

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Rule No. GA-10

POLICY ON NON-VOTING, ADVISORY MEMBERS

1 General Information

- 1.1 Scope: This policy governs the roles and responsibilities of non-voting, advisory members who sit on the Marshall University Board of Governors.
- 1.2 Passage Date: August 5, 2025
- 1.3 Effective Date: September 17, 2025
- 1.4 Controlling over: Marshall University.

2 Preamble

- 2.1 At Marshall University, we recognize and deeply value the insights, experience, and perspective brought by our faculty, students, staff and all shared governance communities. It has long been the protocol of Marshall University to include representatives of those groups within the membership of the Board of Governors, and their input and contributions have been and continue to be invaluable. As of 2025, pursuant to West Virginia Code § 18B-2A-1(c)(3), the faculty representative, student body representative and staff representative shall be non-voting, advisory members. The enactment of that provision creates the need and opportunity for Marshall University to address what it means to be a “non-voting, advisory member” of its Board of Governors, which we now do through this policy. Marshall remains committed to recognizing and benefitting from the participation of our faculty, student, and staff communities through their representatives as non-voting, advisory members on the Board of Governors, which reflects our ongoing commitment to the principles of shared governance, a commitment also embodied within Marshall’s Shared Governance policy. Each and every Board member’s voice is integral to Marshall’s decision-making process, and we thank each of them for their service, leadership, and thoughtful contributions to the continued success and progress of our institution.
- 2.2 Non-voting, advisory members shall be referenced herein as “Advisory Members.”
- 2.3 Non-voting members are defined by West Virginia Code as:
 - 2.3.1 A full-time member of the faculty with the rank of instructor or above duly elected by the faculty of the respective institution, who shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member;
 - 2.3.2 A member of the student body in good academic standing, enrolled for college credit, and duly elected by the student body of the respective institution, who shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member; and
 - 2.3.3 A member from the institutional classified or non-classified employees duly elected by the classified or non-classified employees of the respective institution, who shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member.

3 Powers and Duties of Advisory Members

- 3.1 Advisory members shall be entitled to take the following actions to the same extent that a voting member of the Board would be so permitted:
 - 3.1.1 Fully participate in and actively engage in discussions and deliberations during regular, special, and emergency Board of Governors meetings.
 - 3.1.2 Request that a meeting of the Board be called, in accordance with the University's rules governing special meetings.
 - 3.1.3 Submit items for inclusion on the Board meeting agenda in accordance with the University's established procedures.
 - 3.1.4 Raise points of order when necessary to clarify rules or procedures during meetings.
 - 3.1.5 Serve on and participate in the meetings of standing and ad hoc committees established by the Board.
 - 3.1.6 Attend and participate in discussion during executive sessions of the Board.
- 3.2 Advisory members shall not:
 - 3.2.1 Vote on any motion, resolution, or action item before the Board or any of its subcommittees, working groups, or task forces.
 - 3.2.2 Make any motions that require a vote by the Board or any of its subcommittees, working groups, or task forces.
 - 3.2.3 Serve as an Officer of the Board.
 - 3.2.4 Chair any standing or ad hoc committee established by the Board.

4 Selection and Service of Employee Representative

- 4.1 The selection of the University's "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member of the Board shall be determined as follows:
 - 4.1.1 The opportunity to place a representative on the Board to fill the "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member position shall be shared by the Classified Staff and Non-Classified Staff on a rotating basis, with the rotation occurring every two years, and the identity of the representative being determined by vote of the employee classification to which said representative belongs (Classified or Non-Classified).
 - 4.1.2 Beginning with the 2027 fiscal year, a duly elected Non-Classified Staff representative shall hold the "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member position for a term of two years.
 - 4.1.3 Beginning with the 2029 fiscal year, a duly elected Classified Staff representative shall hold the "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member position for a term of two years.
- 4.1.4 Thereafter, this selection process shall continue on an alternating, rotating basis in the same manner.