

## PART IV

## THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (UNIVERSITY SYSTEM)

The University Senate shall be composed of both elected and ex officio membership.

The elected membership shall number 103, of which 85 members shall represent the faculty and 18 members shall represent the student body.

The 85 elected faculty members shall be apportioned each spring among the colleges and the University Libraries according to the following two equally weighted factors based on data for the preceding fall semester: (1) the number of full-time faculty, except those appointed in the extension series (although they are eligible for election to membership), research title series, Medical Center clinical title series, and visiting series, with the rank of assistant professor or higher in the college or the University Libraries; and (2) the number of full-time students enrolled in the college, computed so that students enrolled in the Graduate School shall be assigned to the college in which they are pursuing their studies. Each elected faculty member shall serve for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election for a second consecutive term but ineligible for further re-election until one year has elapsed. If a faculty member of the Senate should at any time during a term become ineligible to serve (e.g., by reason of assuming an administrative title, resigning, or taking official leave which precludes attendance), the administrative head of the group represented shall declare a vacancy and designate that member from the eligible faculty who at the last election received the next highest vote to serve for the duration of the elected faculty member's ineligibility.

The 18 elected student membership shall consist of and represent the members of the full-time student body in the various colleges and the Graduate School of the University System. The colleges and the Graduate School each shall have one student representative. Students with no declared major shall be represented through the College of Arts and Sciences. Each elected student member shall be a junior, senior, or graduate or professional student, shall not be on either academic or disciplinary probation, shall serve for a term of one year, and shall be eligible for re-election as often as the individual remains a full-time undergraduate, graduate, or professional student in the University System. If a student should at any time become ineligible to serve (e.g., by relinquishing status as a full-time student, being placed on academic probation, or violating the Senate attendance regulations), the administrative head of the group represented shall declare a vacancy and designate that member from the eligible student body who at the last election received the next highest vote to serve for the duration of the elected student member's ineligibility.

The ex officio voting members shall number 13 or 14. In academic years beginning with an even number (e.g., 1982-1983, 1984-1985), this group shall be composed of the following: Chancellor for the Medical Center, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Director of Libraries, Vice

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Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Lexington Campus, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Community College System, and Deans of the Colleges of Allied Health Professions, Architecture, Communications, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, and Social Work. In academic years beginning with an odd number, the ex officio voting members shall be the following: Chancellor for the Lexington Campus, Chancellor for the Community College System and University Relations, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Medical Center, Dean of the Graduate School, President of the Student Government Association, and Deans of the Colleges of Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Fine Arts, Home Economics, Library and Information Science, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy.

The ex officio non-voting membership shall include the President, all other vice presidents, University Registrar, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Lexington Campus and Director of Admissions, Executive Director of University Extension, Dean of Students, Professor of Military Science, Professor of Aerospace Studies, Director of the University Studies Program, and, if they are not already elected members of the Senate, the University System faculty members of the Board of Trustees, the Academic Ombudsman, the Director of the Honors Program, and the chairmen of the University Senate Committees, including University Senate Advisory Committees. All officials mentioned in the preceding paragraph who are not ex officio voting members in any year shall be considered ex officio non-voting members. Other ex officio non-voting members may be added by the University Senate Council for the purpose of supplying information and viewpoints on problems considered by the Senate. Ex officio non-voting members shall enjoy all privileges of the elected membership except the right to vote.

The Senate is authorized to develop rules for the conduct of its functions, copies of these rules being furnished to the President and the Board of Trustees. It may perform its functions directly, through the Senate Council\*, through standing or special committees which it may appoint or authorize for appointment, or through delegation of authority and responsibility to the faculties of the Graduate School or the colleges. Standing committees of the Senate, responsible to the Senate, shall be appointed by the Senate Council unless other methods of appointment have been authorized by the Senate.

The Senate also may establish Senate advisory committees which shall be responsible, in an advisory capacity, to the President or other administrative officer(s) or administrative unit(s). These committees also shall be responsible to the Senate for reporting upon issues which bear upon the functions of the Senate and for making recommendations for action. Senate advisory committees shall be appointed by the President from nominations made by the Senate Council or following consultation with the Council.

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Recommend to the appropriate chancellor/vice president and the President on the establishment, alteration, and abolition of educational units in the University System.

Advise the President or the President's designated officer on the planning for physical facilities and staff when these may affect the attainment of educational objectives of the University System.

