

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Policy Type: Governance Process
Approved: November 21, 2006
Revised: November 2017 and September 2013



GP-11 – Board Planning Cycle and Agenda Control

To accomplish its job products with a governance style consistent with board policies, the board will follow an annual agenda which (a) completes a re-exploration of Ends policies annually and (b) continually improves board performance through board education and enriched input and deliberation.

1. The board shall maintain control of its own agenda by developing each year no later than the first quarter of the board's term of office, an annual schedule which includes, but is not limited to:
 - 1.1. Considered review of the Ends in a timely fashion, which allows the president to build a budget based on accomplishing a one-year segment of the board's most recent statement of long-term ends.
 - 1.2. Consultations with selected groups in the ownership, or other methods of gaining ownership input, prior to the above review.
 - 1.3. Education related to Ends determination (for example, presentations relating to the external environment, demographic information, exploration of future perspectives which may have implications, presentations by advocacy groups, and staff).
 - 1.4. Content review of selected Executive Limitations, Governance Process and Board-President Relationship policies, consistent with a multi-year schedule that includes all policies.
 - 1.5. Self-evaluation of the board's own compliance with its Governance Process policies, and for review of the policies themselves.
 - 1.6. Documentation of monitoring compliance by the president with Executive Limitations and Ends policies. Monitoring reports will be provided and read in advance of board meetings and discussion will occur only if reports show policy violations, if reports do not provide sufficient information for the board to make a determination regarding compliance or if policy criteria are to be debated.
 - 1.7. Time for education about the process of governance.
2. Based on the outline of the annual schedule, the board delegates authority to the chair to complete the details of the meeting content. Potential agenda items shall be carefully screened to ensure that they relate to the board's roles and responsibilities, rather than simply reviewing staff activities. Screening questions shall include:
 - Clarification as to whether the issue clearly belongs to the board or the president.
 - Identification of what category an issue relates to - Ends, Executive Limitations, Governance Process, Board-President Relationship.
 - Review of what the board has already said in this category, and how the current issue is related.