

Senate Council

Monday, November 29, 2021

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, November 29, 2021, in 103 Main Building, although a video conference link was also available. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Senate Council Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:00 PM. The Chair welcomed those present. He informed everyone that the session was being recorded for notetaking purposes and noted that it was an open meeting. He asked that all attendees, online and in person, state their name and affiliation prior to speaking, to ensure everyone knew who was speaking.

1. Minutes from November 15 and Announcements

The Chair reported that there were no changes to the minutes from November 15. There being **no objections**, the minutes from November 15 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair made announcements to SC members about the following items:

- The message from the Chair and the Provost was distributed last week
- The Chair had begun advising on spring COVID-related distance learning (DL) requests and welcomed questions from SC members
- The Chair congratulated Chair-elect DeShana Collett and offered his sincerest gratitude
- The Vice Chair election was scheduled for next week; the Chair encouraged the two willing candidates and any others interested to share their thoughts over the SC listserv
- The March 2021 Senate meeting was currently scheduled for the Monday of Spring break; the Chair asked if SC members were willing to reschedule the Senate meeting to the following week and there were **no objections**
- The Chair approved a one-time temporary DL approval for MSE 402G for Spring 2022 due to instructor unavailability and noted that this would also be reported to the Senate
- Possible topics for UK's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) were being disseminated across campus

The Chair invited Katherine McCormick (acting associate provost for planning and assessment and associate vice president for student excellence and engagement) to comment about the QEP topics. McCormick informed SC members about the responses received thus far and welcomed further feedback. She explained the five innovative topics that were disseminated: transdisciplinary educational approaches, data-informed decisions, entrepreneurship and innovation, access and equity, and holistic wellness. McCormick noted that one topic would be chosen as a point of focus for the QEP. McCormick informed SC members that the next Executive Leadership Committee meeting for the QEP would be held on December 8th. As a member of that committee, the Chair let SC members know he welcomed input from SC members that he could carry forward.

2. Committee Reports

The Chair informed SC members the suspension and closure actions on the agenda were significant reductions of academic programs and would ordinarily require an open hearing, per *Senate Rules (SR) 3.3.2.2.2*. The programs being considered for closure have not had students enrolled in them for years. The Chair noted the committees recommend waiving *SR 3.3.2.2.2*. He said that barring any objections, he would suggest (at the Senate meeting when the items are discussed) that the Senate waive the requirement for a hearing.

a. Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) – Michelle Sizemore, Chair
The Chair introduced Michelle Sizemore (SAASC chair) to provide a committee report. The Chair reminded SC members that while suspensions and closures of programs had been recently tasked to SAOSC, one or two such proposals were submitted to the Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) prior to shifting which committee reviewed such proposals.

i. Proposed Suspension and Closure of Graduate Certificate in Cognitive Science

Sizemore informed SC members that no students had been enrolled in the Graduate Certificate in Cognitive Science since 2012, noting that only one student had graduated within the last eight years with the certificate. She said the proposal was straightforward and had not required much discussion from the committee. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none. The **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the SC approve the proposed suspension and closure presented by the SAASC. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and none abstained.

ii. Proposed Change to DNP Nursing

Sizemore explained the proposed change to DNP Nursing, noting the committee agreed with the proposal's rationale to use a broad range of factors to gauge academic readiness. The Chair asked if there were any questions. The **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the SC approve the proposed change presented by the SAASC. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

b. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) – Gregg Hall, Chair
The Chair introduced Gregg Hall (SAOSC chair) to present a committee report.

i. Change to Center for Interprofessional Health Education (CIHE) from MDRC to an Administrative Center

Hall explained to SC members the change to CIHE from a multidisciplinary research center (MDRC) to an administrative center. Hall informed SC members the committee's recommendation was for the Senate to approve the proposal to close the CIHE on the academic program merits and endorse the closure on the organizational structure merits. The **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the SC approve the committee's recommendation to approve the closure proposal based on the academic program merits and endorse the closure on the organizational structure merits. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

ii. Proposed Suspension and Closure of MA Elementary Education

iii. Proposed Suspension and Closure of MS Middle School Education

iv. Proposed Suspension and Closure of MAEDU School Psychometrist and School Psychologist

