



Resolution for Expanded Staff Representation in Shared Governance

April 24, 2024

WHEREAS, the Staff Senate serves as the official, elected representative body of the staff, “committed to supporting and advocating on behalf of each staff member in an unbiased, equitable, and inclusive way”; and

WHEREAS, the Staff Senate serves as a crucial vehicle to “foster a climate that promotes and empowers all University employees and students to participate in the decision-making process”; and

WHEREAS, staff are vital to the mission and strategic vision of the University as “we transform the lives of our students and advance the Commonwealth we serve — and beyond”; and

WHEREAS, shared governance, involving staff, students, faculty, and administrators, is foundational to the principles of the University; and

WHEREAS, the current Governing Regulation V fails to establish the Staff Senate’s formal voice in decisions regarding the governance of the University; and

WHEREAS, proposed updates to the University Governing and Administrative Regulations emphasize the need for increased formal engagement and consultation of the Staff Senate in matters impacting career progression, compensation, benefits, facilities, infrastructure, budget, HR policies, and other areas of primacy related to staff; and

WHEREAS, the President has actively engaged with the leadership and membership of the Staff Senate to solicit input on the current principles of shared governance;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate urges the University President and Board of Trustees to continue actively engaging with the Staff Senate as a representative body of staff members to ensure their perspectives are integrated into shared governance discussions and decisions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate endorses the principles to enhance the role of Staff Senate within the University's shared governance structure; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate supports the idea and further development of a President's Council that engages with elected representative bodies of shared governance, their leadership, and other University constituents as needed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate emphasizes the necessity of changes to regulations that guarantee the Staff Senate's proactive involvement in the development, implementation, and review of all matters affecting the University staff; and be it further



RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate reaffirms the importance of a shared governance structure that recognizes the elected representative bodies of staff, faculty, and students as crucial for facilitating well-informed decision-making within their respective domains of primacy; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate commits to a deepened involvement in the continual development and enhancement of a governance model, working collaboratively with administrators, faculty, and students, that promotes transparency, accountability, and inclusivity, and meets the needs of our community; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate strongly supports the president's commitment to equitable participation in shared governance and the importance of active staff involvement in these processes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Staff Senate supports the Board of Trustees' initiatives to ensure the University endeavors to enhance a fair and balanced structure of shared governance and remains adaptable and responsive to the needs of the University community and the Commonwealth; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the University of Kentucky President and Board of Trustees for their attention and support, and that it be shared with the University of Kentucky community.

Olivia Ellis

[Signature of the Staff Senate Chair]

April 24, 2024

[Date]