

Making Excellence Inclusive Bylaws

Article I – Name: Making Excellence Inclusive (MEI)

Article II – Mission

EIU's [Making Excellence Inclusive](#) (MEI) Committee advocates for and supports transformational learning and achievement through collaborative diversity initiatives across the university.

MEI understands diversity is fundamental to all student learning. MEI defines diversity as more than demographic compositions and explorations of difference. Diversity also includes:

- 1) Creating opportunities for historically underrepresented populations to have equal access and equitable outcomes through educational programs that are capable of transforming learning for all students.
- 2) Promoting practices that engage and include all students, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and community members, and the valuable contributions that they bring to both campus and community to enhance teaching and learning.
- 3) Identifying and addressing prejudice and discrimination on campus.
- 4) Challenging any unjust exercise of power or exclusion.

Article III – Membership

- 1) MEI is open to any staff/student/faculty on campus of Eastern Illinois University and the larger community.
- 2) To insure a broad spectrum of the university population in MEI the following constituencies should be represented:
 - a) Academic Advisement
 - b) Each Academic College
 - c) Faculty Development
 - d) Faculty Senate
 - e) Minority Affairs
 - f) Staff Senate
 - g) Student Affairs
 - h) Student Senate
- 3) Members serve on a volunteer basis; minimum term of service is one year with indefinite renewal

Article IV – Executive Committee

- 1) Executive Committee officers include:
 - a) Chairperson
 - b) Vice chairperson
 - c) Recorder
- 2) Executive Committee officers must be selected from EIU faculty or staff representatives
- 3) Executive Committee officers are elected by a simple majority of MEI members voting.
- 4) Executive Committee officers serve a two-year term (after initial election) and may be re-elected.

- 5) Elections occur at the first meeting of each academic year.
- 6) There will be a rolling leadership for consistency. The schedule is as follows:
 - a) INITIAL ROTATION:
 - i) *Chairperson*: elected 2015 – off 2016
 - ii) *Vice Chairperson*: elected 2015 – Chairperson 2016 to 2018
 - iii) *Recorder*: elected 2015 for a 2-year term (to 2017)
 - b) LONG TERM ROTATION:
 - i) *Chairperson*: 2018 for a two year term (then an election in 2020 for another 2-year term, and so forth)
 - ii) *Vice Chairperson*: 2016 for a two year term (then an election in 2018 for another 2-year term, and so forth)
 - iii) *Recorder*: 2017 for a two year term (then an election in 2019 for another 2-year term, and so forth)
- 7) The chairperson presides at meetings of MEI. In the absence of the chairperson, the vice-chairperson presides. The recorder prepares minutes (motions and votes) for each meeting, disseminates minutes to members, and maintains MEI documentation.
- 8) The Executive Committee is empowered to meet with administration as needed/invited.

Article V – Subcommittees

- 1) Standing subcommittees will be established for the following:
 - a) Community Relations
 - b) Curricular/co-curricular (members must be drawn from faculty)
 - c) Information/Resources
 - d) Programs/Events
 - e) Publicity
- 2) Subcommittee membership is on a volunteer basis.
- 3) Subcommittees may be of any size, but will usually have a minimum of three members.
- 4) Subcommittee updates are shared during monthly meetings.

Article VI – Meeting Schedule

- 1) Meetings are held at least monthly during Fall and Spring semesters.
- 2) Days/times are determined on a semester basis based on membership needs.
- 3) Electronic meetings may be held when all items on the agenda are non-controversial.

Article VII – Amendments

- 1) Bylaw changes require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members voting.

Bylaws approved July 1, 2015