Advise the President or the President's designated officer, through appropriate committees, on criteria for appointments, reappointments, promotions, and granting of tenure in the University System.

Determine the conditions for admission and for degrees, other than honorary degrees, in the University System.

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Beyond those listed in the above, the Senate shall have no management or administrative functions either in itself or through the instrumentality of its committees.

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responsible to the Senate, shall be appointed by the Senate Council unless other methods of appointment have been authorized by the Senate.

The Senate also may establish Senate advisory committees which shall be responsible, in an advisory capacity, to the President or other administrative officer(s) or administrative unit(s). These committees also shall be responsible to the Senate for reporting upon issues which bear upon the functions of the Senate and for making recommendations for action. Senate advisory committees shall be appointed by the President from nominations made by the Senate Council or following consultation with the Council.

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The Senate shall hold regular monthly meetings during the academic year when classes are in session and, after adequate notice by its secretary, special meetings on the call of the President or the Senate Council or on the written request of ten (10) members.

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Adopt policies for the University System academic calendar and approve the annual calendar as prepared by the University Registrar.

Recommend to the appropriate chancellor/vice president and the President on the establishment, alteration, and abolition of educational units in the University System.

Advise the President or the President's designated officer on the planning for physical facilities and staff when these may affect the attainment of education objectives of the University System.

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Advise the President or the President's designated officer, through appropriate committees, on criteria for appointments, reappointments, promotions, and granting of tenure in the University System.

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Beyond those listed in the above, the Senate shall have no management or administrative functions either in itself or through the instrumentality of its committees.

The University Senate may address the President or, through the President, the Board of Trustees, regarding any University matter.

PART IV

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (UNIVERSITY SYSTEM)

The University Senate shall be composed of both elected and ex officio membership.

The elected membership shall number 114, of which 94 members shall represent the faculty, one member shall represent the emeriti faculty, and 19 members shall represent the student body.

The 94 elected faculty seats shall be apportioned each spring among the colleges and the University Libraries according to the following two equally weighted factors based on data for the preceding fall semester: (1) the number of the following individuals all of whom shall be considered "faculty" for purposes of this Rule: (a) full-time faculty in the regular and special title series with the rank of assistant professor or higher, (b) full-time faculty appointed in the extension, librarian, research and clinical title series, and (c) full-time lecturers and instructors; and (2) the number of full-time students enrolled in the college, computed so that students enrolled in the Graduate School shall be assigned to the college in which they are pursuing their studies. Each elected faculty member shall serve for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election for a second consecutive term but ineligible for further re-election until one year has elapsed. If a faculty member of the Senate should at any time during a term become ineligible to serve (e.g., by reason of assuming an administrative title, resigning, or taking official leave which precludes attendance), the administrative head of the group represented shall declare a vacancy and designate that member from the eligible faculty who at the last election received the next highest vote to serve for the duration of the elected faculty member's ineligibility.

The one elected emeritus faculty member shall represent the University of Kentucky Association of Emeriti Faculty. The Association shall elect one senator for a term of three years and an alternate from its membership through an election process approved by the Senate Council. If the elected emeritus faculty member of the Senate at any time during a term becomes ineligible or unable to serve, the elected alternate shall serve the remainder of the term.

The 19 elected student membership shall consist of the President of the Student Government Association and representatives of the full-time student body in the various colleges and the Graduate School of the University System. The colleges and the Graduate School each shall have one student representative. Students with no declared major shall be represented through the College of Arts and Sciences. Each elected college representative shall be a junior, senior, or graduate or professional student, or in the case of the Lexington Community College a sophomore student, shall not be on either academic or disciplinary probation, shall serve for a term of one year, and shall be eligible for re-election as often as the individual remains a full-time undergraduate, graduate, or professional student in the University System. If a student should at any time become ineligible to serve (e.g., by relinquishing status as a full-time student, being placed on academic probation, or violating the Senate attendance regulations), the

administrative head of the group represented shall declare a vacancy and designate that member from the eligible student body who at the last election received the next highest vote to serve for the duration of the elected student member's ineligibility.

