

15-2 Statement on Governance

15-2-1 Purpose • 15-2-2 Policy • 15-2-3 Administration • 15-2-4 Governance Structure

1. **Purpose.** The purposes of these policies and procedures are to set forth the manner in which the Eastern New Mexico University System (the System) is required by law to be governed and to set forth the manner, within those requirements, in which the System has chosen to be governed.
2. **Policy.** The policies established in furtherance of the above purposes are as follows:
 - A. **Philosophical Base.** The ENMU System seeks to fulfill three (3) broad purposes of education: satisfaction of the intellectual interests of the individual; criticism, revision and perpetuation of scientific and social institutions and renewal and strengthening of culture. The System shall be committed to the promotion of academic freedom, an obligation imposed on academic personnel by society and necessary to the intellectual, moral, artistic and spiritual ground of a free society. In order to accomplish these purposes within a climate of orderly academic freedom, the System shall be governed according to the following principles, policies, procedures and structures.
 - B. **General Responsibility in Governance.** The System shall be governed through a system of procedures and structures designed to provide for participation by and/or consultation with the entire University community in the development of institutional policies and procedures. The Board of Regents (the Board) is the legal repository of all authority granted by the people of the state of New Mexico. The development of University System policy is a responsibility shared by the administration of the University System and representatives of affected constituencies within the University System. The consultative process for the development of policy does not preclude the initiation of policy by the Board or of policy recommendations from the various constituencies.
 - C. **General Principles of Governance.** The purpose of the consultative process is to insure participation by the internal constituencies of the University in the formulation of University policies and procedures. Success in the consultative governance process requires the acceptance of three (3) governance principles by all University System constituencies. These principles are:
 - (1) **Disclosure:** Governance actions dealing with problems concerning community or constituencies shall allow appropriate constituency representatives and administrative units to have an opportunity to provide input, except in emergency situations, which shall be explained below.
 - (2) **Responsiveness:** In all governance actions mutual trust requires each constituency and administrative unit to give due and timely consideration to the views of others.
 - (3) **Accountability:** Governance actions shall be explained in detail to affected constituencies and administrative units.

The foregoing purposes and policies are implemented by the following.

Procedures

3. **Administration.** The administration of System governance is the responsibility of the System chancellor, and the chancellor shall have the authority necessary for such administration. The chancellor may delegate such authority as he or she sees fit in the best interests of the System.

4. **Governance Structure.**

- A. Governance organization of the University System must be approved by the chancellor or the Board.
- B. Pursuant to the policy statements above, the chancellor or the Board shall not, except in exigent circumstances, change the governance organization of the System without the completion of the consultative processes set forth herein.

Amendments proposed by OPA, August 2018

Amendments approved by Board of Regents on December 14, 2018