

County Community College  
Michael J. Grant Campus

Academic Assembly

**Resolution 2019-09 [07]**

**Calling for**

**the Participation of Non-tenure-track Faculty**

**in Faculty Governance**

**Whereas** the primary function of faculty governance at institutions of higher learning is to promote the principles of academic freedom and the purview of the faculty over the curriculum and academic standards, and

**Whereas** most of the course sections offered at the Grant Campus of Suffolk County Community College are taught by adjunct, non-tenure-track faculty,[[1]](#footnote-2) and

**Whereas** the American Association of University Professors has set forth the following principles[[2]](#footnote-3):

1. “Faculty” should be defined inclusively rather than exclusively; faculty status should not be limited to those holding tenured or tenure-track appointments.
2. Faculty members who hold contingent appointments should be afforded responsibilities and opportunities in governance similar to those of their tenured and tenure-track colleagues.
3. Faculty governance must be exercised to be real.
4. Academic freedom and governance reinforce each other. While governance work helps to support faculty status, a secure faculty is a prerequisite for free participation in governance.
5. All faculty members should be afforded academic freedom and due-process protections, whether they hold tenured, tenure-track, or contingent appointments; and

**Whereas** many colleges and universities have implemented policies and procedures that allow for the participation of adjunct, non-tenure-track faculty in faculty governance; be it therefore,

**Resolved** that the Grant Campus Academic Assembly affirms the importance of vibrant and active faculty governance for the shared governance of the College, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Grant Campus Academic Assembly affirms that the organs of faculty governance should be as inclusive as is practicable, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Grant Campus Academic Assembly affirms the professional status of our colleagues among the adjunct, non-tenure-track faculty, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Grant Campus Academic Assembly directs the Executive Committee (or an ad hoc committee appointed thereby) to begin investigating practicable models for the participation of adjunct, non-tenure-track faculty in the Academic Assembly and its committees, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Executive Committee shall draft and propose for the Assembly’s consideration amendments to the Assembly Constitution to allow for said participation of adjunct, non-tenure-track faculty.

Passed [43-4-2] on October 1, 2019

1. According to OPIE’s Faculty Workload Reports for Fall 2016 (the latest available on the College website: <https://www.sunysuffolk.edu/about-suffolk/office-of-planning-and-institutional-effectiveness/faculty-workload-report.jsp>), 31.7% of the total sections offered at the Grant Campus were part of the regular load of fulltime faculty, 13.8% were fulltime overload sections, and 54.5% were taught by adjunct faculty. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. “The Inclusion in Governance of Faculty Members Holding Contingent Appointments,” 2012 (https://www.aaup.org/report/inclusion-governance-faculty-members-holding-contingent-appointments). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)