

Principles of Shared Governance at Indiana University Bloomington

The Bloomington Faculty Council affirms:

1. That “shared governance” refers to faculty and administrators sharing responsibility for operating and governing the university;
2. That the role of faculty in shared governance is a responsibility and a privilege, not a burden, and that it should be recognized, valued, and supported with appropriate resources;
3. That shared governance is mandated by the Constitutions of the Indiana University Faculty, the Bloomington Faculty, and the individual Schools and the College, which specify domains in which faculty have legislative authority, and others in which the faculty has consultative authority; and that shared governance is manifested in policies instituted by the faculty and administrators of the university;
4. That shared governance depends on a system of mutual accountability, with the faculty answerable to the administration and the administration answerable to the faculty;
5. That successful shared governance depends on the administration implementing the policies developed by the faculty where the faculty have legislative authority, and on the faculty leadership holding the administration to account when necessary.

Principles: The value and meaning of faculty participation in shared governance can be enhanced and affirmed through recognition that:

1. Shared governance at IUB should be effective, as construed in the following ways:
 - a. It must be proactive in initiating needed and/or beneficial changes on the campus, while permitting faculty and administration to react to external and strategic imperatives as they arise;
 - b. It must be worthwhile for its participants, so that they can see and appreciate the fruits of their labor, and recognize their roles and those of others as valuable to the process and outcome of governance on the campus;
 - c. It must be responsive to the needs of faculty and administration in guiding the campus to meet day-to-day and long-term challenges and opportunities;
 - d. It must be efficient, permitting the timely execution of campus and university initiatives.

2. Shared governance at IUB requires legitimacy, as established by the following:
 - a. It must be firmly rooted in the Constitution of the Bloomington Faculty and the principles and standards articulated there;
 - b. It must be representative of all faculty, with clear lines of responsibility and communication between representatives and their constituencies;
 - c. It must permit deliberation on all matters of import to the campus and university, so that the full, diverse range of faculty opinions may be heard and incorporated into the campus response.
 - d. It must be inclusive, so that minority constituencies and opinions are accorded appropriate respect.
 - e. It must be accountable to the faculty, the administration, and the university community for actions taken and not taken, and consequences thereof.

3. Shared governance at IUB requires investment:
 - a. by individuals, in familiarizing themselves with issues and understanding them in national, state, university-wide, and campus contexts;
 - b. by the campus, in material resources and in leadership development.