Upon the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Committee shall report to the President of the University of Kentucky for University System faculty or the President of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System for Community College faculty that adequate cause for dismissal has or has not been established by the evidence in the record. It may, in addition, recommend that, although adequate cause for dismissal has been established, an academic penalty less than dismissal would be more appropriate, giving supporting reasons for the recommendation. If the President of the University of Kentucky for University System faculty or the President of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System for Community College faculty rejects the report, the President shall provide reasons in writing to the Hearing Committee and to the faculty member and provide an opportunity for response before transmitting the case to the Board of Trustees.

A decision adverse to the faculty member may be made only after an opportunity has been given for an additional hearing before the Board of Trustees as required by KRS 164.230. The Board shall either sustain the recommendations of the Hearing Committee and the President or return the proceedings to the President and the committee with specific objections. The Hearing Committee then shall reconsider, taking into account the stated objections and receiving new evidence if necessary. The Board of Trustees shall make the final decision after a study of the Hearing Committee's reconsideration.

c. Suspension

Until the final decision on termination of an appointment has been reached, the faculty member shall be suspended, or assigned to other duties in lieu of suspension, only if immediate harm to the faculty member or others is threatened by the faculty member's continuance. Before suspending a faculty member, pending an ultimate determination of the individual's status through the hearing procedure, the President shall consult with the Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure of the University Senate or the Senate of the Community College System. Salary shall be continued during the period of suspension.

6. Academic Freedom of Non-Tenured Faculty

If faculty members on non-tenured appointments or faculty members on post-retirement appointments allege that decisions not to reappoint them were caused by considerations violative of academic freedom, or that they were given less advance notice than specified in these regulations, they must present their allegations in writing to the Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure of the University Senate or the Senate of the Community College System within 60 days after being notified in writing by their respective deans or presidents of colleges of the decisions not to reappoint. Allegations so presented shall be given preliminary consideration by the appropriate Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure, which shall attempt to settle the matter by informal methods. The faculty members' allegations shall be accompanied by statements that they agree to the presentation, for the consideration of the committee, of such reasons and evidence as the University may allege in support of its decisions. If the difficulty is unresolved at this stage and if the committee so recommends, the procedures

set forth in 5-b shall be applied, except that the faculty members making the complaints are responsible for stating the grounds upon which they base their allegations, and the burden of proof shall rest upon them. If prima facie cases are established via these procedures in favor of the faculty members, it becomes incumbent upon the persons who made the decisions not to reappoint to present evidence in support of those decisions.

7. Resignation

Notice of resignation should be given early enough to obviate serious inconvenience to the University. If faculty members desire to terminate existing appointments or to decline renewals in the absence of notices of non-renewal, they shall give written notice of no less than three months if their rank is instructor or assistant professor, and no less than four months if their rank is higher, before the end of their duties during the academic year (exclusive of a summer session) or thirty days after receiving notification of the terms of their appointments for the coming year, whichever date occurs later. However, they may properly request a waiver of this requirement in cases of hardship or in situations where they would otherwise be denied substantial professional advancement.

8. Administrative Personnel

Administrative personnel who hold academic rank are subject to the foregoing regulations in their capacity as faculty members. Administrators who allege that considerations violative of academic freedom significantly contributed to decisions to terminate their appointments to administrative posts or not to reappoint them shall be entitled to the same procedures as those for non-tenured faculty who have alleged violation of academic freedom.

9. Graduate Student Academic Staff

In no case shall an appointment of a graduate or teaching assistant be terminated before the end of the period of appointment without the individual's being provided with an opportunity to be heard before the University Senate Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure.

A graduate or teaching assistant, who has established a prima facie case to the satisfaction of the committee that a consideration violative of academic freedom significantly contributed to the individual's non-reappointment, shall be given a statement of reasons by those responsible for the non-reappointment and an opportunity to be heard by a University Senate Hearing Committee (Privilege and Tenure).

10. Opportunities for Hearings

In no case shall a member of an academic staff, who is not otherwise protected by the preceding regulations which relate to dismissal proceedings, be dismissed (termination before the end of a period of appointment) without having been provided with a statement of reasons and an opportunity to be heard before the Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure of the University Senate or the Senate of the Community College System.