The ex officio voting members shall number 13 or 14. In academic years beginning with an even number (e.g., 1984-1985, 1986-1987), this group shall be composed of the following: Chancellor for the Medical Center, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Director of Libraries, Director of Teaching Learning Center and Deans of the Colleges of Allied Health Professions, Architecture, Communications and Information Studies, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, and Social Work. In academic years beginning with an odd number, the ex officio voting members shall be the following: Chancellor for the Lexington Campus, President of the Lexington Community College, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Medical Center, Dean of the Graduate School, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Deans of the Colleges of Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Fine Arts, Human Environmental Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy.

The ex officio non-voting membership shall include the President, the Special Assistant to the President for Academic Affairs, all other vice presidents, Vice Chancellor for Minority Affairs, University System Registrar, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Lexington Campus and Director of Admissions, Executive Director of University Extension, Dean of Students, Professor of Military Science, Professor of Aerospace Studies, Director of the University Studies Program, and, if they are not already elected members of the Senate, the University System faculty members of the Board of Trustees, the Academic Ombud, the Director of the Honors Program, and the chairpersons of the University Senate Committees, including University Senate Advisory Committees. All officials mentioned in the preceding paragraph who are not ex officio voting members in any year shall be considered ex officio non-voting members. Other ex officio non-voting members may be added by the University Senate Council for the purpose of supplying information and viewpoints on problems considered by the Senate. Ex officio non-voting members shall enjoy all privileges of the elected membership except the right to vote.

The Senate is authorized to develop rules for the conduct of its functions, copies of these rules being furnished to the President and the Board of Trustees. It may perform its functions directly, through the Senate Council\*, through standing or special committees which it may appoint or authorize for appointment, or through delegation of authority and responsibility to the faculties of the Graduate School or the colleges. Standing committees of the Senate,

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PART IV

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (UNIVERSITY SYSTEM)

The University Senate shall be composed of faculty, emeriti faculty, student and ex officio members.

The faculty members shall number 94, one member shall represent the emeriti faculty, and 19 members shall represent the student body. With the exception of emeritus and ex-officio representatives, senators shall be full-time faculty or students selected in accordance with the Rules of the University Senate. The one elected emeritus faculty member shall represent the University of Kentucky Association of Emeriti Faculty.

In even numbered academic years, the ex officio voting members of the Senate shall be composed of the following: Provost, Vice President for Research, Senior Vice President and Chancellor of the Medical Center, Director of Libraries, Director of Teaching Learning Center and Deans of the Colleges of Allied Health Professions, Architecture, Communications and Information Studies, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, and Social Work. In odd numbered academic years, the ex officio voting members shall be the following: Provost, President of the Lexington Community College, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs for the Medical Center, Dean of the Graduate School, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Deans of the Colleges of Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Fine Arts, Human Environmental Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy.

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PART IV

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

A. Membership

The University Senate shall be composed of both elected and *ex officio* members.

The ninety-four (94) elected faculty shall be full-time faculty elected from and by the respective college faculties. The elected faculty representatives of the University Senate have the authority assigned to "the faculty of the University" under KRS 164.240 to recommend to the Board of Trustees the conferral of earned degrees from the University and the conditions for and award of honorary degrees. The University Senate membership, composed of both elected and *ex officio* members, is authorized to perform all other functions delegated by the Board of Trustees to the University Senate.

The University student body shall be represented by the student senators, one elected from and by the full-time student body of each college. The one elected emeritus faculty member shall be elected by and represent the University of Kentucky Association of Emeriti Faculty. The procedures for election of representatives to the University Senate and University Senate Council shall be prescribed in the *University Senate Rules*.

In even numbered academic years, the *ex officio* voting members of the University Senate shall be composed of the following: Provost, Executive Vice President for Research, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, student member of the Board of Trustees, two (2) faculty members of the Board of Trustees, Dean of Libraries, and deans of the Colleges of Communications and Information Studies, Dentistry, Design, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, and Social Work. In odd numbered academic years, the *ex officio* voting members shall be the following: Provost, student member of the Board of Trustees, two (2) faculty members of the Board of Trustees, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Graduate School, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, and deans of the Colleges of Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Fine Arts, Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and Pharmacy. The University Senate may recommend to the Board of Trustees changes to the above list of *ex officio* voting members and determines *ex officio* nonvoting membership, as necessary.

