



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Policies and Procedures

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Board Guidelines and Guidelines for Individual Board Members

I - SFU BOARD GUIDELINES

The Board is responsible for the overall governance of the University, subject to the powers over academic matters reserved to Senate. In addition to the specific duties set forth and limited in the University Act, the Board's primary responsibilities are:

Autonomy and Board Independence

1. To protect and defend the autonomy of the University.
2. To ensure the independence of the Board of Governors by focusing on the public interest of the University and not those of a constituency, commercial, government individual or individual interest.

Collegiality

3. To maintain collegiality by ensuring due diligence in consultation with university constituents on important issues which affect them.

Conflict of Interest

4. To avoid any real, potential or apparent conflict of interest, and act promptly in its remedy.

Openness and Accountability

5. To conduct business in public with clear guidelines for confidentiality of proceedings when needed, and to seek to establish a climate of openness and trust.
6. To meet the highest standards for public reporting, monitoring and accountability.

Strategic Planning and Policy Coordination

7. To ensure effective and transparent strategic planning processes exist, that are conducted on a regular basis, are afforded sufficient time and contain appropriate performance monitoring and performance review processes.

Board Effectiveness

8. To appoint the President and provide the President and administration with sufficient support to lead the University successfully.
9. To ensure Board effectiveness by providing appropriate orientation, periodic information briefing, regular reviews and assessment of the effectiveness of the Board, Board Policies, and Statement of Guidelines.
10. To clearly define delegations of authority within the Board, regularly review committee structure and maintain clear distinctions between governance and management functions.

