10-24-2012

Efficient vs Perfect Decision Making

Chaouki Abdallah

Efficient vs Perfect Decision Making

Posted October 24, 2012
Chaouki Abdallah

Universities have a different relationship with decision making than most organizations. In general, fast decisions are made at the local level, while the global level makes slow decisions. At universities, the administration would like to move fast, but the university governance structure remains distributed and deliberative. In many ways, governing a university, fast and slow, is an almost perfect paradigm, but during times of great change, it may hinder how the university responds to its challenges. Are we able to make efficient versus perfect decisions? The answer lies in a very old currency, that of trust. The trust of the faculty, students, parents, and citizens must be earned but once obtained, can be used to safely navigate a university during turbulent times.