

Because poor governance costs more than learning to govern well, the Board will invest in its governance capacity.

Accordingly:

1. Board skills, methods, and supports will be sufficient to assure governing with excellence.
2. Outreach mechanisms will be used as needed to ensure the Board's ability to listen to member congregation viewpoints and values.
3. Costs will be prudently incurred. The Board will develop its budget to coordinate with the budget cycle each year to assure its inclusion in the overall budget. The Board budget shall include:
 - A. Board training, including attendance at conferences and workshops.
 - B. An annual external financial audit and other third-party monitoring of organizational performance.
 - C. Surveys, focus groups, and opinion analyses.
 - D. Operating and meeting costs of the Board, Board committees, Board-appointed committees, and the Elected Committees of the Association.
4. Only expenses related to volunteer service on behalf of the Board are reimbursable from the UUA Budget and shall be prudently incurred. The Board will establish policies and guidelines for reimbursement.