1.4 Faculty Role in Governance

1.4.1 Faculty Role in the Governance of the College of Saint Benedict

To further its educational mission and goals, the College of St. Benedict is committed to cooperation among the Board of Trustees, the administration, the faculty, the students, St. Benedict’s Monastery, and St. John’s University. The broadest possible exchange of information and opinion is necessary for effective planning and implementation of the educational objectives of the College.

Each constituency of the academic community has different initiating and decision-making responsibilities. The primary role of the faculty in governance is the implementation of the educational goals held separately and in common by the College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University. In this capacity the faculty is primarily responsible for curriculum planning, policy, and review, and curricular requirements including but not limited to: admissions and graduation requirements; the core curriculum; additions and deletions of majors, minors, or programs.

Although changes in educational policy may be proposed by any faculty individual or group, the Provost, President or Board of Trustees, any major changes require consultation with the faculty prior to final action by the Provost, President, or Board of Trustees as is appropriate, unless there is formal agreement to do otherwise. That consultation would take place through any mutually agreed upon procedure which provides a means for the faculty (as a whole or through authorized representatives) to present its judgment in the form of a recommendation, vote or other expression sufficiently explicit to record the position or positions taken by the faculty.

The faculty is also responsible for the setting and maintaining of faculty standards, including, but not limited to, recommendations regarding tenure, promotion, sabbaticals, and the use of faculty development funds.

Finally, the faculty in collaboration with the Provost is responsible for recommendations regarding the procedures used to determine salary increases and the creation and implementation of salary schedules. The faculty, through its representatives on the Joint Benefits Committee, consults with other employee groups in order to formulate recommendations regarding working conditions and joint employee benefits.

The faculty participates in institutional governance through the Joint Faculty Assembly, and through its representatives on standing committees or ad hoc committees of the Joint Faculty Assembly. Faculty members have additional responsibilities to exchange
information with and serve as consultants to constituencies of the College. These responsibilities may be fulfilled by participation in committees of the Board of Trustees or the Administration, divisional and/or departmental governance, or 

ad hoc committees.

The faculty is subject to the reserve power of control by the Board of Trustees in their initiation, review and recommendation of requirements for admission, the curriculum requirements for graduation, the nature and number of degrees to be conferred, and regulations for the conduct of the educational work of the University. In particular, no exercise of the powers herein conferred on the faculty that, in the judgment of the President of the College, involves a major issue in the educational policy of the College shall take effect without the concurrence of the President of the College and the approval of the Board of Trustees. The power of review or final decision in these areas is lodged in the Board of Trustees or delegated by it to the President. Only in exceptional circumstances, however, is non-concurrence exercised, and the reasons for the action are communicated to the faculty by the President.

1.4.2 Faculty Role in the Governance of the Saint John’s University

To further its educational mission and goals, Saint John’s University is committed to cooperation among the Board of Regents, the administration, the faculty, the students, the monastic community of St. John’s Abbey, and the College of St. Benedict. The broadest possible exchange of information and opinion is necessary for effective planning and implementation of the University’s educational objectives.

Each constituency of the academic community has different initiating and decision-making responsibilities. The primary role of the faculty in governance is the implementation of the educational goals held separately and in common by St. John’s University and the College of St. Benedict. In this capacity the faculty is primarily responsible for curriculum planning, policy, and review, and curricular requirements including but not limited to: admissions and graduation requirements; the core curriculum; additions and deletions of majors, minors, or programs.

Although changes in educational policy may be proposed by any faculty individual or group, the Provost, President or Board of Regents, any major changes require consultation with the faculty prior to final action by the Provost, President, or Board of Regents as is appropriate, unless there is formal agreement to do otherwise. That consultation would take place through any mutually agreed upon procedure which provides a means for the faculty (as a whole or through authorized representatives) to
present its judgment in the form of a recommendation, vote or other expression sufficiently explicit to record the position or positions taken by the faculty.

The faculty is also responsible for the setting and maintaining of faculty standards, including, but not limited to, recommendations regarding tenure, promotion, sabbaticals, and the use of faculty development funds. The faculty, through its representatives on the Joint Benefits Committee, consults with other employee groups in order to formulate recommendations regarding working conditions and joint employee benefits.

Finally, the faculty is responsible for recommendations regarding the procedures used to determine salary increases and the creation and implementation of salary schedules. The faculty also consults with other employee groups in order to formulate recommendations regarding employee benefits and working conditions.

The faculty participates in institutional governance through the Joint Faculty Assembly and through its representatives on standing committees or ad hoc committees of the Joint Faculty Assembly. Faculty members have additional responsibilities to exchange information with and serve as consultants to constituencies of the University. These responsibilities may be fulfilled by participation in committees of the Board of Regents or the Administration, divisional and/or departmental governance, or ad hoc committees.

The faculty is subject to the reserve power of control by the Board of Regents in their initiation, review and recommendation of requirements for admission, the curriculum requirements for graduation, the nature and number of degrees to be conferred, and regulations for the conduct of the educational work of the University. In particular, no exercise of the powers herein conferred on the faculty that, in the judgment of the President of the University, involves a major issue in the educational policy of the University shall take effect without the concurrence of the President of the University and the approval of the Board of Regents. The power of review or final decision in these areas is lodged in the Board of Regents or delegated by it to the President. Only in exceptional circumstances, however, is non-concurrence exercised, and the reasons for the action are communicated to the faculty by the President.