

Policy Type:       **Governance**  
Policy Title:       **Annual Board Assessment**

Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Policy Approval Date:**    January 30, 2016  
**Policy Review Date:**     February 2017

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**BACKGROUND:**

Board assessment is the process by which the board determines how well its performance is enabling the library to achieve what it should. A strong, vibrant board is a clear indicator of a healthy organization. Annual assessment is intended to discover the board's strengths, identify knowledge and performance gaps and put in place strategies for improving performance and effectiveness.

**POLICY:**

The Board will monitor its own governance effectiveness in fulfilling its role and achieving strategic goals. The annual assessment process will identify key areas for improvement and options for follow-up action.

**PROCEDURE:**

- 1 The Board will schedule an assessment of its effectiveness on an annual basis on its annual planning agenda.
- 2 The Board Chair (and/or Governance Committee) will be responsible for managing the assessment process to allow the Board to be consistent in benchmarking its performance against governance best practices and focus on continuous improvement in the following **Areas of Responsibility\***:
  - a. Board Organization
  - b. Board Performance
  - c. Planning
  - d. Library Management
  - e. Stewardship
  - f. Community Development
  - g. Accountability
- 3 The Board will use outcomes of the annual assessment to inform the development of its annual planning priorities in systematically working to achieve the library's strategic goals.
- 4 The Board may also conduct a short review of its performance at each regular board meeting with special attention to the quality of discussion and decision-making.

**\*OLBA's Leadership by Design CUT TO THE CHASE**  
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