

POLICY GOVERNANCE AND THE BOARD POLICY MANUAL



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

Leading intentional Christian colleges faithfully and effectively is becoming increasingly complex. Governing with a current Board Policy Manual that provides leaders with clear parameters is essential. What distinguishes governing from managing is the Board's delegation of responsibility to the CEO for operating within clearly established, approved, and monitored policies.

Questions for Discussion

1. Many boards have adopted a “customized” version of policy governance that clearly defines the guidelines and objectives by which the president leads. How does your board communicate these expectations to the president? How is the president held accountable?
2. A good Board Policy Manual and Handbook is used to orient new trustees, record established policies, and serve as the primary governing resource. How often is your manual/handbook reviewed and does it contain all the information needed?
3. If a new policy is needed on a particular issue, how is it formulated and approved? Is there a template for recording the type of policy, date enacted, and when it was last updated?
4. Where does your board document policy decisions that are made at board meetings? If only recorded in the minutes of the meeting, how are they indexed for future reference?
5. When policy decisions are made by the board, how and by whom are they communicated to those who are directly impacted?

For additional research and manual template: <https://theandringagroup.com/resources/>