

POLICY #1: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

GOVERNING STYLE

Approved January 21, 2016

The board will approach its task with a Policy Governance style which emphasizes strategic leadership more than administrative detail, clear distinction of board and staff roles, future rather than past or present, and proactivity rather than reactivity.

In this spirit, the board will:

1. Focus chiefly on intended long term impacts (*ENDS*), not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
2. Direct, control and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of the broadest organizational values and perspectives (policies). Policies will address a) *ENDS*: what benefits for which needs at what cost, b) *Executive Limitations*: boundaries of prudence and ethics to be observed by staff, c) *Governance Process*: Board role and responsibilities and d) *Board-Administration/Relationship*: linkage between board and staff.
3. Enforce upon itself whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to attendance, policy making principles, respect of clarified roles, speaking with one voice and self-policing of any tendency to stray from governance adopted in board policies.
4. Be accountable to the college and the larger community for competent, conscientious and effective accomplishment of its obligations as a body. It will allow no officer, individual or committee of the board to usurp this role or hinder this discipline.
5. Monitor and regularly discuss the board's own process and performance. Ensure the continuity of board improvements through systematic treatment of its own institutional memory (i.e. accurate reporting and filing of minutes, policy review, and orientation of new board members).
6. Be an initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The board, not the staff, will be responsible for board performance.