

# University Senate

Monday, April 11, 2022

The University Senate met in regular session at 3:00 pm on Monday, April 11, 2022, via video conference. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken using electronically using Poll Everywhere unless otherwise specified. Specific voting information can be requested from the Office of the Senate Council (SC).

Senate Council Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) called the University Senate (Senate) meeting to order at 3:00 pm. He welcomed those present and informed them that attendance would be captured via a Zoom report. The Chair asked senators to mute themselves when not speaking. He suggested that senators turn their cameras on when speaking if possible and noted that if someone was attending via phone, using the speakerphone made it hard for others to hear them. The session was being recorded for notetaking purposes.

The Chair reminded senators that Senate follows Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised and asked that senators be civil and good citizens. He also asked everyone to participate in the meetings and share information with colleagues in their home units. The Chair provided guidance on how to participate in the discussion and how to vote using the voting software from Poll Everywhere.

The Chair reminded senators to state their name and college affiliation before speaking.

## 1. Minutes from March 21 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits were received for the minutes from March 21, 2022. There being **no objections**, the minutes from March 21, 2022, were **approved as distributed by unanimous consent**.

The Chair informed Senate members that a graduate certificate proposal was removed from the agenda at the request of the proposer and noted the proposal would come to the Senate in May.

The Chair announced that SGA President-elect Andrew Laws attended the last SC meeting and commented that SC looked forward to working with Laws and other 2022-23 student members of SC.

The Chair recalled a previous discussion regarding the facilities survey and the location of the Disability Resources Center (DRC) office. The Chair clarified that the DRC had locations in both the Multidisciplinary Science Building on Rose Street and a location in the Gatton Student Center.

The Chair informed Senate members that the SC office regularly transmitted notices of newly proposed programs to curricular contacts across the colleges. The Chair noted that the SC office would begin including senators as recipients of such communications.

The Chair asked Brown (AG), chair of the Elections Subcommittee, to provide an update to Senate members regarding the faculty trustee election update, noting that voting in the preliminary round ended at noon. Brown announced the three candidates moving forward: Hubie Ballard (ME), Aaron Cramer (EN), and Candice Hargons (ED). Brown informed Senate members the final round voting would begin Wednesday, April 20.

The Chair reminded Senate members of curricular proposal deadlines for 2021-22 for proposals seeking a Fall 2022 effective date.

## 2. Officer Reports

### a. Chair

The Chair noted that the *Senate Rules (SRs)* give the Chair and SC authority to take some actions on behalf of Senate as long as they are reported to Senate.

The Chair informed Senate members that the SC previously approved amendments to the College of Law 2022-23 calendar. The Chair explained the initial action moved the first day of classes by one day. The Chair announced that SC further approved a change to move the last day for a full refund by one day to maintain the relationship between the two dates.

#### b. Vice Chair

SC Chair-elect and Vice Chair DeShana Collett (HS) informed Senate members that information to solicit nominations for the Outstanding Senator Award (OSA) had been distributed via email to Senate members. Collett reminded Senate members that the deadline to receive letters of support for nominations was April 22, 2022.

Collett announced that all full-time faculty members of the University should have received an email from REDCap with a link to participate in the Faculty Evaluation of the President survey. Collett noted there was also a link included in the email to the University Senate webpage for previous survey results as well as a copy of the current survey questions. Collett encouraged Senate members to complete the survey, noting that the results would be reviewed by the President and the Board of Trustees. The Chair asked Senate members to encourage participation among colleagues, noting it would help Chair-elect Collett have had a strong response from faculty when presenting the results to the Board of Trustees.

#### c. Parliamentarian

Parliamentarian Clayton Thyne informed Senate members that he did not have a report. Thyne noted that some hands had been raised previously in the meeting. Noting that it was sometimes hard for the Chair to notice those hands, Thyne suggested Senate members to interrupt if they were not called upon before the body moves to the next agenda item.

Lauren Cagle (AS) commented that her hand had been raised previously and asked the Chair if more information could be sent about the aforementioned “early notice” emails that would be distributed to Senate members about upcoming program and curricular proposals. The Chair clarified that these emails would be distributed to Senate members before proposals were submitted to Curriculog to enable early conflict resolution and interaction with proposers for those interested in upcoming proposers.

