

## **Senate Rules and Elections Committee**

### **Item: Definition/Use in Senate Rules of “Faculty of Record”**

#### **Background:**

The Senate Council-approved forms that implement Senate proposal processes describe what is called a “Faculty of Record.” However, the source of Senate policy, the Senate Rules, do not define “Faculty of Record” nor use that term. It is preferable that the Senate forms reflect policy rather than create policy.

#### **Faculty of Record inside a college or the Graduate School**

- The default ‘educational policy faculty body’ for undergraduate or professional doctorate courses/programs is the body of tenured/tenure-track faculty of the educational unit appointed at/above the level of Assistant Professor (SR 3.1.3.3.1; SR 3.1.3.3.1.2).
- The default ‘educational policy faculty body’ for graduate courses/programs is the “graduate faculty” body appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School (SR 3.2.3.3.2.1).
- Each of the above “Faculty of Record,” can delegate its educational policy responsibilities in various ways ([here](#)).

#### **Faculty of Record for courses/programs that are broadly cross-college or are outside of colleges**

- The SREC also attended to circumstances in which a course/program might so broadly cross college lines that it is pedagogically necessary that the responsible “Faculty of Record” be composed of faculty from a number of participating colleges.
- The SREC further attended to the Senate policy intent for the “Faculty of Record” definition to encompass courses/program homed outside of a college (SR 1.4.1.1)

The SREC on April 6, 2023 unanimously approved recommending two paragraphs for incorporation into the Senate Rules, the first concerned with the situation inside colleges and the second concerned with courses/programs that broadly cross college lines or are homed outside of a college.

#### **SREC Recommendation:**

The SREC recommends these following definitional paragraphs for “Faculty of Record” be approved for incorporation into the Senate Rules,

The “faculty of record” of a program is the group of faculty that is authorized by the Senate to vote on whether to approve any proposed changes to the educational content of an educational program. (For the purposes of SR 3.1.3, an educational program may be a degree, certificate, badge, or an academic honor). For the purposes of SR 3.1.3, a faculty of record may delegate its responsibilities to a subcommittee of itself or to a committee under its jurisdiction.

By default, the faculty of record of a proposed educational program is coextensive with the faculty of a single department or other educational unit, or the faculty of record of an already existing educational program. In cases where a group of faculty from two or more educational units or graduate programs initiates a proposal for a new interdisciplinary academic program the proposal shall include a list of the faculty members who shall constitute the faculty of record of the proposed program and the process for changes to membership of the body. (See SR 3.1.3.2) Programs defined in this way are usually homed in an existing educational unit (department or college) for administrative purposes (admissions, program change approvals, prosecution of academic offenses, etc.). However, in those infrequent cases where a program or its courses are homed outside of a college, a Senate-approved faculty body shall serve as the faculty of record. (See <https://universitysenate.uky.edu/how-create-proposal-new-degree>).

Attached is how the SREC recommends the two paragraphs will be incorporated into the Senate Rules, and illustrates with several examples how “Faculty of Record” will be uniformly substituted in the SRs.

## Proposal to Define “Faculty of Record”

Proposed SR wording that would apply to all situations except rare case of interdisciplinary programs homed across two or more colleges

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### Section 3. Programs, Courses, and Curriculum Procedures

#### 3.1. PROGRAMS

##### 3.1.1 FACULTY OF RECORD

###### 3.1.1.1 DEFINITION

The University of Kentucky *Governing Regulations* (GR VII.E.1-5) and the *University Senate Rules* (SR 1.1.2.2) provide that every new or existing educational program must have associated with it a voting faculty body that is or will be responsible for the educational content of the program. This governing faculty body (referred to here for Senate purposes as “Faculty of Record”) may delegate or withdraw its status and responsibilities as the Faculty of Record to a subcommittee of itself or to a faculty committee under its jurisdiction. For the purposes of SR 3.1.3, an educational program may be a degree, certificate, badge or academic honor.

###### 3.1.1.2 MEMBERSHIP

If not otherwise delegated (SR 3.1.1.1) the Faculty of Record of an undergraduate or professional program consists of those faculty specified in GR VII.E.3-5 whose appointments as faculty employees are in the educational unit that administratively homes the program, such as a department or college. If not otherwise delegated, the Faculty of Record of a graduate program consists of the members of the University graduate faculty whom the Dean of the Graduate School has appointed to the specific graduate program.

In those infrequent cases where a program is expressly homed outside of a college, a Senate-approved faculty body shall serve as the Faculty of Record and a Provost-appointed officer shall serve as dean of the program. (See <https://universitysenate.uky.edu/how-create-proposal-new-degree>).

In those infrequent cases where a proposed undergraduate program (degree, minor, certificate, or badge) is interdisciplinary to the extent that it should be programmatically shared among two or more identified colleges, then the faculty body of the educational unit that will home the program may vote that the Faculty of Record of the proposed program shall be made up of a subset of its members and faculty from other colleges who have been asked and have agreed to contribute to the educational goals of the program. If the faculty body of the educational unit so votes, then the program proposal must identify by name the founding members of the Faculty of Record, including the founding director of the program (appointed by the Dean of the College containing the educational unit that homes the program), and describe the circumstances and mechanisms by which faculty may join or exit the Faculty of Record.

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###### **3.1.3.3.1 Approval by the ~~educational unit faculty~~ Faculty of Record**

[US: 5/7/2012]

The Faculty of Record (SR 3.1.1) makes the decision whether to approve proposals for new academic programs or changes to academic programs (including changes to the educational unit’s University Scholars program and to dual degree programs) (GR VII.E.1-5).

The proposal shall include identification of the educational unit/graduate program faculty serving as the Faculty of Record for the program, or its delegated Faculty of Record (see SR 3.1.1).

For programs homed outside of a college, the proposal for the new program shall include the Senate form proposing the composition of the body to act as an educational unit Faculty of Record.