



Research Foundation and SUNY – Affiliated Corporations Oversight

Successful operation and management of Research Foundation Public/Private Partnerships require high-level functional oversight in order to ensure not only appropriate resource deployment but also consistency of strategic objectives of each partnership as they relate to and support the mission of the State University of New York.

The Research Foundation, in cooperation with the Provost and General Counsel of the State University, proposes the following periodic oversight functions in order to maintain the appropriate composition of Board of Directors as well as to periodically validate the utility of these important initiatives and to ensure continued support of the State University of New York.

Annual Review of the Board of Directors

On an annual basis, the Board of each partnership will be reviewed by a cross-functional committee and will be adjusted as necessary in order to promote active participation, appropriate stake holder representation and adequate subject matter expertise for each program.

The committee will include at least the Provost of SUNY, both the Executive Vice President and the Director of Corporate Strategic Initiatives of the RF, one or more senior campus leaders such as the President and/or Campus Research Officer, and the SUNY general counsel and/or relevant campus attorney from SUNY Counsel's office.

This committee will identify and discuss any open Board positions as well as any strategic replacements that should be made. Once the committee has agreed on an appropriate course of action, and has consulted with the Chancellor and/or the RF Board Chair as appropriate, all appointments will be made in writing by the Executive Vice President of the RF, and will be reported to the RF Board at an appropriate time.

Periodic Financial and Strategic Review

Partnerships, like many initiatives, often evolve over time. In some cases, partnerships have outlived their utility and have required dissolution or RF withdrawal. In other cases, programs require restructuring or realignment in order to revitalize and renew the strategic vision in support of a particular campus.

Each program will undergo a periodic (1-5 year) review which will focus on these principles. Similar to the analysis that is conducted at the creation of a new partnership, each program, in cooperation with RF staff, will complete a 5 year strategic plan and detailed risk assessment. This will not only provide a high level view of the strategic objectives of each program, but it will also provide an understanding of financial health, and where there may be need for change.

This review will be conducted by the campus President and Campus Research Officer in cooperation with the Executive Vice President and the Director of Corporate Strategic Initiatives of the RF as well as the Provost and the General Counsel of SUNY. The committee will determine if additional governance review is necessary and if so, will provide a recommendation to the RF Board of Directors. In most cases, however, the committee will set forth a plan of action and will move forward to implement in cooperation with RF staff.