

Governance Committee Charter

The Governance Committee shall be responsible for ongoing review and recommendations to enhance the quality and future viability of the board. The work of the committee revolves around four major areas: Board Role and Responsibilities, Board Knowledge, Board Effectiveness and Board Leadership.

Board Role and Responsibilities

- Leads the board in regularly reviewing and updating the board's statement of its roles and areas of responsibility, and what is expected of individual board members.
- Assists the board in periodically updating and clarifying the primary areas of focus for the board, and shaping the board's agenda for the future - based on the strategic plan.
- Conducts the president's annual review.

Board Knowledge

- Designs and oversees a process of board orientation, including, but not limited to:
 - Information on the state of higher education in Alaska and the data leading to the selection of board priorities.
 - The different missions (role and scope) of the University of Alaska's institutions.
 - The annual calendar or cycle for board policy development (e.g., approval of the budget).
 - Board protocol for respecting the lines of authority and responsibility between the board and the president, and the president and the chancellors.
 - Board protocols for requesting information and adding items to the board's agendas.
- Designs and implements an ongoing program of board information and education.

Board Effectiveness

- Initiates periodic assessment of the board's performance. Proposes, as appropriate, changes in board structure and operations.
- Provides ongoing counsel to the board chair and other board leaders on steps they might take to enhance board effectiveness.
- Regularly reviews the board's practices regarding member participation, conflict of interest, etc., and suggests improvements as needed.
- Periodically reviews and updates the board's policy guidelines and practices.

Board Leadership

- Takes the lead in succession planning, taking steps to recruit and prepare future board leaders.
- Nominates board members for election as board officers.

Unless otherwise specifically directed by action of the Board of Regents, the Governance Committee will be advisory to the board. Decisions of the committee may be modified by action of the board.