

Senate Council
June 17, 2016

Snippet from Senate Rules RE Senate Committees

1.4.1 STRUCTURE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE COMMITTEES [US: 2/13/89, US: 2/3/2003]

The University Senate may perform its functions directly, through the Senate Council or through either the Standing Committees or *ad hoc* committees of the Senate. The Senate may also establish Senate Advisory Committees and may delegate any of its authority or responsibility to the Graduate School or the faculties of Colleges, Schools, Departments, Centers and Institutes. (GR IV.B).

The University Senate shall have three types of committees: (1) standing committees of the Senate responsible only to that body; (2) advisory committees responsible in an advisory capacity to the President and/or other administrative officers and to the Senate; and (3) special committees (hereafter referred to as *ad hoc* committees). (GR IV.B)

The terms of office for faculty members of the standing shall be three years. Student appointments shall be for one year. All appointments shall be made by the Senate Council for terms beginning on August 16 and staggered to provide a one-third change in membership each year.

The number of members on each standing committee shall be determined by the Senate Council. Chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Council. The chair and at least one-half the members of the committees shall be elected Faculty Senators, except as otherwise specified.

Appointment to advisory committees shall be made by the Chair of the Senate (the President) after consultation with the Senate Council. After consultation with the Student Government Association and other appropriate student groups, the Senate Council may recommend to the President that students be appointed to an advisory committee of the Senate. Similarly, the Senate Council may consult with the elected Faculty Senators, or the *ex officio* Senators, concerning the membership of faculty employees or administrative staff employees to such advisory committees.

Appointments to fill committee vacancies shall be made in the same manner as appointments for regular terms. Membership on Senate committees shall continue until terms expire or successors are appointed. The chairs of Senate standing committees may appoint ad hoc committees and may select their members in consultation with the Chair of the Senate Council. Such a subcommittee must be chaired by a member of the parent committee.

Acting within their charges, Senate committees shall act and report to the Senate Council upon issues that bear on the functions of the Senate prior to their submission to the Senate. Unless otherwise specified, items for potential consideration by University Senate committees, which are suggested by other than the Senate or Senate Council, reach the respective committees through the office of the Senate Council. Prior to its own action on an issue, the Senate Council normally shall refer all issues to appropriate standing committees unless an issue arises that is clearly not within the jurisdiction of one of the committees, or unless an issue demands such immediate attention that the appropriate committee, in the view of its chair, would be unable to report on it in due time. If either of these two situations arise, the Senate Council may appoint an ad hoc committee to act and report on the issue. Standing committees of the Senate shall have the privilege of presenting reports to the Senate, subsequent to review by the Senate Council. If the Senate Council fails to present a committee report for action during three regular Senate meetings after it has been submitted to the Senate Council, the committee may bring its

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report directly to the floor for action by the Senate at any subsequent meeting, provided that the report has been appropriately circulated in advance.

In accordance with the Kentucky Open Meetings Law, Senate standing, ad hoc and advisory committees shall record minutes of actions taken at all meetings. These minutes shall be available not later than one week after the end of the next meeting (KRS 61.835). The committee chair shall be responsible for forwarding copies of the minutes to the Senate Council at the end of each academic year. These minutes may be in addition to or may substitute for the committee's annual report, at the discretion of the Senate Council. Committees that did not meet or conduct any business during the academic year shall forward to the Senate Council a report to that effect. [US: 2/3/2003]