

Comprehensive Standard 3.2.4

The governing board is free from undue influence from political, religious, or other external bodies and protects the institution from such influences.

Impact Statement

The predecessor colleges, Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) and Capital Area Technical College (CATC) were both members of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS). The merged BRCC continues as an institution governed by the LCTCS Board of Supervisors and the Louisiana constitutional statutes governing its conduct.

Rationale

The LCTCS Board is constitutionally required to be representative of the state's population by race and gender to ensure a diverse membership that represents the various geographical areas of the state. The Board's conduct is governed by the LCTCS Code of Conduct ([Figure 3.2.3.4](#)), the Bylaws of the Board of Supervisors ([Figure 2.2.5](#)), the State Constitution of 1974 ([Figure 3.2.3.1](#)), and the 2004 Charge to the Board ([Figure 3.2.4.1](#)) issued by Governor Kathleen Blanco:

The Board will function as a corporate body with the interests of citizens, employees, workforce, economic development, and cultural enhancement as guiding principles. Even though most members are appointed by Congressional Districts, as board members their purpose is not to protect or control campuses located within those districts. They will function as a corporate board with statewide interests uppermost in their minds. The Board will not micro-manage the institutions assigned to it. It will ensure the establishment and continuous evaluation of the effectiveness of its CEOs and programs.

A review of LCTCS minutes ([Figure 2.2.3](#)) demonstrates that all actions submitted to the Board must be introduced by a Board member, seconded by another Board member, and approved by a quorum of the Board. The adherence to these rules of order safeguards the Board against undue influence from political, religious, or other external bodies and protects its institutions from such influences.

Supporting Evidence

[Figure 3.2.3.4](#) LCTCS Code of Conduct Policy 6.025

[Figure 2.2.5](#) Bylaws of the LCTCS Board

[Figure 3.2.3.1](#) State Constitution of 1974 Article X Public Officials and Employees

[Figure 3.2.4.1](#) Governor's Charge to the LCTCS Board

[Figure 2.2.3](#) LCTCS May 14 2014 Approved Board Minutes