

RECOMMENDATION #7: DIVERSITY OF BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the college's Board of Regents must have the diversity of viewpoint that is required by its own policy, national law and accrediting standards (Standard IV1.a, IV1e).

Resolution

Current regents bring diverse backgrounds to the Board's decision-making processes. Members include a trial counselor, an educational administrator, the Lieutenant Governor for Pohnpei State, the Chief of Staff to the FSM President, and a retired judge. Correspondence from the COM-FSM President to the FSM President with respect to the nomination of regents provides evidence of the continued efforts made to ensure diversity on the board in compliance with FSM Title 40, college policy and accrediting standards. Such correspondence is discussed in detail in Standard IV B1a. of the self study.

Analysis

Three current regents completed a survey at the May 2009 meeting on which they were asked, "Does the current membership of the COM-FSM Board of Regents adequately reflect the diversity and public interest of the FSM?" All of the regents who completed the items responded by saying yes. However, one regent added that "it could be better."

Regents were unanimous in their self assessments in 2005, 2006 and 2008 that "[t]he board composition adequately represents the public interest and reflects the diverse elements of the population which it serves."

Additional Plans

- The COM-FSM President will continue to stress the importance of board diversity to the leadership of the FSM, in particular the FSM President, when opportunities are presented.