 1203.12 **Board Rule 1203.12 was repealed on 06-13-07 and replaced by Chapter XV of the Board Rules.**
- 1203.13 **Board Rule 1203.13 was repealed on 06-13-07 and replaced by Chapter XV of the Board Rules.**

1204.

CODE OF ETHICS

1204.10 **Preamble.** The Los Angeles Community College District is dedicated to education, lifelong learning, and developing the citizens in our community. We expect all employees to behave in an honest, fair and appropriate manner to enable us to meet our mission.

Adopted 02-08-06

1204.11 **Ethical Behavior.** By March 1, 2006 each College Academic Senate shall have adopted a Code of Ethics by which all faculty members at their college are required to abide. In the event a college has not adopted a Code of Ethics then the District Academic Senate Code of Ethics (1204.12) shall apply.

Adopted 02-08-06

1204.12 The Los Angeles Community College District Academic Senate has adopted the following Policy on Faculty Ethics (Based on the 1987 American Association of University Professors Statement on Professional Ethics) by which all members of the District Academic Senate are required to abide.

Adopted 02-08-06

ACADEMIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Community college faculty members, guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge, recognize the special responsibilities placed upon them. Their primary responsibility to their subjects is to seek and to state the truth as they see it. To this end faculty members devote their energies to developing and improving their scholarly competence. They accept the obligation to exercise critical self-discipline and judgment in using, extending, and transmitting knowledge. They practice intellectual honesty. Although faculty members may follow subsidiary interests, these interests must never seriously hamper or compromise their freedom of inquiry.

Adopted 02-08-06

- b. As teachers, faculty members encourage the free pursuit of learning in their students. They hold before them the best scholarly standards of their discipline. Faculty members demonstrate respect for the student as an individual, and adhere to their proper role as intellectual guides and counselors. Faculty members make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct and to assure that evaluation of students reflects their true merit. They respect the confidential nature of the relationship between faculty member and student. They avoid any exploitation of students for private advantage and acknowledge significant assistance from them. They protect the academic freedom of students.

Adopted 02-08-06

- c. As colleagues, faculty members have obligations that derive from common membership in the community of scholars. Faculty members do not discriminate against or harass colleagues. They respect and defend the free inquiry of associates. In the exchange of criticism and ideas faculty members show due respect for the opinions of others. Faculty members acknowledge their academic debts and strive to be objective in their professional judgment of colleagues. Faculty members accept their share of faculty responsibilities for the governance of their institution.

Adopted 02-08-06

- d. As members of an academic institution, faculty members seek above all to be effective teachers and scholars. Although faculty members observe the stated regulations of their institutions, provided the regulations do not contravene academic freedom, they maintain their right to criticize and seek revision. Faculty members give due regard to their paramount responsibilities within their institution in determining the amount and character of work done outside it. When considering the interruption or termination of their service, faculty members recognize the effect of their decisions upon the program of the institution and give due notice of their intentions.

Adopted 02-08-06

- e. As members of their community, faculty members have the rights and obligations of all citizens. Faculty members measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of their responsibilities to their subject areas, to their students, to their profession, and to their institutions. When they speak or act as private persons they avoid creating the impression that they speak or act for their colleges or universities. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, faculty members have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.

Adopted 02-08-06

1204.13 District employees who are not covered by the faculty Codes of Ethics shall adhere to the following ethical standards:

Adopted 02-08-06

- a. Exercise due diligence in the ethical performance of his or her duties and model ethically responsible behavior at all times.
- b. Facilitate a climate of trust and mutual support through actions that demonstrate respect for reason, freedom of expression, and the right to dissent. Avoid knowingly making false or malicious statements about other employees or students.
- c. Use care and integrity in sharing information, guard privacy rights of all individuals, and avoid disclosing information about colleagues or students obtained in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.
- d. Avoid entering into or continuing relationships with other employees or students that create or sustain conflicts of interest, such as those that may be viewed as harassment, unequal power relationships, or those of a sexual nature.
- e. Avoid entering into or continuing relationships that create or sustain conflicts of interest as they relate to contractual obligations for and with the district and its colleges and which may lead to personal gain.

Adopted 02-08-06

1204.14 **Further Considerations.** This policy provides general guidelines and expectations for all Los Angeles Community College District employees other than faculty. It does not supersede more specific District or Board Rules, regulations, or state or federal laws affecting ethical considerations. Employees are also guided by ethical standards established by professional organizations in their fields.

Adopted 02-08-06