

The Student Voice in College Governance

Otis College incorporates the student voice into its decision-making by intentionally engaging student leaders and calling for input from the larger student body in preparing initiatives or other research that may lead to institutional decisions, such as strategic planning, etc.

Some key ways that Otis distinguishes itself as a student-focused institution include (but are not limited to):

1. Otis, like so many colleges and universities, has a student affairs team and Dean of Student Affairs, who lead activities focused on student and campus life, and involve students greatly in continuous input-gathering. At Otis, however, we also have a **Vice President for Campus Life** who reports directly to the President in representing student interests and concerns and overseeing expert teams providing student services such as but not limited to:
 - Student Activities
 - Residence Life and Housing
 - Registration and Records
 - Student Health and Wellness
 - Career Services
 - Student Related Campus Polices and Standards
2. The VP of Campus Life also serves as staff liaison to the **Board of Trustees' Campus Life Committee**, which includes student members, conveys student content directly to the full Board through regular updates, and arranges, when/as needed, opportunities for student presentation to the Board.
3. Another Board Committee that includes a student representative is the **Educational Planning Committee**, for which the Provost serves as staff liaison
4. Students also attend two regular committees of the Academic Assembly: the Curriculum and Assessment Committees
5. One meeting each year of the President's Council is also focused on student issues—students are invited to share perspectives and experiences, there
6. Students' Union representatives also meet regularly with the Dean of Student Affairs and the Senior Leadership Team to share input for continuous improvement
7. Other Committees and Invitations for student input include (but are not limited to):
 - Committee for Review and Revision of the Attendance Policy
 - Student Activities Director Search Committee

- Student Activities Office—much conferring with students toward Office goals
- President search campus visit—student forum
- Provost search campus visit—student forum
- Strategic Planning Input Gathering—student forums and survey input
- Strategic Planning Steering Committee—student membership
- And [more](#) (see The Student Voice in Otis Shared Governance, on the shared governance webpage at www.otis.edu/shared-governance)