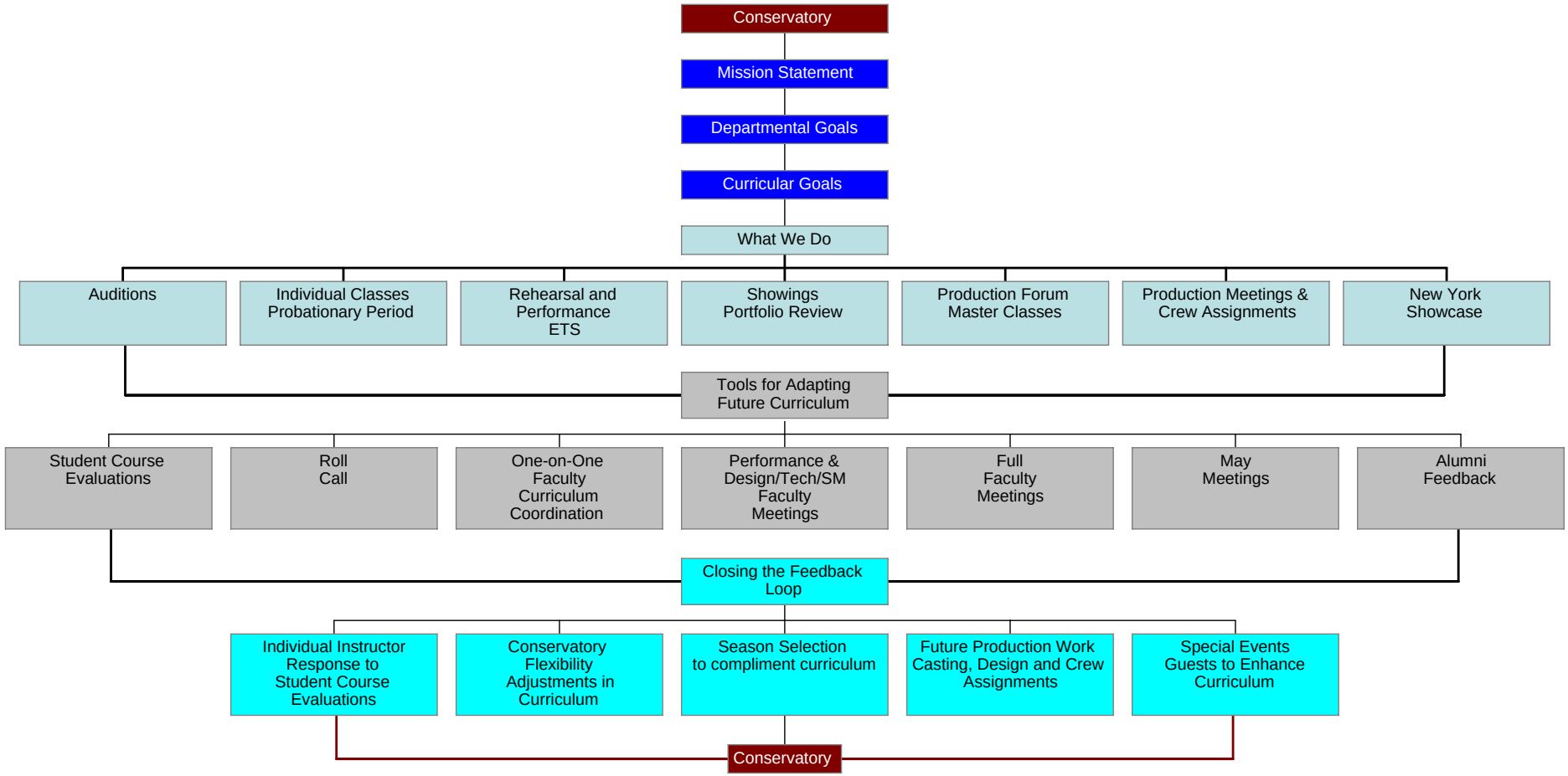How the Conservatory Works and Evolves Over Time