

A Charter for the Texas A&M AgriLife Inclusive Excellence Advisory Board

1. NAME

The name of the group shall be the **Texas A&M AgriLife Inclusive Excellence Advisory Board**.

2. COMPOSITION

The Vice Chancellor of Agriculture and Life Sciences (VC), who also serves as the Dean for the Texas A&M University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (college) and is responsible for four agricultural agencies in The Texas A&M University System (agencies), shall determine the membership and size of the board.

Officers

Members of the board, in concert with the VC, will elect a secretary from the board to serve for a period of no less than two years. The Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence will serve as the chair of the board in the inaugural year. Thereafter, the board will submit to the VC nominees for chair. The chair will be elected by a simple majority at a regular board meeting. If possible, these terms should have staggered end dates to provide continuity to the board operations.

Standing Committees/Subcommittees

The VC and the board, acting in concert, will appoint standing committees and subcommittees.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND TENURE

Membership

Board members will be selected from among those who serve in or have served in an executive capacity in the private sector, government or academia. Members will not be a representative of their employer(s); they will only represent themselves.

Ex Officio Members

The VC, the Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence, and the undergraduate student representative from the college Inclusive Excellence Committee will serve on the board as *ex officio* members.

Internal Members

A current Texas A&M faculty member and a nonfaculty staff member will serve on the board.

Nominations

The VC will receive nominations for board membership from the board and/or agency and college personnel and students. Nominations will include the nominee's contact information, a one-page biographical sketch, as well as a letter stating why the nominee should serve on the board and what expertise they bring.

Terms

Board members will be appointed for a three-year term with each year starting on September 1 and ending August 31, unless unforeseen circumstances arise that require action mid-year. In consultation with the board chair, the VC may reappoint members. The VC may appoint other AgriLife personnel as standing (nonvoting) member(s) of this board.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE ADVISORY BOARD

- a. To advise the VC on programs and action items that further the goals of inclusive excellence and remove barriers to opportunity for all A&M faculty, staff and students, considering issues that include diversity, inclusion, equity and climate.
- b. To assist AgriLife agencies and college to best serve all of its students, stakeholders, the people of Texas, the nation and the world.
- c. To offer guidance and tools that empower faculty, staff and students to promote inclusive excellence in their research, teaching, extension and service.

5. MEETING FREQUENCY AND ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

- a. The board will meet at least twice in the first twelve months at a to-be-determined location. At the second board meeting, the board will determine the frequency of future meetings.
- b. The VC and board chair will jointly establish meeting schedules and agendas, which will be published by the secretary two weeks before the meeting.
- c. Board members who miss two consecutive meetings will be asked to leave the board unless the VC and chair grant an exemption. Members may join the meeting through other technologies at the discretion of the chair.
- d. Members from the public and private sectors will cover their travel and lodging expenses.

6. AMENDMENTS

The board chair may recommend to the VC amendments to this charter made by the affirmative majority vote of the advisory board membership at any annual meeting or by written referendum.