

ASACR 11

Office of the President
May 4, 2021

Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of the Center for the Environment, a multidisciplinary research center, effective July 1, 2021.

Background: As a land grant institution, the University of Kentucky (UK) was built on the premise that the environment is deeply connected to human health. The evidence of this relationship can be seen across every college and in the broad range of research programs across the university. The establishment of the UK Center for the Environment will support and expand environment research as well as create education and outreach opportunities. The Center will be a leader in addressing environmental challenges, particularly those that impact human health and well-being in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the nation and the world through innovative, transdisciplinary research and community partnerships.

The Center will report to the vice president for research (VPR) and will also have an Executive Committee and an External Advisory Board for oversight. The Center will not host credit-bearing academic programs but will provide education and outreach for the university and community in the form of symposia, workshops and seminars.

The Center's organization does not involve the transfer of personnel and will not impact faculty distributions of effort.

The proposal has been reviewed and recommended by the Senate Committee on Academic Organization and Structure and the Senate Council and is scheduled to be reviewed on May 3 for approval based upon its academic merits and endorsement of resources and placement of the Center by the University Senate. The vice president for research and the provost of the university support this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____