

University Senate  
March 19, 2012

Recommendation from the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee on  
Proposed Changes to *Governing Regulations IV.C*

Background: There is a need to reword *Governing Regulations IV* so that closure of degree granting programs must go to the Board of Trustees for final action (per new SACS requirement).

[snippet from *GR IV.C*]

C. University Senate Functions

The University Senate is not assigned any management or administrative functions. The University Senate functions include the following:

1. Determine the broad academic policies of the University, including the similar academic policies that may be made necessary by governmental or accreditation agencies, and make rules to implement these policies.

**Current GR IV.C.2,3**

"2. Approve all new academic programs and make final academic decisions on recommendations to changes of these programs.

"3. Make final decisions for the University on curricula, courses, certificates and diplomas offered at the University and on the termination of academic programs."

**Proposed GR IV.C.2,3**

"2. Upon the recommendation of the University Senate, the Board of Trustees shall make the final University decision on the establishment or closure of degree-granting academic programs. Other decisions on the academic status and content of academic programs shall be made by the University Senate, pursuant to procedures contained in the University Senate Rules.\*

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\*Except when the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires final action by the Board of Trustees.

"3. Make final decisions for the University on curricula, courses, certificates and diplomas offered at the University.

**Recommendation from the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee: that the Senate endorse the proposed new wording for Governing Regulations IV.C.2 and Governing Regulations IV.C.3.**

## Brothers, Sheila C

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**From:** Jones, Davy  
**Sent:** Friday, March 16, 2012 4:59 PM  
**To:** Swanson, Hollie  
**Cc:** Grossman, Robert B; Pienkowski, David; Wood, Connie; Brion, Gail M; Blonder, Lee; Brothers, Sheila C  
**Subject:** RE: SREC endorsement of GR IV.C.2,3

Hollie,

The SREC members concur that the language worked out with the President, Provost, BoT and Faculty Trustees earlier this week move forward for the endorsement of the University Senate.

Davy

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**From:** Jones, Davy  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2012 2:14 PM  
**To:** Grossman, Robert B; Pienkowski, David; Wood, Connie; Blonder, Lee; Brion, Gail M; Hager, Jacquie  
**Subject:** SREC endorsement of GR IV.C.2,3

**SREC,**

**We've been asked by SC Chair Hollie Swanson to advise the Senate Council on whether the most currently proposed 'SACS update' to GR IV.C (below) accomplishes the required adjustment for the most recent SACS policy, without otherwise changing any of the Senate's other responsibilities for final academic decisions on academic programs. The new SACS policy is that closure of *degree-granting* academic programs requires the final approval of the BoT; this new SACS policy pairs with the ongoing CPE requirement that establishment of new *degree-granting* academic programs also requires final approval of the BoT. Note that the proposed new wording preserves the current Senate role, that proposals to establish or close *degree-granting* academic programs only reach the BoT upon the decision of the Senate to forward to it a recommendation (the language "upon the recommendation" is taken from KY state law where the recommended degree list, or the recommended candidates for honorary degrees, only reach the BoT upon the Senate's decision to so recommend). Notice also that in addition to accommodating the new SACS policy, there is a new footnote that causes any future additional changes in policy by SACS or CPE to be codified by adjustment of the Senate Rules, rather than having to amend the BoT Governing Regulations each time.**

**I am informed that the Provost, President, and BoT Academic Affairs Committee Chair all agree that the new wording accomplishes the accommodation to the recent new SACS policy, without otherwise changing any other existing responsibilities of the University Senate over academic programs.**

**Please let me know of your concurrence with the proposed wording below.**

**Davy**

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### **Proposed GR IV.C.2,3**

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