

From: Jones, Davy <djones@uky.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 6:50 PM

To: Kennedy, Michael D. <kennedy@uky.edu>

Subject: Summary of Historical Moments of UK “Faculty” in Relation to “Senate”

1880 – new state law (today’s KRS 164.240) establishes stand-alone A&M College, with “the faculty of the university” as a statutory body wherefrom the board can’t make final approval of conferral of ‘regular’ and ‘honorary’ degrees except “upon the recommendation” of the body “the faculty of the university.” For next 60 years literally this entire body (reaching ca. 300 by 1940s) voted its statutory “upon the recommendation.”

1917 – new President McVey (an AAUP-minded person) supported board to amend GRs to name “the faculty of the university” as “the Senate” when it was acting on statutory (KRS 164.240) matters and (from board delegation) on other academic matters, to connote specifically the policy “legislative” governance posture of this activity. The “Senate” included both ‘trench’ faculty and ‘administrative’ faculty (e.g. deans). First meeting is 1918.

1941 – a disgruntled dean who chafed at having to obtain Senate advisement on managerial initiatives cahooted behind acting President Cooper to the board’s power center (its Vice Chair), to in closed session abolish the Senate and replace it with an administrative council comprised of the deans and a ‘provost-like’ administrator (this body named, incredibly, “the University Faculty” so as to pretend not to violate the state law KRS 164.240).

1943 – New President Donovan, after his first year tells the board (1942) ‘this is not working.’ The following year recommends to the board to undo what it did in 1941. The Board redefines the body “the University Faculty” to now include (40-ish) elected faculty (in addition to retaining deans). States the authority is over “educational policy” (listing activities that we would call today credit-bearing or ‘Senate numbered’ courses and programs). A formula causes the 40-ish to increase in number as the number of university faculty employees increases.

1962 – “the University Faculty Council” (today’s Senate Council) is established

1963 – new President Oswald (who we owe so much) arrives; delegates his presiding at meetings to the chair of the “University Faculty Council” so that “it will be in the hands of a faculty member.”

1965 – at the request of the University Faculty, Oswald obtains board approval to rename “the University Faculty” back to the “University Senate” to restore connotation of ‘University -level legislative’ purview over academic policy. Board identifies “the official name of the university-wide faculty governing body [be] changed from the University Faculty to the University Senate.” Body still contains deans; one voting student (SGA President)

1968 – Oswald with University Senate initiates omnibus revision to GRs to codify at GR level, beyond Oswald, the legislative posture of the faculty bodies at the university-level (University Senate), college faculty, dept. faculty. A different political party wins governorship (at that time Governor was chair of the board, and appointed board members); Governor starts stacking board against Oswald (who had publicly defended any and all free speech on campus, riling some). Oswald leaves UK.

1968-1970 – the omnibus revision to the GRs continues along trajectory Oswald and University Senate had envisioned, through hands of President Kirwan and into hands of President Singletary. Omnibus GR revision approved by Board May 1970. Obtained close to a University-level faculty senate: 160 elected faculty; 5 voting students; administration all ex officio *nonvoting*. Senate is charged generally with “broad academic policy,” including specific listed activities. Revision to college/dept faculties also. The faculty bodies determine “educational policy,” which is newly reworded as the broad definition we have today (e.g. see GR VII.E.3, college faculties), to broadly include any educational policy that comes to need to be made in any of the three mission areas of **instruction**, **research** and **service**. E.g., the jurisdiction of dept. faculties was made (1970):

“insofar as these policies do not conflict with those of other departments or with the rules of the University

Senate ... It has primary responsibility for the development of policies on such matters as **academic requirements, courses of study, class schedules, graduate** and **research programs, and service functions.**”

1971 – student riots burned down the ROTC building the year before. Student leadership (remember, this is still 1960s heyday) agitates for “student sovereignty” and for many more voting students into the newly reorganized University-level (almost Faculty) Senate. Students obtain GRs change so that the students have 25 seats to the faculty’s 160.

1972 – now that the student voting numbers have become much increased, the administrative ex officio (deans et al.) ‘want in’ to, and obtain by GRs change a now voting status. Thus, what had been “University” to mean ‘University-level *faculty body*’ becomes changed to connote ‘University community Senate.’

1982 – to make Senate meetings more manageable, the 160 faculty senator numbers are cut in half; students retain a voting senator from each college (lose several at large senators); half of deans rotate voting status each year.

1998 – Community college system leaves UK but BCTC becomes part of UK, so by proportion add 14 additional faculty senators from BCTC; one BCTC voting student senator and BCTC president are added to Senate.

2005 – Under President Todd and Provost Nietzel, omnibus revision to GRs to ‘Provostize’ what had been since 1982 a Chancellor system of GRs. Support board GR changes to:

-adopt the ‘shared governance’ definition we still have at this time.

-specifically identify the elected faculty senators as being representative of the statutory “the faculty of the university” (KRS 164.240), and hence only the elected

faculty senators vote on the statutory degree list/honorary degrees (students do not vote to approve their own degrees).

-Senate retains the 94 faculty seats, even though BCTC has separated from UK

2012 – Just as new President Capilouto has arrived, more GR revision (relating to SACS review at the time) is being approved to GR IV.C.1-2: becomes that only new degrees or closure of degrees reach the Board. All other decisions on ‘academic status and academic content’ of “programs” are (by Board delegation) made by Senate.