

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: Steve Carr  
Senator for Communication

DATE: 21 January 2021

SUBJ: Resolution to Map Out the Levels of Shared Governance

**Resolution to Map Out the Levels of Shared Governance**

WHEREAS the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) 1966 Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities emphasized the importance of mutual understanding and joint effort in using shared government effectively to reach decisions; and,

WHEREAS the 1966 Statement construes shared government to mean the coordination and integration of interdependent multiple voices, each having their own different weights and sequence at different times in reaching any decision; and,

WHEREAS participation among each of the components of the University occurs not in one way, but with varying weights, depending upon circumstance and respective authority in the kind of decision reached; and,

WHEREAS those weights for participation occur relevant to where Faculty have authority, according to **determination, joint action, consultation, discussion, or no participatory role**; and,

WHEREAS much confusion and misunderstanding still exist among both faculty and administration in terms of how shared government should work across various kinds of decisions that the university might reach,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Wayne Senate discuss the attached document, which maps out a hierarchy of levels of faculty participation in shared government according to the Constitution of the Faculty of Purdue University Fort Wayne; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fort Wayne Senate votes to reaffirm our Constitution and to adopt the attached document as a standard for how and when faculty participate in the governance of our institution, according to the powers and responsibilities of Faculty set out in that Constitution.

## A Hierarchy of Levels of Faculty Participation at Purdue University Fort Wayne

Adapted from a Presentation by Hans Joerg-Tiede (AAUP) on Shared Government

Section VII of the Constitution of the Faculty of Purdue University Fort Wayne establishes Senate as the **sole** Governing Body of the Faculty on this campus before the Purdue Board of Trustees reaches a decision. Only Senate has **final authority**, **subject to Faculty review**, to “exercise the powers and responsibilities of the Voting Faculty” by way of **determination**, **joint action**, or **consultation**.

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**Determination:** Faculty have **final legislative** or **operational authority** on the Fort Wayne campus before the Purdue Board of Trustees reaches a decision.

According to VI. A. 3. of the Constitution of the Faculty of Purdue University Fort Wayne, the Faculty have **final legislative authority** on the Fort Wayne campus to **determine**

- The academic calendar
- The policies for class scheduling
- The policies for student participation in athletic affairs

Furthermore, VI. A. 4. designates Faculty alone as having powers of **operational authority** on the Fort Wayne campus to **review and approve**

- The titles of the academic degrees conferred at PFW
- The general requirements for the curricular leading toward academic degrees or certificates
- The nomination of all candidates for degrees and certificates

**Joint Action:** **Formal** agreement by both the faculty and other components of the institution is **required**.

Currently, no section of the Constitution sets out standards where both the Faculty and other components of the institution must engage in formal **joint action**.

**Consultation:** There is a **formal** procedure which provides a means for the Faculty to present its **judgment** in the form of a **recommendation** or **vote**.

According to VI. A. 1. of the Constitution requires that Faculty have **the ability to recommend policies concerning:**

- The admission and academic placement of students
- Student conduct and discipline
- Student participation in group extracurricular activities
- The administration of the library and other educational support facilities
- The conduct, welfare, privileges, tenure, appointment, retention, and promotion of the faculty

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**To meet established principles of shared government, consultation with Faculty would require a formal procedure for Faculty to present its judgment in the form of a recommendation or vote before the University sets policies in these areas.**

Furthermore, VI. A. 2. requires that Faculty have **the ability to make recommendations concerning,**

- Changes in academic organization
- The determination and management of the budget
- The planning of physical facilities
- Increases and decreases in staff
- The screening and selecting of academic and administrative offices

**To meet established principles of shared government, consultation with Faculty would require a formal procedure for Faculty to present its judgment in the form of a recommendation or vote before the University reaches decisions in these areas.**

Furthermore, VIII.A. requires that **an Academic Personnel Grievance Board elected by Faculty has review power of administrative actions for each case raising one or more issues involving "academic freedom, tenure, promotion, or the nature or conditions of work." To meet established principles of shared government, such review would require a formal procedure for the Grievance Board to present its judgment in the form of a recommendation or vote on administrative actions, and for the University to weigh this judgment adequately and respond to it in timely fashion and with appropriate seriousness. In addition, VIII.A.3 also allows "any member of the Faculty" to petition an "appropriate review body" to review such administrative actions.**

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Deleted: through an Academic Personnel Grievance Board elected by Faculty,

**Discussion:** There is only **informal** expression of **opinion** from the faculty or from individual faculty members.

According to VI. A. 5. of the Constitution permits Faculty "to present its views concerning any matter pertaining to the conduct and welfare of PFW to the President and Board of Trustees of Purdue University."

In matters requiring **determination, joint action, or consultation**, neither ad hoc appointments of Faculty by administration; nor informal expression of opinion from the faculty or from individual faculty members; nor committees seating one or two faculty representatives among a majority of administrative and/or staff members satisfy the basic standards for Faculty Participation in Shared Government through its governing body of the Senate.