



# Community Service Hiatus

2020-2021

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**Date:** November 14, 2020

**Department/Committee/Group:**

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Email your completed presentation checklist to the Faculty Senate chair by their specified deadline.

## TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM

- Information Item (update on projects)
- Action Item
  - Evaluation, Promotion, Tenure
  - Professional Development (PIP, sabbatical, travel, workshops...)
  - Recommend procedure change by another committee or individual that does not require changes to the GP Manual
- Feedback request (for ultimate decision by another committee or individual)
  - Calendar and workload (scheduling, office hour, online, ...)
  - Course/program assessment (assessments, APR, ...)
  - Other:
- Policy or Procedure change that requires change to the GP Manual (requires approval by College Affairs or Academic Affairs)
- Other:

## Proposal Overview: *(continue on additional pages as needed)*

Given the pandemic situation that exists during the 2020-2021 academic year, the Faculty Senate recommends that faculty be relieved of service to community requirements during the 2020-2021 academic year as they relate to promotions, tenure, the Annual Report of Activities, and Professional Improvement Plans.

Many of the community service activities that COCC faculty participate in have required direct contact with community members or participation in activities with the community that have

been curtailed because of the pandemic. In addition, it is clear that teaching during these times has required much more time and effort than would normally be expended during non-pandemic times. Removing the community service requirement for this academic year will allow faculty more time to focus on primary assignment.

COCC, the Faculty Senate, and the community appreciate the work that some faculty may be able to continue to contribute to the community especially during these difficult times, so making note of those activities in the appropriate document is encouraged, but faculty may also indicate in areas where community service would normally be noted that “due to the pandemic, no community service is being recorded for the 2020-2021 academic year.”

The lack of recorded community service during the 2020-2021 academic year will not be held against faculty in matters pertaining to Annual Reports of Activities, promotion and tenure reviews, and reviews of Professional Improvement Plans.

In addition, the first COVID-19 case in the United States was recorded on January 21, 2020. By mid-March 2020, COCC was announcing changes that drastically affected the way we operate. The ability of faculty to perform/complete community service activities, participate in professional improvement activities and actively engage in service to the college during winter and spring 2020 may also have been affected by COVID-19 and should be taken into consideration when Annual Reports of Activities and Professional Improvement Plans covering those dates are reviewed. Faculty who feel that their ability to perform in any of the service areas was significantly compromised during the 2019-2020 academic year specifically because of COVID-19 are encouraged to provide a note of explanation on the appropriate documents.