

Policy Title: **GOVERNING PHILOSOPHY**

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

More specifically the Board will:

- Operate in all ways mindful to its trusteeship and stewardship obligations to its community.
- Take action only in official Board meetings called, scheduled, and conducted according to statutory requirements.
- Engage in continual development including orientation of new members in the Board's governance process.
- Lead and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of the broadest 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).
- Accept collective responsibility for excellence in 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.
- 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 and any Board goals that may be established annually.
- Seek balanced input from various sources including staff, students, alumni, employers, and other community members on Board policies on Ends. The Board will initiate timely linkages with stakeholder groups as needed.
- Make decisions, to the extent possible, on a consensus basis.

Adopted: 05/09/95

Reviewed: 08/27/99, 08/25/01, 08/13/08, 08/21/12, 08/19/14, 09/20/16, 10/16/18, 11/16/21

Revised: 09/15/98, 10/21/08