UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Project Accelerate: More Responsiveness



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY UNIVERSITY

PROJECT ACCELERATE: MORE RESPONSIVENESS

Our process

Project Accelerate and More Responsiveness — guided by the UK-PURPOSE — focus the University's expansive capacity and commitment on accelerating efforts to advance Kentucky.



Governance structure

- The backbone of UK's governance was designed in 1917 when the state and the University were very different.
 - 719 students, 194 staff, 93 faculty
 - Total budget: \$225K
 - Colleges: 5
 - Lexington population: 40,000
 - Campus footprint: 65 acres and 20 buildings
- Features of the 1917 GRs and governing structure remain in effect.



As part of the 1917 commencement celebration, 315 graduates with flags cross Limestone Street.

University of Kentucky Special Collections



Governance structure

We are a larger, more impactful institution with a purpose that stretches across four missions — education, research, service and care and a promise that serves all 120 Kentucky counties.

- Today we encompass:
 - ~34,000 students, 26,000+ staff, 3,400+ faculty.
 - More than \$7 billion operating budget.
 - 16 degree-granting colleges, the Lewis Honors College, Graduate School and Libraries.
 - 900+ acres; more than 8.6 million square feet transformed into state-of-the-art facilities in the last 10+ years alone.



One of four commencement ceremonies to celebrate more than 4,000 graduates in May 2023.



Current shared governance model

The left side of our current structure is similar to other institutions; the right side is where we differ the most with the Board delegating educational policymaking authority to the University Senate and its executive branch.



University of Kentucky.

*GR IV.B: 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.

Proposed revised shared governance structure

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Final authority over all matters of the University including financial, educational and other policies.

GR III delegates administrative authority to President.

PRESIDENT

Chief executive officer of the University and has full authority and responsibility over the administration of the University.





Updating the Governing Regulations

Key Updates



New GR I and VI created and GR II-V updated.



Governance bodies' structures and authority updated.



GRs VII-XIV transition to ARs to better reflect operationalization.

GR I. Declaration of Principles

GR II. The Board of Trustees

GR III. The President

GR IV. The Faculty's Primary Responsibility for the Credit-Bearing Curriculum

GR V. Shared Governance Bodies

GR VI. The President's Council



Current GR I: The University of Kentucky (Definition)

- Summarizes statutory authority granted to the University of Kentucky by the Kentucky Legislature.
- Describes colleges and programs that constitute the institution.
- Establishes University's "Vision, Mission and Values" as adopted by the Board of Trustees.
- Establishes Board's policies on matters related to University such as diversity, shared governance and use of University property and resources.



New GR I: Declaration of Principles

- The Board has final authority over all aspects of the University.
- The Board delegates its administrative authority to the President.
- Shared governance is "a bedrock principle and value of the University."
- A commitment to academic freedom for the University community and delineation of what constitutes academic freedom are essential values.
- A commitment to exemplary ethical conduct is critical to the University.
- The Governing Regulations have supremacy over all rules and policies.



Current GR II: Governance of the University of Kentucky

Revised GR II: The Board of Trustees









Current GR IV: The University Senate

The **University Senate** makes final decisions for the University on curricula, courses, certificates and diplomas offered.

The **University Senate** is empowered to make final decisions on curricular issues including disputes between and among colleges.

Grants the University Senate the ability to determine **"broad academic policies of the University"** (e.g., the academic calendar).

Describes the **role of the University Senate**.

Title: The University Senate.







Current GRs

New GR V: Shared Governance Bodies





Current GR VI: The University Assembly

- Establishes the University Assembly.
- Membership includes all faculty members of the University, including emeritus faculty, all staff employees, including retired staff employees, and all students.
- Meets upon request of President or University Senate.



New GR VI: The President's Council

- Establishes the President's Council, a "strategic advisory body providing guidance and recommendation to the President on a wide range of high-level issues critical to the success of the University of Kentucky."
- During its first year, the four seats representing students, faculty and staff on the Councill will be held by:
 - Elected leader of each shared governance body.
 - Elected member of each shared governance body, chosen by the UK President from a list of five names submitted to the UK President from each shared governance body.
 - Student, staff and faculty member who is not an elected member of the shared governance bodies, chosen by the UK President from a list of five names submitted to the UK President from each shared governance body.
 - Student, staff and faculty member chosen by the President.
- Final composition of the President's Council will be considered as operational ARs are promulgated.
- All members of the council will serve one-year terms but can be re-appointed.



MORE RESPONSIVENESS: ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

Administrative Regulations

- ARs are how the University operationalizes the GRs.
- Subordinate to the GRs but superior to all other rules and processes.
- ARs should be specific but allow for interpretation and application.
- Next steps:
 - Transition GRs VII-XIV to new ARs.
 - Update to reflect the new university governance structure.



Governing Regulations VII – XIV

CURRENT GRs

GR VII: University Organization

GR VIII: University Appointments

GR IX: Reviews of Organizational Units and Their Administrative Officers

GR X: Regulations Affecting Employment

GR XI: Student Affairs

GR XII: University of Kentucky Development Council

GR XIII: University Regulations

GR XIV: Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct

CHANGES

Content moved to an AR.

Some content moved to new GR (e.g., new GRIII includes President appointment/evaluation) while the remaining content moved to an AR.

Content moved to an AR.

Content moved to an AR.

Some content moved to new GR (e.g., new GR V includes Student Government Association) while the remaining content moved to an AR.

Previously eliminated.

Content moved to an AR.

Some content moved to new GR (e.g., new GR I includes values and principles) while the remaining content moved to an AR.

