

# Undermining of Shared Governance

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WHEREAS

Illinois Tech's shared governance model has been praised by accreditors even as other aspects of the institution have raised concern and properly applied brings faculty in as management partners rather than simply contract workers

WHEREAS

The institutional failures documented in this 2026 session of the Faculty Senate point to a deep need for greater oversight and engagement across the campus leadership and community

WHEREAS

Actions of the administration, including failure to extensively consult Deans on the restructuring plan and associate chairs/chairs on any formal level, and including communication with faculty that was deeply uneven across academic units and in general narrow, have compromised this shared governance model

WHEREAS

The declaration of exigency long after serious financial problems emerged and the short notice of this declaration that resulted from administrative delay combined to compromise the faculty consultation about this procedure, effectively preempting the seven day notice requirement of the Faculty Senate

WHEREAS

This situation is apparently resulting in a mass layoff and all the instability for students, staff and faculty that causes on the eve of a critical fall site visit from accreditors and thereby places the university at immediate risk of regulatory sanction.

WHEREAS

the short notice of this situation invalidates the data, faculty counts, and program structures in the university's prepared Assurance Argument only a month before "lock-in" is required for this argument

WHEREAS

Executing this restructure without a finalized workload plan mathematically cripples our ability to demonstrate Faculty Sufficiency (Criterion 3), Assessment (Criterion 4), and Systemic Planning (Criterion 5), risking a Probationary or Show-Cause order.

WHEREAS

Retention has significantly dropped in the past year in the context of winding up key programs aimed at boosting student retention, with resulting compounding revenue impacts, and

WHEREAS

a confidential administrative document (the March 2026 Illinois Tech 2.0 Change Management Plan) suggests that administration assurances to the board deviate significantly from what was carried out, and further that planning was already well advanced even as administrative leaders informed the faculty as late as the April 23 full faculty meeting, the last mass communication of the spring semester to faculty by senior leadership, that there was, as yet, no plan,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT

enhanced Board of Trustees oversight over senior leadership is required to ensure that plans are enacted as promised to the board by said senior leadership in order to limit further instability for the institution on the eve of re-accreditation, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Shared governance should be seen as the path forward toward enhancing a culture of faculty responsibility and building a lasting partnership between faculty, administration and trustees for the good of Illinois Tech's students and its mission and for the sake of enabling the institution to attain long-term success, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

the university should redouble advancement efforts, and revive the suspended fundraising campaign as soon as possible.