

Temple College Board Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, November 10th, 5:00pm

Attendees: Board Policy Chair Dr. Andre Avots-Avotins, Dr. Hope Koch, Dr. Mark Durham, Board Chair Lydia Santibañez-Farrell, President Dr. Christy Ponce, Provost Dr. Susan Guzman-Treviño, and Associate Vice President of Finance Dr. Gisela Figueroa

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The board policy committee met to discuss the adoption of a new proposed document called a Board Handbook that includes proposed Bylaws along with other documents to assist board members in their role. The committee decided to continue to work on this document in the upcoming months to see if there is additional language that needs to be included surrounding SB 37, remaining in compliance with state and federal laws, and having the document reviewed by legal counsel before it goes forward for recommendation of adoption. The board policy committee is waiting for the training of Senate Bill 37 to be connected. The group also discussed upcoming training opportunities and the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Next steps

- Hope/Lydia: Add page numbers to feedback document and send updated version to the team for forwarding to General Counsel
- Christy: Send out information about both December Training along with CCATT webinar in January to all trustees
- Susan: Work with TASB consultant on October policy committee meeting
- Christy: Wait for December TASB updates, then send all policy/governance documents to General Counsel for review
- Hope/Dr. Avots: Schedule January policy committee meeting to review document changes with General Counsel's feedback before sending to full board
- Christy: Check with TASB consultant about proper process for agenda item requests
- Martha Ellis: Facilitate trustee workshop with new updates

Summary

College Governance Compliance Review

Lydia discussed the compliance of the college's board bylaws and governance policy with Senate Bill 37 and other relevant educational entities. She agreed on the importance of having the General Counsel review these documents to ensure full compliance. Lydia also mentioned that Dr. Martha

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Ellis would facilitate a workshop on trustee and CEO relationships and governance policies. The group agreed to address any concerns regarding the bylaws and governance policy and to conduct annual reviews of the bylaws to account for any changes throughout the year.

SB 37 Compliance and Board Language

The board discussed compliance with Senate Bill 37, waiting for board training taking place in the next couple of months and having General Counsel review their board policies and bylaws for further assurance. The group discussed language recommendations to the document. Hope recommended changes to the term "support," be modified as "provide guidance and support while maintaining accountability to taxpayers and the state."

Texas Open Meetings Act Compliance

The board discussed compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and agreed to review language about adding items to an agenda. They decided to have the General Counsel review the proposed changes to ensure compliance with both Senate Bill 37 and other governmental requirements. The committee also discussed the policy manual being updated with the release from TASB in December with new local policy recommendations. Hope suggested adding language about follow up timelines on questions or items suggested.

Trustee Training and Statement Updates

The board discussed reviewing language changes to ensure compliance but keeping language simple. Christy provided updates on upcoming training opportunities related to new legislative requirements, including a Coordinating Board conference in December and a CCATT webinar in January. The board agreed to encourage all trustees to participate in the training sessions, which offer reimbursement for travel expenses.

Board Agenda and Policy Procedures

The board policy committee discussed procedures for adding agenda items and handling sensitive topics. They agreed to consult with legal counsel about the best processes. Susan agreed to ask TASB consultant about question regarding committee procedure of last committee meeting. The group plans to wait until December for new guidelines from TASB before making changes to the bylaws and sending them to General Counsel for review.