A. Major issues addressed by the board during the 2014–15 year

1. Oversaw CSR finances. Reviewed the CSR’s portfolio of contract- and grant-funded projects and monitored financial status, which has become much tighter due to deep operating budget cuts. Provided guidance on CSR’s shift towards fundraising and endowment generating. This included review and discussion of a promotional “sell-sheet” developed by fundraising to promote the work of CSR among potential donors.

2. The “Kent County Deliberative Poll” project received initial funding from the Dyer-Ives Foundation. Allison Rudi was hired as the project manager for the project. CSR was able to sponsor Dr. James Fishkin’s talk “When the People Speak: Deliberate Democracy” for the January Series.

3. Provided feedback on major CSR projects and received updates on new and renewed projects, which included projects conducted in collaboration with over a dozen Calvin faculty members.

4. Discussed strategic directions for CSR, including how to maintain strong connections between CSR and academic departments, individual scholarship efforts among CSR staff, future finance needs and approaches, and defining CSR’s scope of work more clearly (e.g., research versus program evaluation).

B. Actions brought before Faculty Senate

None

C. Other actions, not involving Faculty Senate, that the board initiated or implemented

Not applicable

D. Issues that will continue to be before the board next year

Continued oversight of CSR projects and finances; continued discussion of strategic directions.