B. Officers, Committees and Councils of the University Senate

The University Senate is authorized to develop *University Senate Rules* for the conduct of its functions, copies of these rules being furnished to the President and the Board of Trustees. It may perform its functions directly, through the Senate Council\*, through standing or special

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committees which it may appoint or authorize for appointment, or through delegation of authority and responsibility to the faculties of the Graduate School, or the faculties of the colleges, schools, departments, centers and institutes. The University Senate Council shall appoint standing or special committees of the University Senate, responsible to the University Senate, unless the University Senate has authorized other methods of appointment.

The President is the Chair of the University Senate and shall be the presiding officer except as the President may delegate this function to the University Senate Council Chair. As its Chair, the President may be called upon by the University Senate to address or represent the University Senate or to transmit its recommendations. The President, as Chair of the University Senate, may establish and appoint academic committees to advise the President in this capacity.

The University Senate may establish University Senate committees that are responsible, in an advisory capacity, to the President or other administrative officer(s) or administrative unit(s). These committees are also responsible for reporting upon issues that bear upon the functions of the University Senate and for making recommendations for action. These University Senate advisory committees shall be appointed by the President, as the University Senate Chair, from nominations made by the University Senate Council.

A member of the University Faculty (not necessarily a member of the University Senate), appointed by the University Senate Council, shall serve as parliamentarian. The two (2) sergeants-at-arms, appointed by the University Senate Council, shall be members of the University Faculty and/or a staff employee. The University Senate shall hold regular monthly meetings during the academic year when classes are in session and, after adequate notice by its Secretary, special meetings on the call of the President or the University Senate Council or on the written request of ten (10) members.

Any University employee or student may attend a meeting of the University Senate as a visitor and request the privilege of the floor.

C. University Senate Functions

The University Senate is not assigned any management or administrative functions. The University Senate functions include the following:

1. Determine the broad academic policies of the University, including the similar academic policies that may be made necessary by governmental or accreditation agencies, and make rules to implement these policies.

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the end of their terms on the University Senate Council. They shall not be counted as a part of the quota of the educational unit that they have represented nor of the maximum faculty membership of the University Senate after the expiration of their elected University Senate memberships.

2. Approve all new academic programs and make final academic decisions on recommendations to changes of these programs.
3. Make final decisions for the University on curricula, courses, certificates and diplomas offered at the University and on the termination of academic programs.
4. Adopt policies for the University academic calendar and establish the annual calendar upon recommendation by the University Registrar.
5. Recommend to the President and Provost on the establishment, alteration, abolition, and reporting relationships of educational units in the University.
6. Advise the President or the President's designated officer on the planning for physical facilities, personnel and other resources when these may affect the attainment of educational objectives of the University.
7. Advise the President or the President's designated officer, through appropriate committees, on criteria, policies and procedures for performance review, appointments, reappointments, promotions, granting of tenure, and benefits to faculty in the University.
8. Determine the conditions for admission and for degrees, other than honorary degrees, in the University, pursuant to KRS 164.240.
9. Recommend to the Board of Trustees all candidates that have been approved for degrees in the University, pursuant to KRS 164.240.
10. Address the President or, through the President, the Board of Trustees, regarding any University matter.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**KENTUCKY**  
Regulations

**Governing Regulation, Part IV**

Responsible Office: Board of Trustees

Date Effective: 3/27/2012

Supersedes Version: 6/14/2005

## The University Senate

### Major Topics

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Membership

Officers, Committees, and Councils of the University Senate

University Senate Functions

### Introduction

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This Governing Regulation describes the composition, authority, and functions of the University Senate at the University of Kentucky.

### A. Membership

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The University Senate shall be composed of both elected and *ex officio* members.

The ninety-four (94) elected faculty shall be full-time faculty elected from and by the respective college faculties. The elected faculty representatives in the University Senate have the authority assigned to "the faculty of the University" under KRS 164.240 to recommend to the Board of Trustees the conferral of earned degrees from the University and the conditions for and award of honorary degrees. The University Senate membership, composed of both elected and *ex officio* members, is authorized to perform all other functions delegated by the Board of Trustees to the University Senate.

The University student body shall be represented by the student senators, one elected from and by the full-time student body of each college. The one elected emeritus faculty member shall be elected by and represent the University of Kentucky Association of Emeriti Faculty. The procedures for election of representatives to the University Senate and University Senate Council shall be prescribed in the *University Senate Rules*.

