

BOARD CHAIR AND PRESIDENTIAL PARTNERSHIP



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

There is a high correlation between the strength of the board and the quality of leadership provided to the board and the institution by both the board chair and the president. The relationship between them calls for common vision, strategic direction, and candid interactions.

Questions for Discussion

1. Describe the process by which your trustees determine who should serve as the board chair. Does it factor in the working relationship with the president? What criteria should be considered?
2. Sometimes choosing a board chair is a matter of convenience or tenure rather than determining who may be most effective. What are the top five qualities a board should seek in selecting a board chair?
3. Trust, confidence, and mutual respect are crucial as the board chair and president work together. What are the key governance issues they should keep in mind as they clarify expectations of one another?
4. Ask your board chair and president to discuss their approach to setting the agenda for meetings and how they determine priorities for board development.
5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a board chair who serves multiple terms in that role?

For additional research: <https://agb.org/knowledge-center/roles-responsibilities/board-chair>