

WHAT IS THE COLLEGE FORUM?

TOMPKINS CORTLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The College Forum is the Governance model for TC3. The Forum was created in accordance with the Mission, Vision, Values and Goals developed at Tompkins Cortland Community College, and with the approval of the Board of Trustees, the President, and the College staff.

The College Forum meets biweekly during the academic year. Meetings are open to all members of the college community.

The Forum's purpose is to:

- Provide a structure for
 - ✓ Recommending and influencing Institutional Policy
 - ✓ Discussing and influencing proposed operational decisions that will significantly affect the College's Mission, Vision, Values and Goals
- Provide a forum for
 - ✓ Communicating on issues of broad institutional concern
 - ✓ Providing expertise and/or knowledge on such issues to decision makers

The College Forum

TC3's Governance
Committee



170 North Street, PO Box 139
Dryden, NY 13053-0139
Phone 607.844.8211

www.tc3.edu/about_tc3/forum.asp

MEMBERSHIP

The College Forum consists of a maximum of 21 members from identified groups within the college community:

- 3 Teaching Faculty
- 3 Classified Staff
- 3 Non-teaching Faculty and Administrative Staff
- 9 At-Large members from the above groups
- 3 Students

Faculty and staff are elected to terms of membership of two years, and student terms of membership are for one year. Students are selected through the Student Advisory Board. No one can serve on the Forum for more than two consecutive terms.

From the membership, one or more chairs will be elected by the Forum membership to serve a one-year term. A secretary will also be elected for a one-year term.

FORUM BUSINESS

All issues which come before the Forum are analyzed in terms of possible impact upon the College's identified Mission, Vision, Values and Goals.

All policy and operational recommendations developed through the College Forum are submitted to the

President of the College. Policy matters are subsequently submitted to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

DISPOSITION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Policy and operational decision recommendations from the College Forum go directly to the President. If the President rejects a recommendation of the Forum, a rationale for that rejection is shared.

The Chair of the College Forum also attends meetings of the Board of Trustees, and shares information relating to issues currently under consideration of the Forum. Even in cases when the President disagrees with the recommendations of the Forum, the recommendations are forwarded to the Board of Trustees.

BRINGING ISSUES TO THE FORUM

The Forum reviews many of the activities and issues under debate among any committee formed on campus. If policy or any major operational implications are apparent in any group functioning outside the Forum, the Chair meets with that group to include that work as part of the Forum, or a representative of the group is invited to make a presentation to the Forum at either a regular meeting or, in some cases, at a special college-wide meeting.

Any member of the college community may request that an issue be considered by the Forum. The request needs to be submitted to the Chair at least two weeks before the scheduled discussion. Materials regarding the issue are then distributed to Forum members in advance of the meeting, to aid in informed discussion.

ELECTIONS

If staff members are interested in joining the College Forum, elections are held in the Spring semester to fill upcoming vacancies. When voting takes place, nominees are identified on the ballot by employee group. Elected members may fill a slot in their specific employee group, or an at-large position.

FIND OUT MORE

Forum information can be found on the TC3 website:

www.tc3.edu/about_tc3/forum.asp

Posted information includes bylaws, meeting times and meeting minutes.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, the Forum dealt with a wide variety of issues, including the Student Code of Conduct, campus sustainability, e-mail protocol, and two new degree program proposals.