

5 ESSENTIALS OF BOARD GOVERNANCE

AN EXCELLENT BOARD . . .



EMBRACES

Embraces the value proposition of the institution, its mission & culture



CREATES

Creates and maintains a steward board culture



UNDERSTANDS

Understands and exercises steward board authority



ENSURES

Ensures the sustainability of the institution via strategic thinking and planning



PRACTICES

Practices strategic board development and evaluation

1. Embraces the value proposition of the institution, its mission & culture

- ▶ The promise the institution makes to its constituency
- ▶ Institutional distinctives, brand and value
- ▶ Institutional purpose, heritage, and ethos
- ▶ Guards against institutional drift

2. Creates and maintains a steward board culture

- ▶ Steward board vs owner board
- ▶ Stewards the institution as a spiritual enterprise
- ▶ Cultivates the board's spiritual vitality
- ▶ Understands and nurtures the calling of each board member

3. Understands and exercises steward board authority

- ▶ Board authority expressed as one voice vs individual voices
- ▶ Policy governance & board policy manual
- ▶ Prudent plans for presidential selection & evaluation
- ▶ Effective path for board chair and presidential partnership

4. Ensures the sustainability of the institution via strategic thinking and planning

- ▶ Modes of governance as leadership – fiscal, strategic & generative
- ▶ Accurate assessment of institutional SWOT
- ▶ User friendly dashboard of institutional KPI's
- ▶ Compliance, risk assessment and crisis management

5. Practices strategic board development & evaluation

- ▶ A robust & highly effective board governance committee
- ▶ Strategic board member recruitment & selection, and a comprehensive orientation program
- ▶ Board evaluations
- ▶ Continuous board development