

PR 4

Office of the President
October 10, 2006

Members, Board of Trustees:

ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve (a) the creation of the position Vice President for Research in place of the position of Executive Vice President for Research; (b) the establishment of an Office of Economic Development; and (c) the establishment of the position Vice President for Institutional Diversity, effective November 1, 2006.

(a) VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Background: Establishing a Provost model that encompassed every college, including those in the Medical Center, was a significant organizational change for the University of Kentucky (UK). Since the provost structure has had time to mature, it is time to make other organizational changes. With the solid foundation now established, further organizational changes designed to bring greater focus to UK's Top 20 goals are being proposed. Based on consultation with deans, Senate Council chair, and others, it is proposed that the research operations be incorporated into the Provost model. Specifically, the creation of the position of Vice President for Research with a direct reporting line to the Provost is proposed in place of the current position of Executive Vice President for Research. This new structure is a design established at many of UK's benchmark institutions, and it will facilitate the alignment of research priorities across the entire academic enterprise. Upon approval by the Board, a national search would be launched to fill this position. No major changes in the research administration portion of the organization are planned. The exception will be the areas of economic development, ASTeCC, and intellectual property, where an organizational change is proposed (see below).

(b) OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Background: As a part of UK's Top 20 Plan, the university has dedicated itself to improving Kentuckians' educational, health, and economic achievements. The university has multiple assets that contribute directly to the Commonwealth's economic development, but they are dispersed organizationally, not well coordinated, and not easily accessible to outside organizations. While UK has done remarkably well in recent years in taking research results to the market place, there is a great deal more that needs to be done in this regard, especially in light of the considerable growth in research

contemplated in the Top 20 Business Plan. The Office of Economic Development, reporting to the President, will serve as a portal for technology transfer based on university research and as a portal for accessing UK assets by business and government organizations. All university entities with technology transfer, business creation and incubation, and economic development functions will be coordinated and strengthened through this reorganization.

(c) VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY

Background: The Provisional Strategic Plan for 2006-2009 presented to the Board of Trustees in June 2006 (and currently submitted for adoption in final form) calls for a reexamination of the administrative offices principally responsible for implementation of the university's diversity goals. Having concluded that the centrality of diversity at the University of Kentucky should be reflected in UK's administrative structure, the Task Force on Racial Equality and Diversity has endorsed a plan to create a more senior-level administrative position. The Office of the Vice President for Institutional Diversity will be the focal point in the Provost's Office for the establishment of a climate which nurtures and sustains diversity in all spheres of the university. The Vice President for Institutional Diversity will be the senior administrative officer responsible for promoting collaboration across faculty, staff, administration, and students in earnest pursuit of the university's diversity goals. In particular, the Vice President for Institutional Diversity will be charged with the development, implementation, and evaluation of the university's diversity plan, in close collaboration with all relevant governance and administrative groups. The current position of Associate Provost for Multicultural Affairs will be eliminated after the position of Vice President for Institutional Diversity is filled.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____