Executive Council Governance

These governance guidelines have been adopted by the Population Health Initiative’s executive council to assist the chair, vice chair, and other members in the exercise of their responsibilities. The executive council shall review these guidelines at least bi-annually, with revisions made if deemed appropriate.

Member Responsibilities

The key responsibilities of the executive council are to exercise their collective judgment to recommend and support action in pursuit of the best interests of the initiative’s vision, goals, objectives, and implementation strategies. In furtherance of this responsibility, the executive council is specifically charged with the following:

1. Engage the UW community and external partners in the work of achieving a shared vision.
2. Task UW leaders and specific programs with developing, implementing and measuring progress toward the Population Health Initiative’s goals and objectives.
3. Meet quarterly to review progress.
4. Assist the UW president, provost, and other leaders in developing new financing sources to further the Population Health Initiative’s priorities.
5. Assist the UW president, provost, and other leaders in incentivizing collaborative teaching and research that supports the Population Health Initiative’s vision.
6. Consult with Faculty Senate committees to evaluate the initiative’s goals, objectives, and implementation strategies, including addressing the needs of students, facilitating faculty contributions, and ensuring alignment with the imperatives of diversity, equity, and inclusivity.
7. Review plans with external partners and donors, the UW Board of Regents, and other stakeholders to advance the initiative’s visibility and impact.
8. Establish and maintain an External Advisory Board to provide counsel and input as the Population Health Initiative evolves.
9. Recommend and assist in the formation of initiative working groups (i.e., both time limited and ongoing) that include faculty, students, and staff with relevant expertise and perspectives beyond those on the executive council, thereby increasing both implementation capacity and engagement.

Council Structure, Size, and Make Up

The Population Health Initiative is governed by an executive council that has a maximum size of 30 members. This council is led and chaired by the president of the University of Washington, with day-to-day responsibilities overseen by a faculty vice chair who is jointly selected by the president (chair) and provost. The chair, vice chair, and provost hold final decision-making authority for the initiative’s direction. The council is staffed by a project director who is responsible for advising, collaborating, and working closely with the vice chair and council to advance and implement the goals, objectives, and strategies of the initiative.

A key goal of the initiative is to encourage and incentivize interdisciplinary collaborations. As such, faculty representation on the council is to maintain a balance between health science and non-health science disciplines that optimizes the council’s ability to assist UW leadership in achieving the initiative’s vision and goals. The council will also include representation from both the Bothell and Tacoma campuses as well as a liaison from the Faculty Senate. Representation is also required from the
undergraduate and graduate student bodies, with the remaining positions to be filled by the provost, project director, and ex-officio members who hold key institutional roles.

**Term Limits for Members**
Faculty representatives are eligible to serve up to three consecutive one-year terms, with roughly one-third of the membership appointed each year. Student representatives are eligible to serve up to two consecutive one-year terms. The chair, provost, project director, and ex-officio roles are not term-limited.

Each annual renewal is at the discretion of the initiative chair. The chair also reserves the right to grant exceptions to the applicable term limit if a member’s departure would negatively impact the initiative.

Membership on the council is not transferrable (i.e., members cannot send a delegate in their place). Members who can no longer commit to serving may resign at any time with written notification to the vice chair and project director. Members who are absent from three consecutive meetings will be considered to have resigned, with exceptions available in the event of unavoidable circumstances such as personal or family emergencies, illness, or extended travel.

**Selection of Members**
The initiative’s project director will support the chair, vice chair, and provost in securing nominations to the council. The Board of Deans and Chancellors, Faculty Senate, and other key stakeholders will be engaged to offer recommendations for potential members to join the council.

Consideration will be given to the current and past make-up of the council to ensure that all schools and campuses are appropriately represented over time. Final selection of new members is at the discretion of the initiative’s chair.

**Member Onboarding**
The initiative’s vice chair and project director will be responsible for onboarding all new council members. Onboarding will include an explanation of the history of the initiative, current work in progress, and expectations of council members.