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POLICY

AUTHORITY & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees shall have and exercise those corporate powers prescribed by law. Its ultimate authority is affirmed through its general, academic, and financial policy-making functions and its responsibility for the Corporation's financial health and welfare. The Board of Trustees shall exercise ultimate institutional authority as set forth in the charter of Bethel University, its bylaws and in such other policy documents it deems to be appropriate. The bylaws and other board policy statements shall take precedence over all institutional statements, documents, and policies, except the charter of Bethel University.

The Board of Trustees shall have the authority to carry out all lawful functions that are permitted by the charter of Bethel University or its bylaws. This authority shall include but shall not be limited to these illustrative functions:

- Determine and periodically review the University's mission and purposes.

- Appoint the President, who shall be the University's chief executive officer, and set appropriate terms of employment, including compensation.

- Support the President and annually assess his or her performance based on mutually agreed-upon goals and other criteria.

- Review and approve proposed changes in the University's academic programs and other major enterprises consistent with the University's mission, plans, and financial resources.

- Approve institutional policies bearing on faculty appointment, promotion, tenure, and dismissal as well as personnel or antidiscrimination policies for other categories of employees.

- Approve the annual budget and tuition and fees, regularly monitor the University's financial condition, and establish policy guidelines affecting all institutional assets, including investments and the physical plant.

- Contribute financially to the University's fund-raising goals, participate actively in strategies to secure sources of support, and authorize University officers to accept gifts or bequests subject to board policy guidelines.

- Authorize any debt financing and approve the collateral provided as security for loans.

- Authorize the construction of new buildings, capitalization of deferred maintenance backlogs, and major renovations of existing buildings.

- Authorize the purchase, sale, and management of land, buildings, or major equipment.

- Approve such policies that contribute to the best possible environment for students to learn and develop their abilities.

- Approve such policies that protect academic freedom and contribute to the best possible environment for the faculty to teach, pursue their scholarship, and perform public service.

- Approve all earned and honorary degrees through the faculty and President, as they shall recommend.

- Serve actively as advocates for the University in appropriate matters of public policy in consultation with the President and other responsible parties as the board shall determine.

- Periodically undertake assessments of the board's performance.

The President serves at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees for such term, compensation, and with such other terms of employment, as it shall determine.

The President shall be the University's chief executive officer and the chief adviser to and executive agent of the Board of Trustees. His or her authority is vested through the Board of Trustees and includes responsibilities for all University educational and managerial affairs. The President is responsible for leading the University, implementing all board policies, keeping the board informed on appropriate matters, consulting with the board in a timely manner on matters appropriate to its policy-making and fiduciary functions, and serving as the University's key spokesperson. He or she has the authority to execute all documents on behalf of the University and the Board of Trustees consistent with board policies and the best interests of the University. The President serves as an advisory member of all board committees except the audit committee. The authority, duties, and responsibilities of the President include, but are not limited to the following:

- The appointment in consultation with the Board of Trustees of one or more vice-presidents and deans.

- Recommending the appointment of the Treasurer to the Board of Trustees.

- Be the official link between the faculty and the Board of Trustees and between the students and the Board of Trustees.

- Have authority to appoint other administrators, faculty, and other personnel and fix their terms of employment and compensation, and to prescribe their duties.

- Present an annual budget to the Board of Trustees and such amendments as are appropriate from time to time.

- Report to the Board of Trustees on the operation and condition of the University and present, for consideration of the Board of Trustees, such recommendations as he or she may deem necessary or expedient for the University's welfare.

- As authorized by the board, direct the execution of all diplomas or degrees by the following officers:

  (a) The chairman or the vice chairman of the Board of Trustees;
  (b) The President; and
  (c) The vice presidents of the respective colleges.

- Vote all shares of capital stock of corporations owned or held by the University at all meetings of the stockholders thereof, and delegate, if necessary, such authority to another by proxy in writing.

- Be the final authority in the internal affairs of the University.

- Perform such other reasonable and customary duties and functions as the Board of Trustees may from time to time assign to him or her.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

Members of the Board of Trustees, University President

PUBLICATION

This policy is contained within the Bylaws of Bethel University and published on the University website.