

Processes for Review of Educational Units and Programs
University of Kentucky
Spring 2018

- I. *Administrative Regulation* (AR) 2:4.III.F implements the review and assessment of educational programs, which are defined as educational activities in the mission areas of instruction, research, or service that are created, coordinated, and offered by or under the supervision of the faculty of an educational unit (*Governing Regulations* (GR) I, VII).
- II. Educational programs in the area of instruction that combine courses and related activities toward certificates or diplomas, or toward bachelor's, master's, specialist, or doctoral degrees, require in certain cases the approval of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (GR IV). In the areas of research and service, examples of educational programs include postdoctoral studies by residents and clinical fellows (AR 5:4), studies by postdoctoral scholars and postdoctoral fellows (AR 5:1), continuing education, and a wide variety of community outreach programs (AR 3:8). (AR 2:4.III.F; *University Senate Rules* (SR) 9.2).
- III. Educational units and educational programs engage in periodic review with internal and external stakeholders, typically on a four to six year cycle. The University through the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness provides a schedule of these reviews.* The University Senate Council participates by nominating faculty who serve as members of these reviews. Units may elect to solicit membership from other universities, institutions, and professional organizations.
*http://www.uky.edu/ie/sites/www.uky.edu.ie/files/uploads/PIE_PR_Master%20Schedule_Educational_OFFICIAL%20PDF.pdf
- IV. The review of department-level educational units and educational programs typically coincides with the college-level review. The Provost appoints the chair of the college review committee and charges the members, again typically with some membership nominated by the University Senate Council.
- V. At the conclusion of the periodic college level review, the review report is presented to the Provost who responds to the recommendations of the review committee. Similarly, the department/graduate center/school level review report is presented to the Dean.
- VI. University Senate Academic Review Processes
 - A. Proposals on Educational Programs (GR IV.C1-C3)
 1. A proposal to **create, consolidate or close** a credit hour-bearing certificate, degree or other transcribed academic credential (e.g., Honor) will be reviewed by the Senate Academic Programs Committee (certificate, degree; SR 1.4.2.6; SR 3.2) or by the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (Honor, SR 1.4.2.2).
 2. A proposal to **transfer** or **significantly reduce** a credit hour-bearing certificate, degree or other transcribed academic credential will be tasked by the Senate Council to an appropriate committee/council, typically the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SR 1.4.2.8; SR 3.4.2.B.1).
 3. A proposal to **significantly increase** a credit hour-bearing certificate, degree or other transcribed academic credential may be assigned by the Senate Council to an appropriate committee/council (SR 3.2; SR 3.4.2.B.1).
 4. A proposal to **create, significantly reduce, or close** the noncredit hour-bearing educational program of a multidisciplinary research center/institute will be assigned by the Senate Council to an appropriate committee/council, typically the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SR 1.4.2.8; SR 3.4.3).
 5. A proposal to **create, significantly increase or reduce, or close** a noncredit hour-bearing educational program that is homed in an educational unit *other than* a multidisciplinary research center/institute is delegated by the University Senate to the homing educational unit

faculty for final action (SR 3.2, SR 3.3). The University Senate is authorized to review such a request from an educational unit administration or faculty, and to assign a Senate committee/council to review such issues (GR IV.C.10).

B. Proposals on Reporting, Infrastructure or Resources (GR IV.C.5-6)

1. A proposal to **create, consolidate, transfer, close or significantly reduce** an educational unit will be reviewed by the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SR 1.4.2.8; SR 3.4.2.B.1).
2. A proposal concerning issues of **infrastructure or resources** that may affect the attainment of educational objectives will be reviewed by a committee/council assigned by the Senate Council (SR 1.4.2.8; SR 3.4.2.B.1).

VII. University Senate Action

A. Proposals on Educational Programs (GR IV.C1-C3)

1. Upon receipt, through the Senate Council, of either the positive or negative recommendation of the Senate Academic Programs Committee to **establish or close a degree program, or to consolidate** two or more degree programs, the University Senate shall make the academic decision to either (a) disapprove and stop the proposal or (b) approve the proposal for submission, through the President, to the Board of Trustees for its final action (SR 3.4.2.C.1).
2. Upon receipt, through the Senate Council, of either the positive or negative recommendation any Senate committee/council on **any other matter of academic content or academic status** of an educational program, the University Senate or its delegated body shall make the final academic decision (SR 3.4.2.C.1; SR 3.4.3).

C. Proposals on Reporting, Infrastructure or Resources (GR IV.C.5-6)

1. Upon receipt, through the Senate Council, of either the positive or negative recommendation of the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee on a proposal to **create, consolidate, transfer, or close** an educational unit, or to change the **reporting** organization of a degree program, the University Senate shall make a recommendation to the Provost/President either endorsing or not endorsing the proposal (SR 3.4.2.C.2; SR 3.4.2.C.3). If the President submits a positive recommendation on the matter to the Board of Trustees for final University action, the President shall include the recommendation of the University Senate (SR 3.4.2.C.4; GR III.A.5).
2. Upon receipt, through the Senate Council, of either the positive or negative recommendation of the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee on a proposal to change the **reporting** of a certificate program or other transcribed academic credential other than a degree, the University Senate shall make a recommendation to the Provost either endorsing or not endorsing the proposal (SR 3.4.A.3). The Provost is authorized to take final action (SR 3.4.A.3).
3. Upon receipt, through the Senate Council, of either the positive or negative recommendation of the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee to **significantly reduce** an educational unit, the University Senate shall make a recommendation to the Provost/President (SR 3.4.A.4) either endorsing or not endorsing the proposal. The President may decide final action. If the President submits a recommendation on the matter to the Board of Trustees for its final action, the President shall include the recommendation of the University Senate (GR III.A.5).
4. Upon receipt, through the Senate Council, of the recommendation of an assigned Senate committee/council concerning issues of **infrastructure or resources** that may affect the attainment of educational objectives, the University Senate shall make a recommendation to the Provost/President (SR 3.4.A.4), who each may render final action. If the President submits a recommendation on the matter to the Board of Trustees for its final action, the President shall include the recommendation of the University Senate (GR III.A.5).