

***A GIANT LEAP TOWARDS AGILE,
INCLUSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT SHARED
GOVERNANCE
AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY***

Prepared for
The Purdue University Senate
by The Shared Governance Task Force Leadership
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We have learned from the COVID pandemic that our shared governance structures must continue to evolve. Working closely with stakeholders across campus, we propose a re-examination of the state of shared governance at Purdue University. Jointly, we will explore best practices in shared governance and develop recommendations to innovate Purdue's shared governance structures by identifying ways to enhance the collective voices of our constituencies and further effective collaborations across Purdue campuses.

FIRST PRINCIPLES:

What objectives are we trying to accomplish?

- Engage a wider set of faculty voices
- Create opportunities for participation in shared governance by groups that have been historically uninvolved (e.g., staff, students)
- Develop mechanisms that facilitate intentional collaboration across all campus stakeholders
- Construct multiple and varied opportunities to involve and engage all Purdue stakeholders flexibly and effectively in shared governance

VALUES:

What values will shape conversations and critical decisions to accomplish objectives?

- Effective shared governance is characterized by open and constructive communication
- For shared governance to work, it must be based on a culture of engagement
- Institutional policies that define shared governance should be reviewed periodically to ensure their currency, applicability, and accountability
- Meaningfully encourage, recognize, and incentivize shared governance participation

WORK PLAN:

What are we doing and when?

- October-December 2021: formed Working Groups, finalized charges for and composition of these groups. *THANK YOU TO THOSE FROM THIS GROUP WHO VOLUNTEERED*
- January-February 2022: working groups are meeting. Leadership has met with different colleges, staff groups, etc. when requested. Working groups are asked to complete their work and submit ideas with pros and cons by beginning of March 2022.
- March 2022: convene Leadership team with working group findings to draft documents and materials for Board of Trustees' consideration. Have working group members review documents and suggest edits.
- April 2022: present model and recommendations to Board of Trustees.
- After April 2022: campus-wide vote on BOT-approved model/recommendations, solicit volunteers to work over the next year to develop/draft the specifics (e.g., bylaws)

***We are following the same process used during the mid-1960s
when the Senate was first formed***

WORKING GROUPS

Working Group	Initial Charge
Accountability	Create statements of expectations regarding participation, preparedness, and comportsment. Draft procedures for periodic review of SG in the future
Staff, Student, and Other Voices	Identify relevant constituencies across campus who need representation in our structural model of shared governance. Identify a process for the formation of new groups as these groups would have representation in the broader council
Structural Model for Shared Governance	Review SG models, weigh pros and cons, create institutional-level structure. Identify current policies/procedures for revision.
Engagement and Involvement Models to Broaden Campus-Wide Participation	Consider ideas for engagement that are different than traditional, regular, and required meetings. Include variable levels of engagement. Examine how to leverage social media tools in an effort to broaden campus-wide (and system-wide) participation in shared governance.
Cultural Change	Describe the current culture around shared governance at multiple levels. Identify what an effective culture would look like. Suggest changes (with pros and cons) that would lead to this effective culture.

Thank you

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<https://www.purdue.edu/provost/faculty/initiatives/senate.php> [main website]

<https://www.purdue.edu/provost/faculty/initiatives/restructure/history.php> [timeline of major shared governance events at Purdue]