

AGB Workshop

Strengthening Board Committees

Philadelphia, PA Nov. 8th – 9th

University of Hawaii System Attendees

➤ **Lee Putnam**, Regent

Chair, Academic & Student Affairs Committee

➤ **Ernie Wilson**, Regent

Member, Academic & Student Affairs Committee

➤ **Risa Dickson**

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Feedback on Workshop

Introduction –

✓ *Lee Putnam*

What We Learned –

✓ *Ernie Wilson*

✓ *Risa Dickson*

What We Learned

Focus on -

- **Boards**

- **Committees**

- *Committees in General*

- *Academic & Student Affairs*

Boards

Most Important Fiduciary Roll of Governing Board –

- Monitoring and Affirming Quality of Teaching and Learning

“Core mission is Education”

- Everything else Board does should support Education

Committees

Purpose of Committees –

(working in tandem with other committees)

- Enhance Purpose of Board
- Advance the Productivity of Board

Committees

Responsibility of Committees –

- Assure that committee's focus and work is aligned with and advances the institution's strategic vision, goals, and priorities.
- Assure that deliberations include the appropriate constituents that honor governance prerogatives.
- Recommend decisions and actions to the full board based on conclusions that summarize relevant data and findings.



Committees

“Committees should serve as models of good governance where issues are debated and recommendations are framed openly, inclusively, and with full transparency”

Committees

What is necessary to accomplish these responsibilities? –

Although there is no optimal committee system, certain principles, practices, and procedures prevail!

Committees

Best Practices for An Effective Committee

- Focus Work of Committee
- Facilitate Informed and Participatory Decision Making
- Organize the Work of the Committee

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

**“Board’s vehicle for accomplishing
their fiduciary
oversight
responsibility!”**

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

Current environment – *(Trends affecting committee's focus)*

- Constricted resources to allocate to growing number of initiatives,
- Increased attention about the cost and value of a college education,
- National focus on access to college and persistence to graduation,
- Increased focus on student learning outcomes.
(what students know and can do upon graduation)

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

Purpose of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee –

(working in tandem with other committees)

- Enhance Purpose of Board
- Advance the Productivity of Board

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

Five Basic Responsibilities

1. Ensure that the academic programs are consistent with the institution's mission and strategic plan
2. Ensure that the budget reflects academic priorities and the students' best interest
3. Ensure that academic programs are appropriate for its students

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

Five Basic Responsibilities *(continued)*

4. Ensure that faculty personnel policies and procedures are current, correctly applied, and in line with academic priorities
5. Ensure that the institution assesses educational quality and uses the assessment for continuous improvement

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

What is necessary to accomplish these responsibilities? –

1. Be familiar with the institution's programs (i.e., its values, capabilities, how it distinguishes itself in the marketplace)
2. Understand the structure and philosophy of the academic programs including costs, demand, benefits, and alignment with the strategic focus of the institution.
3. Understand and respect the academic culture of academic freedom, tenure, and shared governance with its focus on collegial decision making.

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

What is necessary to accomplish these responsibilities? – *(continued)*

4. Promote and promulgate a culture of data based program assessment and continuous improvement
5. Be aware of and sensitive to the needs and interests of the students and to the greater marketplace

Academic & Student Affairs Committee

Pitfalls –

1. Approving new programs for the sake of growth alone
2. Reacting too quickly or too slowly
3. Making decisions without data
4. Ignoring shared governance
5. Hesitancy to engage or over-engagement



“Noses in,
Fingers Out!!”

“Digging in The Weeds”