

Kalamazoo College Community Council
September, 2005

1. The Idea of a Community Council

- a. The Community Council will provide a forum in which all the segments of the College community -- administration, faculty, staff (administrative staff, support staff, and facilities management staff) and students -- will have an opportunity to participate together in discussions dealing with many issues facing the College.¹ This will permit interests and perspectives of all groups in the College setting to be heard in the process of the creation of College policy.
- b. The *Kalamazoo College Community Council* will be a trial structure for the 2005-2006 academic year. At the end of the 2005-2006 academic year the President will decide whether to continue the structure in subsequent years.

2. Meeting Frequency

The Community Council will meet on a monthly basis during the academic year.

3. Authority

- a. The Community Council will consider policies and issues in a wide range of areas pertaining to the life of the College in which students, faculty, and/or staff share concerns.
- b. The Community Council's role will be advisory to the President in the formulation of College policy. Examples of areas in which the Community Council can advise the President might include, but need not necessarily be limited to, the following: budgetary guidelines, compensation programs, campus planning, strategic planning, technology planning issues, and the like.
- c. An important dimension of the Council's role will be as a *communication linkage* conduit, providing a forum for the College's administrative officers to report to representatives of all areas of the Community on important issues in their respective areas of responsibility, thereby increasing the understanding of all constituencies in the College about *why* College policy is as it is. Thus a significant portion of each meeting of the Community Council will involve reports from the line officers to the Council's membership about decisions and policy recommendations being formulated in their offices.

4. Membership

The Community Council will be composed of:¹

- a. six members of the College faculty, as determined by the Faculty Executive Committee,
- b. the President and senior administrative staff including the Provost, the Vice President for Business and Finance, the Vice President for College Advancement, the Dean of Enrollment, the Dean of Students, the Dean of Libraries and Information Services, and the Assistant to the President,
- c. two representatives from Facilities Management,
- d. two representatives of support staff,
- e. two representatives of administrative staff ,
- f. four students,
- g. the Coordinator of Planning, and
- h. such other individuals as the President may deem appropriate.

5. Meetings

- a. Meetings of the Community Council will be chaired by the President of the College.
- b. The agenda for meetings of the Community Council will be open to concerns of all members of the Council. A request for agenda items will be sent to members prior to all meetings.

¹ Nothing in this document should be construed to change the powers and roles of faculty governance at the College as described in the *Kalamazoo College Faculty Handbook*.