The Chair noted that the last three items from the committee were all proposed suspensions and closures of degree programs. He asked if SC members would consider the items together and there were **no objections**. Hall explained the proposed suspensions and closures to SC members. Hall noted that courses from the MA in Elementary Education and MS in Middle School Education programs were still active and used in other programs, but neither program had students enrolled in a decade. Hall informed SC members that the MAEDU in School Psychometrist and School Psychologist had been consolidated with the MSEDU program and that no students had been enrolled since 1993. The Chair informed SC members that Margaret Rintamaa and Ken Tyler were attending to represent the College of Education (ED). The Chair explained that the **motion** on the floor was

a recommendation that the SC approve the three proposed suspensions and closures presented by the SAOSC to be transmitted to the Senate for approval. The Chair asked if there were any questions. Grossman asked about what programs were currently in place to fulfill the need for elementary and middle school education. Rintamaa explained the college offered other programs to provide advanced certificate options. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and none abstained.

The Chair noted that it would be beneficial to ask the SAOSC to deliberate on sensible resolutions for open hearings pertaining to similar proposals. One possibility discussed within the office was to more broadly announce notices of suspension and closure by emailing such information to college curricular contacts and senators, in lieu of requiring a hearing.

3. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair welcomed items from the floor.

Grossman explained an email he sent to SC members about efforts by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) to ensure universities were offering broad skills applicable to the workforce. He noted that all universities and four community colleges in Kentucky were participating. He described the University's representation in the effort and expressed a concern that there was not a faculty representation from the University; the individuals serving as UK's representatives were a senior associate provost, a vice president, and an associate dean. Kathryn Cardarelli (senior associate provost for administration and academic affairs) offered information to SC members about the initiative, noting that she was one of the members. She explained the CPE created a three-year initiative called the Kentucky Graduate Academy (KGA), noting that all higher education institutes in the state of Kentucky were asked to participate. Cardarelli informed SC members there had been one meeting thus far and they were still learning more about the initiative. Cardarelli mentioned she was happy to share feedback with SC members and welcomed feedback from SC members. Hawse noted that he, along with student presidents from other institutions were excited about the initiative and asked about student representation. Cardarelli explained the KGA specifically requested institutions to identify three individuals including an administrator, staff, and faculty. Duncan asked if student representation could be added and Cardarelli offered to provide that feedback to the KGA. Oltmann commented that updates on the initiative would be beneficial and asked about SC and Senate involvement in the initiative. A brief discussion took place.

There was a brief discussion about the QEP.

Collett asked for an update about the mask requirement waiver that had been extended to the College of Fine Arts (FA). The Chair informed SC members that he spoke with the Provost about lack of clarity in what was being permitted. SC members participated in a robust discussion about the matter. SC members were supportive of more detailed guidance on masking (covering nose and mouth) and reiterating to campus that the mask mandate was still in effect.

Noting Cardarelli's comments about a revised COVID Playbook for Spring 2022, Vincent asked if the small SC group who participated in reviewing that document previously (Vincent, Oltmann, and Collett) would be reconvened. Cardarelli said she would check on that issue.

Hawse reminded SC members of student grants made available by the Student Government Association (SGA). He noted that he would send more information over the SC listserv. The Chair said he could put the information into his newsletter, too.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Cramer,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Blonder, Cantrell, Charnigo, Collett, Cramer, DeCorte, Duncan, Grossman, Hall, Hawse, Oltmann, Swanson, VanGilder, Vincent

Invited guests present: Ruth Beattie, Sheila Brothers, Debra Hampton, Janie Heath, Katherine McCormick, Em Neiport, Margaret Rintamaa, Michelle Sizemore, Ken Tyler

Prepared by Katie Silver on Thursday, December 2, 2021