

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

We, the Members of the Board of Trustees of Erskine College, recognize the importance of articulating standards for the effective conduct of our responsibilities. By adopting this statement, we acknowledge that the exercise of trusteeship requires a code of behavior not usually expected of other citizens. By willingly and enthusiastically accepting the privilege of serving the interests of Erskine, we also accept the obligations and responsibilities that accompany our trusteeships.

This statement is intended to clarify our individual responsibilities which we acknowledge to be distinct from but complementary to those of the board as a corporate entity. It also is intended to help individuals being considered for nomination to the Board to decide whether they wish to accept appointment, to remind new and incumbent members of the obligations they have assumed and to encourage periodic review of ourselves and our Board performance. Therefore, we, the Trustees of Erskine College, individually and collectively, pledge to:

1. Consistently and faithfully prepare for and participate faithfully in official board meetings and functions, including committees and appropriate campus events.
2. Remain knowledgeable about the institution's mission, purpose, goals, policies, strengths, and needs, including the Church's Philosophy Statement on Christian Higher Education.
3. Recognize the distinctly Christian commitment of Erskine and help interpret and explain to the administration and the academic community the needs, interests and concerns of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in the course of helping to set institutional purposes, priorities and policies.
4. Help interpret and explain to the church policy makers and others how the unique nature of an academic enterprise makes it distinct from other church agencies, including its essential commitment to academic freedom and its delicate internal system of shared governance. In a similar vein, we pledge to protect the institution's integrity and independence from unreasonable and unwarranted outside interference.
5. Serve the institution as a whole rather than any special interest.
6. Avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest which might embarrass the Board or institution.
7. Maintain confidentiality of the Board's executive sessions and act as a spokesperson for the Board only when authorized to do so.

8. Give an annual gift according to personal means, mindful of the needs to support both capital and annual giving programs.
9. Assist the Development Committee and Administration by implementing fund raising strategies to the best of our ability through personal influence with others.
10. Suggest to the Board possible trustee nominees who are clearly individuals of achievement and distinction and who can make significant contributions to the work of the Board and to the institution.
11. Serve in leadership positions or undertake special assignments willingly and enthusiastically.
12. Counsel the chief executive as appropriate and offer support in his often difficult relationship with groups or individuals off campus.
13. Avoid hasty and/or prejudiced judgments on the basis of information received from individuals on campus and urge those with real or perceived grievances to follow established grievance policies and procedures through their supervisors.
14. Share our expertise and professional skills to help the Board resolve issues in our respective areas of knowledge, while supporting the majority's will, even when it is inconsistent with our personal views.
15. Support and defend when necessary the chief executive, administration, faculty and staff, as well as board actions.
16. Review periodically our own level and quality of commitment, dedication and performance as a Trustee.

We, the Trustees of Erskine College, thus commit ourselves individually and collectively to the highest standards of conduct. We acknowledge that each of us shares a profound obligation to exercise our best possible judgment as we face the often perplexing, yet rewarding matters affecting the health and vitality of ERSKINE COLLEGE which we hold in trust for future generations.