

Office of the President

September 15, 2023

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF THE DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Padraic J. Kenney as dean of the Graduate School, effective October 1, 2023.

Background: Dr. Kenney served as Associate Dean for Social and Historical Sciences and Graduate Education at Indiana University (IU) where he has an impressive background as an experienced administrator, educator and leader. His vision for the Graduate School aligns with the aspirational goals of UK's strategic plan and mission to advance Kentucky.

Dr. Kenney has served as an associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at IU since 2019. In this role, he had oversight of graduate degrees, students, departments and programs, developed and implemented a plan for \$2 million in new funds to improve graduate funding, reorganized the college's graduate office to promote recruitment and retention of graduate students from underrepresented groups, and created a mentoring program to pair newly-hired faculty with senior mentors outside their department.

Before serving as an associate dean at IU, Dr. Kenney was the chair of the Department of International Studies at IU. Between 2011 and 2020, he also served as director for the Polish Studies Center, the Russian and East European Institute, and the Collins Living-Learning Center.

Dr. Kenney received an atrium baccalaureus in Slavic languages and literature from Harvard College in 1985, a master's degree in history from the University of Toronto in 1986 and a doctoral degree in history from the University of Michigan in 1992.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other _____