

**[SNIPPET OF]
Minutes SREC April 8, 2015**

Present: Gail Brion, Roger Brown, Bob Grossman, Joan Mazur, Kaveh Tagavi, Connie Wood

The SREC discussed several matters referred it by the Senate Council. The recommendations and rationale are given below.

5. Non-educational Units Housing Courses and Programs

Recommendation: SREC recommends that SC charge a Senate Committee, e.g., Academic Organization and Structure, to recommend changes in academic college structures and/or the Governing Regulations in order to bring the University into compliance with SACS regulations.

SREC recommends that the following possibilities be considered:

- Formation of a cross-college University-wide undergraduate educational unit that is equivalent to a college
- Formation of an Honors College
- Change in GRs to reinstate the Dean of Undergraduate Studies as equivalent to a college dean for certain purposes
- If a cross-college University-wide undergraduate educational unit is established, what types of programs and courses should be housed in this entity? Who are the respective Faculty of Record?

Rationale: Recent proposals have sought to establish multi-disciplinary programs and courses which reach across college boundaries in administrative units that are not defined to be educational units by GR VII.A.1; e.g., Division of Undergraduate Education. In addition, Honors (equivalent to a department) that contains the Honors Program is housed at the Provost's Office which is not an educational unit, instead of being contained in a college as required by GR VII.B.7. In order to be in compliance with SACS, this long standing issue has to be addressed. A summary of the issues and the history of the organizational and regulatory changes pertinent to this issue is attached. See APPENDIX.

APPENDIX: Prepared by Davy Jones, Secretary SREC

1. The "Division of Undergraduate Education" is not an "educational unit" within the Board of Trustee's definition at GR VII.A.1.

2. Beginning in May 1970, the Board's GRs required that courses only be offered in the 'regular educational units' (i.e. departments, graduate centers, schools and colleges) with the exception courses of an Interdisciplinary Instructional Program (of which Honors has forever been the only example of a Board-approved educational unit that is an IIP = a department level).

3. The University does not at this time have a 'cross college' University-wide educational unit at the undergraduate level, that would correspond to the Graduate School (= a college) at the graduate level. Whether UK should currently have an equivalent 'college' at the University-level topic has been a long and fitful, stop-and-start academic conversation for many years at UK, decades actually.

4. At one time, e.g., early 1970s, the Board of Trustees did officially establish that the person in the (now equivalent of) Provost's office with the title "Dean of Undergraduate Studies" was the equivalent of dean of a college (including ex officio voting in the Senate along with other deans) for the purpose of that the department-level equivalent unit "Honors" (housing the "Honors Program") would report to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies and not report to the dean of a 'regular college.' Honors in fact used to have tenured faculty lines.

(see: http://www.uky.edu/~djones/Hayse_CasePDF.htm). This Board action did not create a "college" within the Provost's office (e.g., such a college is missing from the list of Board-created colleges in GR I.A.2, <http://www.uky.edu/regs/files/gr/gr1.pdf>)

5. The Board of Trustees later (I think in the early 1980s) amended its Gov. Regs to remove the provision establishing a "Dean of Undergraduate Studies" as equivalent to a college dean for certain purposes, but the Board has not acted to cause Honors to instead be homed inside a 'regular college'. I.e., Honors as an official educational unit (= department) has remained housed at the Provost (i.e., not in a college).

6. Unfortunately complicating the matter was that GR VII.B.7 continued to state (and still states) that IIPs 'report to the dean of a college.' Thus, there has remained a contradiction in the GRs, that Honors (the only Board-established educational unit IIP = a department) must report to the dean of a college, but the Board never created a college within the Provost's office and the Board abolished the regulatory equivalency between "Dean of Undergraduate Studies" and 'dean of a regular college.'

7. Further complicating was that beginning during when there existed "Dean of Undergraduate Studies" as equivalent for certain purposes to a college dean, the Senate began to approve (for content) certain courses under the proviso that the course would be housed in the Provost's Office under the "Dean of Undergraduate Studies" but outside of Honors (e.g., UK 101 type courses). This practice started a trajectory in which more and more educational content began to be approved by the Senate to be housed in the Provost's office, even though that office contained

no college educational unit.

8. During the ensuing decades, a title of “Dean of Undergraduate Studies” has by administrative action oscillated back and forth between not existing and existing.

9. In 2005, the Board amended GR VII.A.1 to remove the restriction that courses (and, obviously then, programs comprised of courses) could only be offered in 'regular educational units.' Therefore, after 2005, the only place codifying an expectation that courses/programs would be housed in "educational units" is the University Senate Rules. The Senate has approved exceptions to this (its own) Senate rule by its approval of content of courses (or programs made of courses) that are or continue to be housed at the Provost's Office (but not within Honors), i.e., the Senate has endorsed that these specific courses are not housed in an educational unit within a college. These educational activities might be administered by a particular suboffice of the Provost, e.g., Division of Undergraduate Education, that is headed by an individual who possesses titles, one of which is “Dean of Undergraduate Studies.” However, that administrative responsibility and that title does not convert that office into an “educational unit” absent Board of Trustees action.

10. The Senate has become particularly sensitive to the increasing amount of educational and academic activity occurring under the auspices of the Division of Undergraduate Education, especially when former Provost Riordan abolished the title “Dean of Undergraduate Studies” from the officer who heads the Division of Undergraduate Studies. In order that these educational/academic activities continue to be overseen by an individual who has at least the title of “Dean of Undergraduate Studies” (even though no Board-established college for that dean exists) the Senate Council acted on a recommendation of the SREC

(http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/files/Meetings/1_2013-2014/20140428/Dean%20of%20Undergraduate%20Studies%20Summary_TOSC.pdf)

to restore the title “Dean of Undergraduate Studies” to the officer who is the chief administrative officer for the Division of Undergraduate Education. (see item i at:

http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/senate_council/minutes/2013-2014/SC%20Minutes%20April%2028%202014_TOSC_rev.pdf). Provost Riordan then restored the existence of “Dean of Undergraduate Studies”, but, again, that administrative action does not create a “college” within the Provost's Office, because only the Board of Trustees can create that still-not-existing college.

I hope the above (somewhat lengthy) summary is of assistance. Please let me know if I can be of further help. I have consulted with the current SREC Chair on the above (Connie Wood), cc'd here and she concurs with my summary above.