

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 31, 1974

Dr. Lewis W. Cochran  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
111 Administration Building  
University of Kentucky

Dear Dr. Cochran:

This is in response to your letter of October 30 dealing with questions about and an interpretation of the meaning or intent of the following statement which was added recently to our Administrative Regulations: "The dean, after consultation with the appropriate faculty body of the college, shall establish an advisory committee concerned with faculty appointment, termination, promotion and tenure."

The essence of the addition of the statement, which is related to a recommendation from the University Senate, is to make the establishment of such an advisory committee mandatory rather than optional.

It is our intention that "termination" pertains to "genuine termination" in your words, i.e., termination for cause. Also, "appointment" may be interpreted as applying to all types of appointments (e.g., the five types of appointment listed on the forthcoming new appointment form, including non-renewal or terminal appointment).

With respect to a non-renewal or terminal appointment, the correct procedure has been, and will continue to be, that tenured faculty members provide opinions or judgments through consultation, the chairman of the department recommends, and the dean of the college (after consultation with the appropriate academic vice president) makes the decision. This differs significantly with the description provided in the second sentence of the second paragraph of your letter.

It is visualized that both the composition and the charge to such an advisory committee will vary considerably from college to college in the University System. The dean has not only flexibility but also control in the determination of composition, appointment of members, and definition of charge for the committee. Such a committee may be charged to advise the dean, as requested, on individual cases and/or policies and procedures and/or any other appropriate matter such as promotion criteria or standards.

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In summary, proper application of this change in the Administrative Regulations requires the establishment of an advisory committee of the type described in the first paragraph. It is expected that a dean will reasonably involve such a committee by requesting its advice pertinent to selective cases or situations concerning appointment, termination, promotion, and granting of tenure.

Sincerely,

  
Otis A. Singletary