



ALLIANT INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CHARTER

Purpose

The purpose of the Academic Affairs Committee is to oversee the academic affairs of the University and review and make recommendations to the full Board of Trustees about academic programs and strategic priorities. The Committee ensures that Alliant has the policies, capabilities, programs, practices, measurement systems and evidentiary reporting capabilities in place to

- (a) realize Alliant's mission and execute Alliant's strategic priorities as a Professional Practice university
- (b) deliver on Alliant's promise to students that they will receive high quality education, training and support in the field of study they have chosen at Alliant.

The Committee also provides guidance to the Alliant Board of Trustees on matters essential to the academic quality and competitiveness of Alliant's programs (and on the investment required to achieve these ends) and oversees the implementation of resolves made by the Board to effectuate these goals.

The Committee is one part of an institutional system of academic governance that also includes the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Deans and other academic officers of the schools, and the University Faculty Senate and its various committees. Alliant International University supports a model of shared governance by which faculty, administration, trustees, and students all play a role in assuring the integrity and quality of its academic programs and policies. The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board will work in partnership with the Faculty Senate Committee for Academic Affairs and the Academic Council to effect strategic alignment and integration of its specific findings in these regards (and its recommendations) with the future goals, needs, and aspirations of the University, as interpreted by the Board.

Authority

The Academic Affairs Committee will have the resources and authority necessary to discharge its duties and responsibilities. The Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees and may delegate authority to one or more designated members of the Committee.

The Committee has the authority to:

1. Receive reports from the President, Provost, Deans, Program Directors, and other administration and faculty involved in program development, implementation, and evaluation;

2. Provide advice and recommendations to management concerning academic affairs;
3. Communicate to the Board of Trustees, typically at Board Meetings, considerations related to Academic Affairs, and
4. Request data and analytical reports, and budgetary and financial information related to academic affairs and effectiveness.

Responsibilities and Functions

The principal responsibilities and functions of the Academic Committee are as follows:

1. Assist in setting University academic strategies and ensuring that the University's academic programs are consistent with the institution's mission and those strategies.
2. Ensure that the University budget reflects the institution's academic priorities, and that resources are allocated appropriately to support and sustain academic programs.
3. Ensure that faculty personnel policies and procedures support and enhance academic priorities and objectives in a professional practice university.
4. Ensure that the institution's academic programs are appropriate for its students, and that students are well served by the institution.
5. Ensure that the institution assesses the effectiveness of its academic programs on a regular basis, and takes steps to continuously improve programs on the basis of objective evidence about effectiveness and outcomes.
6. Report to the Board of Trustees and keep Board Members apprised of academic issues and the academic effectiveness of the institution.
7. Ensure that the academic quality issues remain a top priority of the institution.
8. Identify professional, educational or institutional issues that may be of concern to academic effectiveness.
9. Review program quality and student satisfaction.
10. Ensure that Alliant has the basic institutional capacity to function effectively in academic matters, including:
 - a. policies, capabilities and assessment methods to promote and improve academic effectiveness (e.g., outside evidentiary data to support our students' competency, such as, but not limited to, fulfillment of academic expectations, faculty student ratios, graduation requirements satisfied, retention statistics, student surveys, etc.);
 - b. formal plans for increasing its academic effectiveness and ability to adhere to these during the implementation cycle;

- c. resources, within Alliant's means, to provide an environment that is conducive to learning and supports the University's academic priorities as a "professional practice" institution (this means adhering to an academic quality focus, not simply one of market opportunity, though that is not to be ignored);
- d. hiring, developing and retaining highly regarded faculty whose capabilities, curriculum design, pedagogy, subject content, and teaching skills promote learning;
- e. standards and processes for creating new program offerings of quality and integrity that are capable of being sustained and for keeping existing programs vital;
- f. systems for tracking educational quality and responsiveness to student expectations as well as market comparisons
- g. institutional reporting to the Board on these evaluations on a periodic basis with future recommendations that propel Board and management to respond and make changes called for, including the initiation of new programs and policies;
- h. developing and implementing and using a system to gather student and faculty input and to respond to concerns they both evince;
- i. a process for providing faculty with timely feedback on their service to the University, scholarship, teaching content and classroom style, as evaluated by students, peers and supervisors; and
- j. training and support to faculty and administration on the roles and skills required to meet students' expectations, including the utilization of technology in support of learning.

11. Review the Charter on a regular basis.