

**College of Environment and Life Sciences  
University of Rhode Island**

**Advisory Board Member Responsibilities**

1. Mission Statement: The mission of the Advisory Board is to support the CELS Dean, administration, and faculty to fulfill the primary goal of the College to be an international leader among colleges specializing in environmental and life sciences and environmental management, policy and design.

2. Membership (Selection, Terms, Diversity)

Advisory Board members will be selected by the Dean based on their ability to advise and assist in strategic planning, outreach, fund-raising and student education and career development. Members will serve a term of 5 years, renewable for one additional term at the discretion of the Dean. The overall membership of the Board should reflect the goal of the College to promote diversity and equal opportunity. Inclusion of members with expertise in the multiple academic disciplines represented in the College is encouraged. Members need not be alumni of the College or University.

3. Responsibilities

Advisory Board members are expected to make timely and substantive contributions to the mission of the College by:

- a. attending semi-annual Board meetings in person or by phone
- b. providing strategic advice to the Dean and the College
- c. working to promote the efforts of the College in its 3 critical mission elements: a. instruction and learning, b. research and discovery, and c. extension and outreach-
- d. participating directly and indirectly in the fund-raising efforts of the College
- e. financially supporting the CELS Annual Fund

#### 4. Academic Programs

Focus Area 1: Educational Excellence—Innovative Curricula to Enhance Student Success

Advisory Board members will work with the Dean and Faculty to help draft and develop innovative curricula to enhance student success. These include the development of online course elements for both on-campus and remote use and implementation of emerging technologies.

#### 5. Research

Focus Area 2: Research and Discovery—Integrating Research and Experiential Learning into the student experience

Advisory Board members will interact directly with the dean and academic faculty to provide advice on research approaches, research funding and research integrity, and facilitate research interactions and collaborations with academic and commercial institutions.

#### 6. Global Outreach

Focus Area 3: Global Perspective—Building Global Competence

Advisory Board members will assist the Dean and faculty in outreach to potential partners abroad with regard to research collaborations with academic institutions, corporate entities and government and non-government organizations.

#### 7. Promote Diversity and Social Justice

Focus Area 4: Diversity and Social Justice—Fostering an Inclusive and Diverse CELS Community

Advisory Board members will work with the Dean and faculty to foster diversity and social justice among students, staff and faculty. The composition of the Board should, whenever possible, reflect the multicultural demographics of the community represented by the students, faculty, staff and other constituents of the University.

#### 8. Philanthropy and Fund Raising

A primary responsibility of Advisory Board members is to support the fiscal health of the College both by an expected direct contribution to the College as well as by identifying and recruiting potential donors to the College. Members

are expected to give to the CELS Annual Fund every year to the best of their ability, and if possible, to consider making a special stretch commitment to support the College during the University of Rhode Island's \$250M Comprehensive Campaign.

Opportunities for giving include:

- a. Scholarships
- b. Experiential learning fellowships
- c. Support for faculty
- d. Program support

Vehicles for giving:

- a. CELS Annual Fund
- b. Named operating and endowed funds
- c. Planned giving

## 9. Advocacy, Outreach& Public Engagement

Advisory Board members will serve as ambassadors of the college within the University and State of Rhode Island as well as nationally and internationally. Advisors will work with the CELS Dean and administration to assist in the marketing and branding of the College. Advisors will guide and assist in recruitment of undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and staff of the College

## 10. Career Development

Advisory Board members have an instrumental role in educating students in aspects of career development and in providing opportunities for exposure to career opportunities in academia, industry and government. Members are encouraged to participate in College career fairs and to direct students toward internship opportunities and jobs in their own or related companies/institutions.

## 11. Industry Relations

Advisory Board members will work to facilitate interactions between the College and potential industry partners to promote collaboration, funding opportunities and training opportunities for students interested in pursuing a career in industry. Board members will help identify business leaders to engage with College students and faculty.

## 12. Government Relations

Advisory Board members will work with College faculty and administration to establish close relationships with government leaders and agencies on the state, national and international level.

## 11. Standing Committees

Standing committees of the Advisory Board may be established periodically by the Dean of the College. Advisory Board members are expected to participate in such committees if asked to do so by the Dean.

## APPENDIX

### a. [Current Board Member Profiles and Contact Information](#)