A meeting of the Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning was held via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

The following Trustees, constituting a quorum, were present: Culler, Dambly, Delligatti, Han, Hoffman, Kleppinger, Potts, and Schuyler.

Staff members in attendance were Barron, Dunham, Guadagnino, Harvey, Jones, Kennedy-Phillips, Penkala, Stevens and Zeigler-Byers. Constituent Representatives Rowland, White and Zhao were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Potts at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Potts called for a motion for the Committee to approve the Minutes of the September 17, 2020 meeting of the Committee. The motion was put forward, seconded and approved unanimously.

Trustee Rick Dandrea, a new member of the Committee was welcomed by Chair Potts.

Next on the agenda, Chair Potts spoke briefly about the Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning. It will serve as a strategic forum to identify long-range trends and opportunities, to inform the board’s strategic planning process and advance the intersection of the standing committees with the university’s strategic plan. Dr. Lance Kennedy-Phillips, Vice Provost for Planning and Assessment and his team will support the work of the subcommittee. There was discussion about how this subcommittee, as well as all subcommittees of the board need to be diligent so that there is no overlap or duplication between the subcommittee and its standing committee. Chair Potts talked about the need for all committees to update their Operating Guidelines on an annual basis. The possibility of joint committee meetings also was talked about and encouraged, when necessary.

Chair Potts introduced the next agenda item. At the September meeting there was discussion and voting to recommend an amendment to the Bylaws that would change the timing of the officer elections permanently to November, and also expand the term from one year to two years. At the Friday morning Trustee Conference in September, it was determined to hold on this while Trustees’ questions were answered. Chair Potts suggested for discussion, separating the two-year term and the time of the election and focus on the latter. The question to be answered was “do we want to move the election of officers to the November time slot?” Discussion followed. Consensus was apparent for moving the election of officers to November on a going forward basis. We will continue to discuss and consider extending to a two-year term, at a later date.

It was moved and seconded to accept the following resolution:

To make the next election date, November 2021 and we will have further discussion to resolve the one versus two-year term in the interim and, also to withdraw the initial motion from our previous meeting.

Next on the agenda, Chris Hoffman, led a discussion on criteria for review of eligible emeriti trustees. He said that the recent sub-group charged with review of eligible trustees, felt that the criteria used are somewhat vague and too subjective. Suggestions were made to possibly have the Committee come up with a rubric to follow in the selection process of extending emeritus status. The topic of whether this is an
inclusive or exclusive group was also discussed. Discussion followed. Chair Potts offered that additional thought and time will be put into clarifying the questions posed. Topics to be included in discussion for an ad hoc committee for next year’s review: 1) more commenters were leaning toward inclusivity, 2) time served, 3) good standing, and 4) not an in-depth evaluation of the type of quality of service. This guidance should be passed on to future ad-hoc groups.

A report was available regarding expenses for the September 2020 Board of Trustees meeting, as well as a comparative expenditure report.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Penkala
Associate Director, Board of Trustees