

BYLAWS
THE RUBENSTEIN SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
BOARD OF ADVISERS
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Statement of Purpose

The Board of Advisers for The Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources shall advise and assist the Dean of the School, and the Provost and President of the University, on opportunities for enhancement of the School.

Objectives

- 1) To identify trends, issues, and new developments in areas significant to the School.
- 2) To advise the Dean, when requested, on formulating strategies, setting priorities, and developing resources to maintain academic leadership and excellence.
- 3) To identify and raise funds for investments in the quality of the School.
- 4) To provide expertise and experience to the Dean, the School leadership, and the faculty to enhance the mission and goals of the School.
- 5) To promote learning experiences and employment opportunities for students, and professional development opportunities for faculty.
- 6) To cultivate relationships and to serve as ambassadors of the School to prospective students, employers of graduates, alumni, policy makers and others.
- 7) To engage the School with state, regional, national and international organizations and agencies.

Membership

The Board of Advisers for the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources shall consist of leaders in all areas of environment, natural resources, sustainability education, public policy, management and advocacy.

The Board shall consist of 15-22 persons drawn from the ranks of alumni, parents, donors and friends of the School and the University. Whenever possible, at least one member of the Board of Advisers should be a former trustee of the University of Vermont. At least two members shall be current students in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources with the intent that one member would be an undergraduate student and one member would be a graduate student.

The Board shall have the following non-voting, ex officio members: the President, the Provost, the Dean and Associate Dean(s) of the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Vice President for UVM Foundation.

If a Board member misses three consecutive meetings without justification, he or she may be asked to leave the Board of Advisers.

Honorary Membership

The Dean, in consultation with the Chair and then the Executive Committee, may appoint as honorary members of the Board, former members of the Board, whom they determine have served the Board with great distinction. Honorary members may be appointed for a term of two years with an option for renewal by the Dean. Honorary members shall be entitled to attend and participate in all meetings of the Board.

Term of Membership and Succession

The Board shall be a continuing body and its members terms shall be planned so that no more than one-third of the members retire from the Board in any one year. Terms of membership shall be three years, with terms beginning the first of the year. After serving two consecutive terms, a member of the board should expect at least a one year hiatus from Board service unless the Dean and the Chair request otherwise.

Selection and Appointment

The Dean and Chair, with advice from the Executive Committee, shall recommend candidates for Board membership to the President of the University. Suggestions for student members may be solicited from the RSENR Undergraduate and Graduate Student Advisory Boards. The UVM President will formally appoint Board members.

Meetings

The Board shall meet not less than two times each year upon the call of the Dean and the Chair. A quorum of the Board shall consist of eight members thereof. Meetings of any standing and/or *ad-hoc* committees shall be called by the Dean or by the chairpersons of committees on an as-needed basis.

Chairperson

The Dean of the School shall appoint the Chair of the Board of Advisers. The Chair shall serve a two-year term and may be re-appointed. The Chair shall preside at meetings and help coordinate activities of the Board between meetings including Board communications.

Committees

Board committees shall be established by the Chair with the concurrence of the Dean. Standing and *ad-hoc* committees shall be established to address specific projects and goals relevant to the plans and programs of the School. *Ad-hoc* committees will be dissolved when the projects are completed or the goals accomplished. These committees might include development, research and/or other programmatic and strategic focal areas.

An Executive Committee of the Board shall work with the Dean and Chair to plan meetings and assist the board in meeting its objectives. The Executive Committee also shall serve as the Nomination Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of three members of the Board, the Board Chairperson, and the Dean. One or more than one of the three board members appointed to the Executive Committee may be a Chair of a standing or *ad hoc* committee. Executive Committee members shall serve two-year terms and may be re-appointed. The Executive and the Nominating Committee shall meet as needed.

Agendas

The Dean shall set meeting agendas in consultation with the Board Chair and the Executive Committee.

Staffing

The advisory board will be staffed by the office of the Dean of the School. The UVM Foundation will be asked to provide guidance and assistance on matters directly related to fundraising. Other UVM offices, such as Communications, Admissions, and Career Development, may be asked to provide information and assistance with Board-related matters.

Annual Reports

At the end of each UVM fiscal year, the Chair, in close consultation with the Dean of the School, may prepare an annual report on the activities and accomplishments of the Board of Advisers. This report may be sent to the President and Provost with an invitation to share the report with the Board of Trustees.

Review Process

These operating principles should be reviewed regularly, at least once every two years. Proposed changes must be approved by the Dean of the School in consultation with the Chair and/or Executive Committee. These bylaws shall be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Advisers at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Disbanding the Advisory Board

In the event that the Dean of the School determines that the Board of Advisers fails to serve the School or the University, the Dean shall recommend its dissolution to the President of the University and the Chair of the Advisory Board.

Amended

10/06/00

06/10/01

06/03/10

06/26/14 update of name for UVM Foundation

