I. Introduction

The Board of Trustees has full legal authority and responsibility for the governance of the University. Through the Governing Regulations, the Board of Trustees has delegated to the President full authority and responsibility for all activities of the University, including but not limited to, the academic, research, health care, athletic, administrative, and financial operations. The President may delegate any of the President's assigned authorities or responsibilities to any faculty member or staff employee of the University and may utilize subordinate administrative officers as appropriate. All administrative officers, including but not limited to the Provost, executive vice presidents, vice presidents, deans, directors, and other subordinate officers, are subject to the supervision and direction of the President. (See Governing Regulation III)
This Administrative Regulation delineates the basic administrative organization of the University of Kentucky as determined by the President, identifies the positions that report directly to the President, and defines the duties and responsibilities of those positions.

II. Entities Affected

This regulation applies to all units of the University.

III. Policy

The President is the chief executive officer of the University and is responsible for all University activities and operations. The President is authorized to delegate to senior administrative officers the responsibility for major functional areas within the University. These senior administrators, who report directly to the President, comprise the President's Cabinet. The President's Cabinet members work closely with the President to provide executive-level leadership across major functional areas to fulfill the mission of the University. Within the authority delegated to the President by the Board of Trustees through the Governing Regulations, the President is authorized to build, organize, or modify as needed the President's Cabinet.

IV. The President's Cabinet

The President's Cabinet is comprised of the following senior administrators who report directly to the President:

A. Chief Accountability Officer and Audit Executive

   The Chief Accountability Officer and Audit Executive is the chief University administrator responsible for ensuring accountability and transparency in all facets of University operations. This senior administrator provides objective guidance to University leadership on the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls. The Chief Accountability Officer and Audit Executive works with University senior leadership to ensure the internal audit function for the University adds value, is transparent, and improves institutional operations.

B. Director of Athletics

   The Director of Athletics is the chief University administrator responsible for managing the intercollegiate athletics programs of the University and related functions. The Director of Athletics is responsible for intercollegiate athletics, financial management, and compliance with University, Southeastern Conference (SEC), and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules and regulations.

C. Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration

   The Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration (EVPFA) is the chief non-academic administrative officer and chief financial officer for the University. As such, the EVPFA is responsible for management, direction, control, coordination, planning and leading the financial and administrative functions of the University. The EVPFA directs the planning and development of the budget, provides administrative services, allocates fiscal and physical resources, and manages the elements of fiscal accountability necessary to accomplish the University’s strategic mission. Additionally, the EVPFA is responsible for the oversight and management of the human, physical, and administrative resources of the University according to the priorities established by the President.

D. Executive Vice President for Health Affairs

   The Executive Vice President for Health Affairs (EVPHA) is the chief administrative officer for the University’s healthcare enterprise. The EVPHA is responsible for the planning, development, and operations of the healthcare enterprise. The EVPHA works directly with, and in support of, other administrators in the
healthcare enterprise, deans of health care colleges, officers of the faculty practice plans, University senior administrators, and medical staff members.

E. General Counsel

The General Counsel is the chief legal advisor for the University. The General Counsel is responsible for providing comprehensive legal services to the University and its affiliated corporations, including the President, the Board of Trustees, all divisions and departments, and faculty, staff, and students who are acting for the University. Additionally, the General Counsel provides proactive strategic policy advice on issues confronting all University administrators. The General Counsel and professionals under the General Counsel’s direction provide legal services including: risk and liability evaluation and prevention, representation in all adversarial matters and proceedings, advice on the legal implications of proposed policies and actions, counsel on compliance with state and federal laws and University regulations, drafting or reviewing of University contracts, and coordination of the University’s real, personal, and intellectual property interests.

F. Provost

The Provost is the chief academic officer for the University. The Provost provides executive-level leadership, direction, and evaluation for all academic activities and faculty affairs of the University. The Provost is responsible for supporting and advancing academic programs, teaching, and scholarship at the University. The Provost is responsible for faculty employee functions, supervises maintenance of the official academic records of all faculty members, and has the authority to manage the employment (recruitment and appointment), promotion, tenure, termination, and leave approval for the faculty. The Provost reviews and recommends to the President and the Board of Trustees on faculty appointment, reappointment, and tenure matters.

G. Senior Advisor to the President

The Senior Advisor to the President provides counsel to the President on University strategy, operational and policy issues, and other items as requested by the President. This senior administrator serves as a strategic partner with the President and works with senior leadership to strengthen alignment with University priorities.

H. Vice President for Institutional Diversity

The Vice President for Institutional Diversity is the chief University administrator responsible for the creation, promotion, and optimization of the University’s diversity and inclusion goals to ensure a fair, equitable, and inclusive workplace. The Vice President for Institutional Diversity advises the President and senior administrators on the impact of academic, fiscal, and administrative policy decisions relating to diversity goals and leads efforts to fully integrate diversity and inclusion in every area of the campus community. The Vice President for Institutional Diversity is also charged with developing, implementing, and evaluating the University’s diversity plan in close collaboration with all relevant governance and administrative groups within the University.

I. Vice President for Land-grant Engagement

The Vice President for Land-grant Engagement is the chief University administrator responsible for advancing the University’s land-grant mission of teaching, research, and service to Kentucky. The Vice President for Land-grant Engagement is responsible for a broad range of relationships, programs, and initiatives that further the University’s public engagement mission locally, across Kentucky and the world. The role of Vice President for Land-grant Engagement is designed to further advance the land-grant mission throughout the University, fostering a cohesive and innovative outreach footprint that includes Cooperative Extension and other community-facing units.

J. Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement
The Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement is the chief University administrator responsible for the management, planning, stewardship, and coordination of all University philanthropy efforts and for fundraising services to the University. The Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement works closely with the President and senior administrators to identify and achieve overall fundraising priorities of the University. The Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement provides leadership for a modern, donor-centered program of philanthropy and outreach designed to yield high returns on investments in priority areas.

K. Vice President for Research

The Vice President for Research is the chief University administrator responsible for the advancement of the University’s research goals. The Vice President for Research provides leadership for the success of institutional research goals and research support cores, as well as support for individual researchers, research teams, and multidisciplinary centers and institutes. The Vice President for Research works with senior administrators to recruit, retain, and facilitate the success of a diverse cadre of researchers across the University. Additionally, the Vice President for Research is the institutional official responsible for University adherence to governmental regulations concerning research, for fiscal operations related to extramural grants and contracts, intellectual property management and licensing, and for the responsible conduct of research. The Vice President for Research also serves as the Executive Director for the University of Kentucky Research Foundation (UKRF).

L. Vice President for Student Success

The Vice President for Student Success is the chief University administrator responsible for advancing the student success goals of the University. The Vice President aligns student support programs, services, and policies designed to promote overall student success for the entire student population (undergraduate, graduate, professional, residential, online, and diverse populations). The Vice President for Student Success is responsible for the full range of the students’ co-curricular and extra-curricular experiences, recruitment, persistence and graduation, academic and student life service scaffolding, student affairs, and student wellbeing all via an inclusive and student-centered environment.

Organizational Chart

Office of the President

References and Related Materials

GR Part I - The University of Kentucky
GR Part II - Governance of the University of Kentucky
GR Part III - The President of the University

Revision History


For questions, contact: Office of Legal Counsel