In even numbered academic years, the *ex officio* voting members of the University Senate shall be composed of the following: Provost, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, student member of the Board of Trustees, two (2) faculty members of the Board of Trustees, Dean of Libraries, and deans of the Colleges of Communications and Information Studies, Dentistry, Design, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, and Social Work. In odd numbered academic years, the *ex officio* voting members shall be the following: Provost, student member of the Board of Trustees, two (2) faculty members of the Board of Trustees, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, Dean of the Graduate School, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, and deans of the Colleges of Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Fine Arts, Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and Pharmacy. The University Senate may

recommend to the Board of Trustees changes to the above list of *ex officio* voting members and determines *ex officio* nonvoting membership, as necessary.

## B. Officers, Committees, and Councils of the University Senate

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The University Senate is authorized to develop *University Senate Rules* for the conduct of its functions, copies of these rules being furnished to the President and the Board of Trustees. It may perform its functions directly, through the Senate Council<sup>1</sup>, through standing or special committees which it may appoint or authorize for appointment, or through delegation of authority and responsibility to the faculties of the Graduate School, or the faculties of the colleges, schools, departments, centers and institutes. The University Senate Council shall appoint standing or special committees of the University Senate, responsible to the University Senate, unless the University Senate has authorized other methods of appointment.

The President is the Chair of the University Senate and shall be the presiding officer except as the President may delegate this function to the University Senate Council Chair. As its Chair, the President may be called upon by the University Senate to address or represent the University Senate or to transmit its recommendations. The President, as Chair of the University Senate, may establish and appoint academic committees to advise the President in this capacity.

The University Senate may establish University Senate committees that are responsible, in an advisory capacity, to the President or other administrative officer(s) or administrative unit(s). These committees are also responsible for reporting upon issues that bear upon the functions of the University Senate and for making recommendations for action. These University Senate advisory committees shall be appointed by the President, as the University Senate Chair, from nominations made by the University Senate Council.

A member of the University Faculty (not necessarily a member of the University Senate), appointed by the University Senate Council, shall serve as parliamentarian. The two (2) sergeants-at-arms, appointed by the University Senate Council, shall be members of the University Faculty and/or a staff employee. The University Senate shall hold regular monthly meetings during the academic year when classes are in session and, after adequate notice by its Secretary, special meetings on the call of the President or the University Senate Council or on the written request of ten (10) members.

Any University employee or student may attend a meeting of the University Senate as a visitor and request the privilege of the floor.

## C. University Senate Functions

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The University Senate is not assigned any management or administrative functions. The University Senate functions include the following:

1. Determine the broad academic policies of the University, including the similar academic policies that may be made necessary by governmental or accreditation agencies, and make rules to implement these policies.
2. Upon the recommendation of the University Senate, the Board of Trustees shall make the final University decision on the establishment or closure of degree-granting academic programs. Other

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<sup>1</sup> Members and officers of the University Senate Council shall remain voting members of the University Senate until the end of their terms on the University Senate Council. They shall not be counted as a part of the quota of the educational unit that they have represented nor of the membership of the University Senate after the expiration of their elected University Senate memberships.



decisions on the academic status and content of academic programs shall be made by the University Senate, pursuant to procedures contained in the *University Senate Rules*.<sup>2</sup>

3. Make final decisions for the University on curricula, courses, certificates and diplomas offered at the University..
4. Adopt policies for the University academic calendar and establish the annual calendar upon recommendation by the University Registrar.
5. Recommend to the President and Provost on the establishment, alteration, abolition, and reporting relationships of educational units in the University.
6. Advise the President or the President's designated officer on the planning for physical facilities, personnel and other resources when these may affect the attainment of educational objectives of the University.
7. Advise the President or the President's designated officer, through appropriate committees, on criteria, policies and procedures for performance review, appointments, reappointments, promotions, granting of tenure, and benefits to faculty in the University.
8. Determine the conditions for admission and for degrees, other than honorary degrees, in the University, pursuant to KRS 164.240.
9. Recommend to the Board of Trustees all candidates that have been approved for degrees in the University, pursuant to KRS 164.240.
10. Address the President or, through the President, the Board of Trustees, regarding any University matter.

## References and Related Materials

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K164.240, Degrees granted by trustees

University Senate Rules

## Revision History

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6/14/2005, 3/27/2012

For questions, contact: [Office of Legal Counsel](#)

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<sup>2</sup> Except when the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires final action by the Board of Trustees.