

Shared Governance Commission Working Definition

At Park University, we define Shared Governance as both process and outcome. In a culture of collaboration, open and honest communication, and mutual trust, all constituents have an opportunity to shape decisions in accordance with the mission and vision of the University.

- **Shared Governance means that all constituents of the University community are provided with the opportunity to shape the decisions that will affect them and will be intended to benefit the community as a whole in support of the University's mission.**
- **Shared governance may be understood as both a desirable process and an outcome. It embraces a set of principles and practices under which all constituents of the University community participate in decisions about the operation of the institution.**
- **Shared governance is fostered and promoted in a culture of collaboration, open and honest communication and mutual trust, and about how and why decisions are made. We recognize there are many decision makers at every level but ultimately many decisions are made under the authority of the Board of Trustees.**
- **In the spirit of shared governance, decision makers at every level of the organization will consider the interest of all who will be directly affected and will provide rationale if asked.**
- **Inclusion, a spirit of interdependence, and a shared sense of the mission and purpose of the institution are considered as key criteria in all decisions.**

**Approved by the Shared Governance Commission
May 2, 2007**