

**CHARTER STUDY GROUP DRAFT OF PROPOSED  
PRINCIPLES OF SHARED GOVERNANCE**

**JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
MAY 27, 2016**

Members of the Charter Study Group<sup>1</sup>:

Andrea Balis, History  
James Cauthen, Political Science, Chair  
Angela Crossman, Psychology  
Jennifer Dysart, Psychology  
Gail Garfield, Sociology  
Katie Gentile, Interdisciplinary Studies/Gender Studies  
Antonio (Jay) Pastrana, Jr., Sociology  
Matthew Perry, History  
Valli Rajah, Sociology  
Ellen Sexton, Library  
John Staines, English

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<sup>1</sup> When constituted last year, the work of the Charter Study Group was to end with the issuance of its report in the Fall 2015 semester. After the issuance of the report, members were asked to continue work in the Spring 2016 semester to draft proposed principles. Because some members of the committee had not planned for the work to be extended and had existing obligations, not all on the committee were able to participate in the preparation of this draft. Professors Balis, Cauthen, Crossman, Gentile, Pastrana, Perry, Sexton and Staines participated in the preparation of this draft.

Shared governance is a social system of self-government under which decision-making responsibility is shared among those affected by the decisions. It is given life and vitality through the commitment of members of the community participating in it. As part of that commitment, members of the College community affirm and agree to promote the following core principles at all levels of decision-making:

- Effective shared governance relies on mutual respect and cooperation among all members of the College community and relies on continuous, trustworthy communication that is multidirectional and reciprocal.
- Full, active and honest participation in shared governance by members of all College constituencies shall be encouraged, valued, supported and protected. Shared governance requires broad discussion, healthy debate and respect for dissenting views.
- Representation on shared governance bodies shall be proportional to the interest and expertise of that constituency and must reflect the diverse nature of the College community, ensuring that a wide range of opinions are heard and considered.
- Although many shared governance issues will impact multiple constituencies, roles of constituencies in shared governance and the extent of their participation shall vary across issues:
  - Faculty shall have primary responsibility for curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process, and degree requirements, with the President rejecting recommendations in these areas only in exceptional circumstances, and for reasons communicated to the faculty;
  - Administration shall have primary responsibility for long-range planning, budgeting, and facilities;
  - Staff shall have a significant role in the development of policies and procedures relating to student affairs and the operation of the College; and
  - Students shall have a meaningful role in the development of policies and procedures relating to student life at the College.
- Roles, lines of authority and processes for decision-making within the shared governance system shall be clear and well defined.
- The shared governance process shall be open and transparent, with constituencies having the opportunity to be informed of and contribute to the discussion of issues before decisions are made, including when a constituency's role is consultative.
- Shared governance bodies shall have access to information reasonably necessary to make decisions on issues before them, and the status of matters being addressed in shared governance shall be available to members of the College community at any point in the shared governance process.
- Decisions shall be made in a timely manner, but shared governance principles and processes must not be ignored to promote efficiency.

- Decisions on matters in shared governance, including rationales, shall be widely disseminated.
- All participants in shared governance (individuals, constituent groups, committees and other governing bodies) shall be held accountable for the proper execution of their roles within the shared governance system.
- To ensure the life, vitality and effectiveness of shared governance, the system must be dynamic and evolve with the needs of the College and its constituencies. Thus, processes and outcomes of shared governance shall be formally assessed periodically and, when necessary, plans proposed to improve them.