#### d. Trustees

The Chair noted that faculty trustees Lee Blonder and Hollie Swanson indicated they did not have a report today. The Chair added that the Board of Trustees meeting was scheduled for later this month.

### 3. University Appeals Board 2020-21 Annual Report - Joe Fink, Chair

The Chair invited University Appeals Board (UAB) Chair Joe Fink to provide an annual report of the UAB’s 2020-21 activities to Senate members. Fink provided a detailed report to Senate members in which he explained the UAB’s jurisdiction, the type of cases received, and continuing challenges faced by the UAB. Fink asked Senate members if there were any questions and responded to questions about the process, how the process was communicated to students, and types of cases received by the UAB. The Chair thanked Fink for his leadership in the UAB.

### 4. Committee Reports

#### a. Senate’s Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) - Leslie Vincent, Chair

The Chair invited SAPC Chair Leslie Vincent to provide a committee report to Senate members.

##### *i. Proposed New MS Heritage Resources Administration*

Vincent explained the proposed new MS in Heritage Resources Administration. The Chair asked if there were any questions of fact. Ken Troske (BE) ask if studies had been conducted to measure increases in

enrollment due to new programs, noting concern that adding programs without increases in enrollment could dilute current program offerings. The Chair noted that there were efforts made at the state level by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) as a part of program consideration. The Chair informed Senate members that it would be discussed by SC. Proposer Douglas Appler (DS) noted the courses involved in the proposed new MS in Heritage Resources Administration were currently being taught. The Chair stated the **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MS Heritage Resources Administration (Department of Historic Preservation within College of Design) and approve it for online delivery. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair asked if there was any debate. Tad Mutersbaugh (AS) noted concern regarding use of the term “heritage.” A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with one opposed and three abstained.

*ii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics*

Vincent explained the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics. The Chair asked if there were any questions of fact. Eric Blalock (ME) asked if ethical issues regarding the use of quantitative data would be covered in the new graduate certificate. The proposer, Dan Stone (BE), thanked Blalock for the question and replied that such material was built into the curriculum. The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics, in the Gatton College of Business and Economics. 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 four abstained.

*iii. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Explorations in STEM Education*

Vincent explained the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Explorations in STEM Education. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the establishment of a new Undergraduate Certificate in Explorations in STEM Education, in the Department of STEM Education within the College of Education. 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 three abstained.

*iv. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Child Life*

Vincent explained the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Child Life. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the establishment of a new Undergraduate Certificate in Child Life, in the Department of Family Sciences within the College of Ag, Food, and Environment. 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 two abstained.

*v. Proposed Change to MSNFS Nutrition and Food Systems*

Vincent explained the proposed change to the MSNFS Nutrition and Food Systems. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the significant change to the MSNFS Nutrition and Food Systems. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair asked if there was any debate but there was none. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

*vi. Proposed Change to MS Research Methods in Education*

Vincent explained the proposed change to the MS in Research Methods in Education. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the significant change to the MS Research Methods in Education. 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.

*vii. Proposed Change to BA/BS Journalism*

Vincent explained the proposed change to the BA/BS in Journalism. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the significant change to the BA/BS Journalism. 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 two abstained.

The Chair thanked Vincent and the SAPC for their work.

**b. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) - Gregg Hall, Chair**

The Chair invited SAOSC Chair Gregg Hall to provide a committee report.

*i. Proposed Suspension of Admissions for Executive MBA*

Hall explained the proposed suspension of admissions for the Executive MBA. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the proposed suspension of admissions for the Executive MBA. 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 two abstained.

