

UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRINCIPLES OF SHARED GOVERNANCE

1. The UVI Senate and the administration shall jointly update the governance matrix*, as needed, to define the current roles and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, Administration, University Senate, faculty, staff, and students in shared governance.
2. All participants shall improve the communication environment in order to build mutual trust.
3. A team approach to planning and problem solving shall be employed.
4. The administration shall solicit and consider faculty, staff, and student input before decisions are made that have a direct impact on the academic, operational, or student affairs areas of the University.
5. Committee members are responsible for informing and consulting with their respective constituencies to ensure a representative voice from each represented group.
6. Decision-makers shall communicate their actions/decisions with rationales related to the mission of the University.
7. The President and Administration shall adhere to current policies and procedures governing decision-making until or unless they are formally modified.
8. The University shall provide on-going education for the University community regarding the agreed upon decision-making policies and procedures.
9. All University-wide, long-range planning and advisory groups should include faculty, staff, and student representation elected by the Senate.
10. There should be an ongoing process for the assessment of deans, managers, supervisors, and directors, which includes input from the faculty, staff, and students in each respective division or component. This process will be administered by the provost's office in the case of deans, and the president's office in the case of managers and directors.
11. All senate representatives on University committees should be elected by the represented groups.
12. Concerns about alleged shared governance violations, which cannot be resolved by communication among the affected parties, may be referred to the Senate Executive Committee.

Dated: March 27, 2008; *presently being developed