

POLICY TYPE: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY TITLE: GOVERNING PHILOSOPHY

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The Board embraces a view toward governance that is strategic, future-oriented, proactive, positive, ambitious, and deliberative. This view encourages diversity in viewpoints, reinforces the centrality of Board policy-making and empowers the President with clear direction.

More specifically, the Board will:

1. Lead and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of broad organizational policies reflecting the community's values. The Board's major focus will be on the intended long-term impact of the College on the community (ENDS).
2. Operate in all ways mindful to its trusteeship obligation to its community.
3. Engage in continual development in the Board's governance process, including orientation of new members.
4. Accept collective responsibility for excellence in policy governance. The Board will use the expertise of individual trustees to enhance the work of the Board as a body, rather than to substitute their individual judgments for those of the Board as a whole.
5. Monitor and discuss the board's process and performance regularly for continuous improvement. Annual self-monitoring will include comparison of Board activity and discipline to policies in the GOVERNANCE PROCESS and BOARD-STAFF RELATIONSHIP categories.
6. Seek input from various sources including staff, students, alumni, employers, and other community members on Board policies on ENDS.
7. Work toward consensus for unofficial or informal issues.
8. Use a formal vote for official items requiring action.