University Ethics Committee

Major Topics

Membership
Responsibilities
Meetings
Reporting

I. Introduction

In 2004, the Board of Trustees approved Governing Regulation GR I.D. “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct.” This regulation establishes the University Ethics Committee to interpret and issue opinions on matters concerning the “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct.” Opinions of the Ethics Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

II. Entities Affected

This regulation applies to University trustees, executive officers, faculty, staff, and other individuals employed by the University, those using University resources or facilities, and volunteers and representatives acting as agents of the University.

III. Membership

A. The Ethics Committee shall be comprised of seven members appointed by the President. The President shall appoint the Chair from the members. The Committee shall report to the President.

B. The Committee shall be composed as follows:

1. One attorney from the Office of Legal Counsel;
2. One member appointed from recommendations of the University Senate Council;
3. One member appointed from recommendations of the Staff Senate;
4. One member appointed from recommendations of the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration;
5. One member appointed from recommendations of the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs;

6. One member appointed from recommendations from the Provost;

7. One member appointed from recommendations from the Vice President for Research.

C. Members shall serve staggered appointments for six-year terms. Members may be reappointed for consecutive terms.

D. Members shall be regular full-time employees. Members recommended by the EVPFA, EVPHA, Provost, or VPR shall be employed in the area of responsibility of the respective recommending official.

IV. Responsibilities

The Ethics Committee shall:

A. Advise the President on matters concerning the “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct”;

B. Provide interpretation of the “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct”;

C. Issue official opinions concerning factual or advisory (hypothetical) situations concerning the “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct”. Opinions may take the form of binding opinions and/or advisory recommendations;

D. Recommend to the President revisions to the “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct”; and

E. Initiate publication and communication of the “Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct” to members of the University community.

V. Meetings

The members of the Ethics Committee shall meet as necessary as determined by the membership.

VI. Reports

A. At the request of the President, the Committee shall present a report on its activities.

B. Official opinions issued by the Ethics Committee are available to any member of the University community upon request.

VII. References

Governing Regulation: Part I – The University of Kentucky (Definition)

Revision History

This is a new regulation.

For questions, contact: Office of Legal Counsel