

Diagnostic Reviews of Bylaws, Charters, and Documents

AGB

Institutional charters, articles of incorporation, bylaws, committee charters, faculty handbooks, regulations, policies, governance guides, and other documents are vital working tools for governing boards. But like all tools, they can make tasks either easier or harder, depending on how well-fitted they are to the job. Whether institutions and foundations are old or new, they are certain to encounter challenges their founders never anticipated. In such situations, boards may find themselves hamstrung by outmoded mandates or gaps where governance documents fail to provide much-needed guidance. It's essential to ensure that governance documents are fully current, relevant, and usable.

Support for Boards and Leaders

AGB Consulting provides boards and presidents with a diagnostic review of the key documents that define and guide their governance procedures.

Our experts will help you determine whether your governance documents align with your current circumstances, support effective board performance, and are accessible, understandable, and usable. During a diagnostic engagement, our experts examine the documents themselves, benchmark them against leading practices, and identify improvements. Our experts also engage stakeholders to understand how your governance documents are actually used and how they rate for relevance and utility. The result of this process is a set of strategic recommendations for updating your documents.

AGB EXPERTS ENABLE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

AGB Consulting works with board members, presidents, or CEOs who need to:

- Respond to calls for justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Ensure that governance documents provide an effective framework for board and executive performance
- Pivot the strategies, business models, offerings, or cultures of their institutions and foundations
- Make governance processes more efficient, adaptable, and understandable
- Prevent conflicts of interest, governance failures, or ethical lapses that might impact their organizations' reputations
- Steward institution or foundation assets and resources as effectively as possible

TAILORED TO YOUR INSTITUTION

This is NOT a one-size-fits-all service. Both focus and scope will be customized for your board and institution. We match you with expert consultants—former board members, former CEOs, and subject matter experts—who have experience relevant to your situation. We will work with you to identify the questions you need to answer, including:

- Do our governance documents align with our strategy and business model?
- Do we have all the governance documents we need?
- Are the governance documents we have up to date and appropriate for our current circumstances?
- How have similar institutions or foundations updated their governance documents?
- What do our stakeholders think about the relevance and usability of our governance documents?
- Do our governance documents define efficient, productive processes?
- Do our procedures and policies support our goals for justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion?
- Will our documents help us achieve or maintain accreditation?
- Do our documents define clear and appropriate accountability?
- How hard is it to update our governance documents as things change?
- Are we protected against spurious revisions and overly reactive changes?

“The audit not only examines how the governance structure is designed but also how it is actually operating. It determines whether or not adequate checks and balances are in place for effective governance.”

Lynnette M. Heard, MEd

Senior Consultant and Membership Ambassador, Council of Board Professionals, Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges

“AGB advisors have been instrumental to our growth and success as a foundation. We had AGB look at our materials to give us a health check to reaffirm what we achieved and what we were going to do next to build the best board that we could.”

Greg Willems

President and CEO, Kansas State University Foundation

Schedule a complimentary call to learn more.

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