



Dear Colleagues,

This is a special edition of the University Senate newsletter. This week, the University Senate Council received a petition from elected faculty senators to hold a special University Senate meeting on the topic of shared governance. As I ordinarily send these newsletters to make the campus aware of upcoming Senate meetings, I am now directing your attention to this meeting.

I often use this space to offer encouragement or to praise the value of true shared governance. I do this as the elected faculty leader of your elected faculty representatives in the University Senate. I am entrusted to speak for you, to express your thoughts, concerns, priorities, and values. When I speak in this role, it is not about my words and ideas, as an individual faculty member. It is my responsibility to speak in your collective voice, the voice of the Faculty of the University of Kentucky. This is a humbling responsibility, and it is a responsibility that I and all your elected faculty representatives take seriously.

One responsibility of a senator is to be prepared to represent their fellow faculty in Senate meetings, including this upcoming meeting. Please reach out to your senators (<https://www.uky.edu/universitysenate/senate-members>) and express your views of the current state of shared governance at UK and the role of faculty in institutional decision-making. When we share our views freely and authentically listen to each other, we truly acknowledge the value of the “diverse expertise collectively available to the University in its faculty, administration, staff employees, and students” (GR I.E).

The upcoming University Senate meeting is scheduled for 3:00 pm on Monday, April 26. The agenda and information for joining the meeting can be found at <https://www.uky.edu/universitysenate/senate/2021-04-26>. University Senate meetings are open

meetings, all are welcome, and any member of the University community can seek the privilege of the floor. The meeting will include a presentation by Senate Council Vice Chair DeShana Collett on actions taken by the Senate Council related to senior administration's announcement of a single finalist for the internal search for the Associate Provost of Graduate and Professional Education and Dean of the Graduate School, as well as the responses received from the President and Provost to the Faculty's concerns. There will also be a presentation from the senators who sought to hold this special meeting on the current shared governance situation at the University of Kentucky. The University Senate will consider a resolution affirming our institution's shared governance principles, with an opportunity for discussion and consideration of next steps. As always, I encourage you to join if your schedule allows.



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