



8 December 1997

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members University Senate

FROM: University Senate Council

RE: AGENDA ITEM: University Senate Meeting, Monday, December 8, 1997. 3:00 PM Consideration of COSFL Resolution

Background:

The following resolution was passed by unanimous vote at the November 15 meeting of the Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leaders (COSFL). COSFL has asked that this be forwarded to each Senate at public universities for adoption. Bills on post-tenure review have been prefiled for the 1998 session of the General Assembly. COSFL will be making contact with legislators concerning this issue.

RESOLUTION

The Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leaders of Kentucky (COSFL) unanimously endorses the following position on post tenure review:

WHEREAS

(a) the review processes currently in place at Kentucky's public universities are multiple in form including reviews of faculty performance after receiving tenure and

(b) most, if not all public higher education institutions in the State are already implementing or piloting various additional procedures for "post-tenure review" in the sense being suggested in proposed legislation and

(c) tenure as currently defined in the statutes is designed to protect academic freedom and not to protect incompetence, refusal to perform duties, or immoral behavior and

(d) efforts to adapt or enhance faculty review processes must recognize the varied missions of each institution (as outlined in the recently passed state higher education reforms)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership of Kentucky (COSFL) recommends that universities be given opportunity to assess their pre and post tenure review policies and, if necessary, further adapt faculty performance review and accountability processes to the specific mission of their institutions and the expectations of the higher education reform act. Since the universities have such varied missions, COSFL opposes passage of any new legislation imposing a single system of post tenure review on all public universities.

Passed with a unanimous vote on November 15, 1997

US Agenda Item: COSFL Resolution 12.8.97