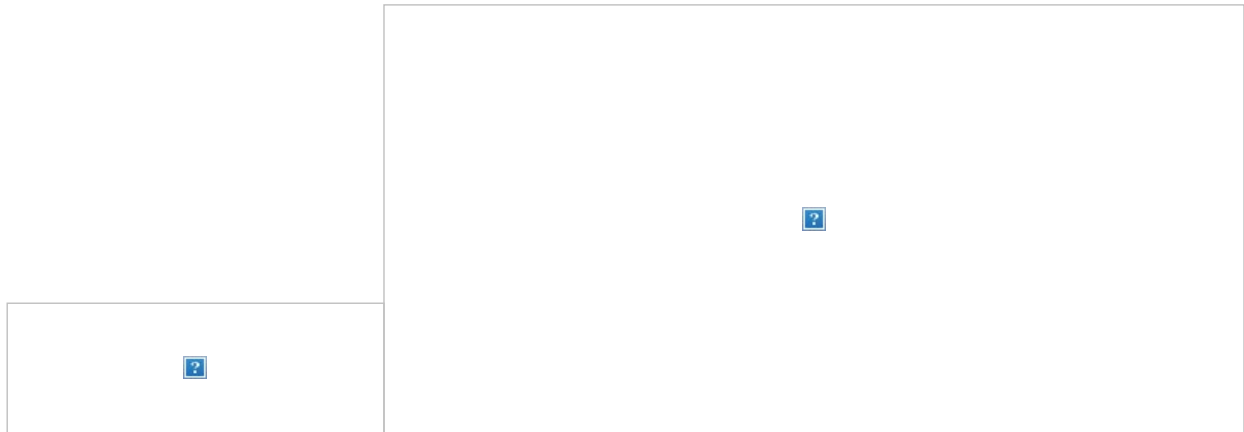


From: [UK University Senate](#) on behalf of [Cramer, Aaron M.](#)
To: UK-UNIV-SENATE@LSV.UKY.EDU
Subject: University Senate October Newsletter
Date: Friday, October 8, 2021 11:06:20 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)



Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the midterm of the fall semester, we can be encouraged by increasing vaccination numbers and the relatively stable COVID-19 prevalence in our campus community. With the declining case counts in our surrounding community, we can hope for the reduction of stress on our UK HealthCare colleagues. We should all do what we can to keep our community and loved ones safe. I encourage you to be vaccinated if you have not yet been and to consider a booster dose if you are eligible. If you are required to test regularly, please complete this requirement or ensure that your documentation is submitted. We have lost people in our community to this disease, it remains a very real threat, and it impedes our ability to work together. This pandemic continues to affect all of us, but it poses different risks to each of us. Please reach out to your colleagues when you are struggling to balance your responsibilities and do the same when you see others facing their own challenges. Talk with faculty outside your department and outside your college. We will continue to build resilience by sharing strategies developed in different units and working together to overcome obstacles.

As we approach the registration period for the spring semester, I want to address the many questions I have received about how a course section can be offered online. For a course section to be offered online, two things must happen. First, the course must be academically approved for distance learning delivery by faculty; this curricular process is overseen by the University Senate. Recognizing that the virus has not finished with us yet, the Senate Council has voted to extend its delegation of temporary approval of distance learning to local educational unit administrators (i.e., department chairs) through Spring 2022. What this means is that department faculty can work with the department chair to determine if a course is academically appropriate to be offered online during the winter or spring terms. Details of this process are available on the Senate's site [here](#).

Academic approval is a necessary condition for a course to be offered online, but there is another required step: administrative approval. Historically, this administrative approval was made by department chairs, who have the authority to approve the department's schedule of courses. However, the Provost has indicated that he will continue the recent practice of instead centralizing this administrative authority in the Office of the Provost. Therefore, in addition to administrative approval by a chair and a dean, final administrative authority to allow a course to be offered online currently rests with the Provost's office and is coordinated by Senior Associate Provost Katie Cardarelli (kathryn.cardarelli@uky.edu). Deans have been given talking points describing how the administrative approval process works. If you have any questions about how to access this process or how these administrative decisions are being made, you should contact your department chair and/or Dr. Cardarelli.

The temporary delegation of the University Senate's authority over academic approval to the local educational units was developed by Senate Council to help ensure that the concerns of our colleagues across campus are addressed as flexibly as possible. The Senate Council has consistently advocated for the University's administration, including the Provost's office, to be responsive to the needs of our colleagues and to offer grace in these difficult times. Always feel free to reach out to me or any of the other [Senate Council members](#) if we may be of assistance. If you find yourself in need of support, seek the help of your colleagues. If your colleagues need you, be a generous advocate for them. Let us work together to help our leaders know how they can best serve us as we pursue our teaching, research, and service missions in these challenging times.

The October University Senate meeting is Monday, October 11 at 3:00 pm. It is a Zoom meeting, and the agenda and information about joining the meeting are available [here](#). We are scheduled to discuss reports from the Senate's Academic Facilities Committee and the Senate's Advisory Committee of Diversity and Inclusion, an honorary degree recipient nominee, and the modality of future University Senate meetings. University Senate meetings are open to all, and I encourage you to join if you are able.

Aaron

Aaron Cramer

Chair, University Senate Council

Kentucky Utilities Professor of Electrical
and Computer Engineering
aaron.cramer@uky.edu

Outstanding Senator Award

University Senate has named College of Engineering and Department of Civil Engineering's Gail Brion the 2021 Outstanding Senator. Read the full article [here](#).

World Mental Health Day

October 10, 2021

Corrine Williams, acting associate vice president for student well-being, discusses World Mental Health Day. Read the full article [here](#).

Faculty Conversations with President Capilouto

President Capilouto hosts small groups of faculty for informal discussions throughout the school year. If you are interested in attending one of these discussions, email katie.silver@uky.edu to be added to the list.

Updated Senate Rules

The Senate Rules have been updated and can be accessed [here](#).

Upcoming University Senate Meetings

October 11, 2021

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

November 8, 2021

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

December 13, 2021

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Modality for University Senate meetings will be determined approximately one week prior to the upcoming meeting. The October meeting will be held via Zoom.

[View Senate Minutes and Agendas](#)

Deadlines for Curricular Proposals

December 1, 2021

New degree programs

March 1, 2022

Other proposals requiring committee review

April 12, 2022

Courses, all other program changes, and minors

These deadlines are for proposals to be considered for a Fall 2022 effective date.

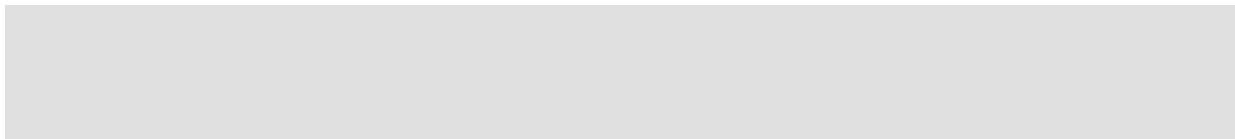
Visit Senate's webpage for [Curricular Deadlines](#) for additional details.

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