*ii. Proposed Reorganization of the School of Human Environmental Sciences (within the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment)*

The Chair explained the proposed reorganization of the School of Human Environmental Sciences within the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. The Chair informed Senate members that SC recommended for Senate to endorse the proposal, noting the complex nature of the proposal. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to endorse the transfer of Departments of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, Family Sciences, and Retailing and Tourism Management from the School of Human Environmental Sciences (HES) to the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and the move of two graduate certificates (Family and Consumer Sciences and Positive Youth Development) from the College to HES. 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 one opposed and twelve abstained.

c. Senate's Retroactive Withdrawal Appeals Committee (SRWAC) - Amy Spriggs, Chair

i. 2020-21 Annual Report

The Chair invited SRWAC Chair Amy Spriggs to provide an annual report of the committee's 2020-21 activity. The Chair noted that the current 2021-22 year was the first year Spriggs was serving as SRWAC Chair. Spriggs presented the report to SC members and provided updates on the committee's current activities. Spriggs noted the number of appeals received in the 2021-22 year related to COVID, as well as appeals received by the committee that did not fall under the scope of the committee's charge. Spriggs asked if there were any questions. Senate members asked a variety of questions, including the following:

- Why requests had to be made by the Deans (the Chair clarified the *Senate Rules* required requests for retroactive withdrawal appeals had to be made by the Dean)
- Whether students received a tuition refund (Spriggs noted students received a tuition refund for courses approved for retroactive withdrawal)
- What the impact of instructor feedback forms was in the appeal request (Spriggs clarified that such forms sometimes helped support the student's personal statement)
- What happened to cases that were "deferred" (Spriggs explained such cases were sent back to the college for more evidence before the committee could make a decision)
- If there was still a waiver for the two-year limit prescribed in the Senate Rules for retroactive withdrawal appeal requests (Spriggs noted the committee was unable to waive such a rule and the Chair clarified that only himself, the President of the University, SC, or Senate could waive the *Senate Rules* and noted that such a request should be made by the Dean of the College)
- How students were notified of receiving a tuition refund (Spriggs explained this was not a function of the committee, but an action taken by the Registrar after retroactive withdrawal appeals were approved)

## 5. Request to Change Title of the Course Catalog and Bulletins

The Chair introduced Kim Taylor (registrar) to explain the request to change the titles of the Course Catalog and Bulletins. Senate members asked questions of clarification regarding the naming conventions and how the new naming convention would be communicated. Taylor explained documents would be archived and the Office of the Registrar website would communicate the new naming convention. There were a few questions. In response to a question from Jones, Taylor clarified during discussion that the term "University Bulletin" in the Senate Rules most likely referred to the Undergraduate Bulletin, which is distinct from the Graduate Bulletin.

The **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the proposed change of "Bulletin" to "Catalog" (effective 2023-24) and "Course Catalog" to "Schedule of Classes" (effective Spring 2023). 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 four opposed and three abstained.

## 6. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair welcomed items from the floor.

Shannon Oltmann (CI) noted an email distributed by SC Vice Chair and Chair-elect DeShana Collett (HS) containing a link for the faculty evaluation of the President survey. The Chair clarified the survey was distributed to all full-time faculty members at the University.

Trustee Lee Blonder (ME) encouraged Senate members to vote in the upcoming Board of Trustees faculty trustee election.

Bob Grossman (AS) commented that the next Senate meeting was scheduled to potentially begin at 2:00 PM. The Chair asked Senate members to check their email for any such announcement and that the start time would be dependent on the size of the agenda. The Chair noted that President Capilouto was scheduled to speak at the May 2 Senate meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 PM with **no objections**.

Respectfully submitted by  
Aaron Cramer, Senate Council Chair

Absences: Ajay Mehra, Alison Gustafson, Allen Allday, Allie Pazdzior, Allison Gibson, Allison Wright, Angie Martin, Antonio Garcia, Ashley McPherson, Caleb Frush, Caroline Slicer, Chae Lea, Chipper Griffith, Chris Delcher, Christine Harper, Claire-Marie Hall, Colleen Swartz, Craig Collins, Debra Harley, Doug Michael, Doug Way, Eli Capilouto, Elizabeth Debski, George Wright, Jack Kirn, Jan Forren, Jay Miller, Jeff Okeson, Julian Heilig, Justin Lane, Kenneth Calvert, Kim Wilson, Kirsten Turner, Lisa Cassis, Mark Birdwhistell, Mark O'Bryan, Martha Riddell, Mary Davis, Mary Vosevich, Mike Richey, Morgan Wilson, Olivia Ellis, Patrick Haycraft, R. Kiplan (Kip) Guy, Robert DiPaola, Rudolph Bucheit, Sam Wyse, Scott Lephart, Sophie DeCorte, Taylor Williams

Prepared by Katie Silver on April 26, 2022