

# Senate Council

Monday, February 20, 2023

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, February 20, 2023, in 103 Main Building, although a video conference link was also available for members. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken electronically unless otherwise specified. Specific voting information can be requested from the Office of the Senate Council (SC).

Senate Council Chair DeShana Collett (HS) called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:00 PM. The Chair welcomed those present. She informed everyone that the session was being recorded for notetaking purposes and noted that it was an open meeting. She asked that all attendees, online and in person, state their name and affiliation prior to speaking, to ensure everyone knew who was speaking. The Chair asked SC members to be ready to vote via Poll Everywhere. The Chair reminded SC members that regarding the ability to speak, members must raise their hand to be called upon. The Chair also reminded everyone that SC members would have priority speaking, noting that others may be called upon as needed and given a chance to speak only if there were no additional comments from SC members.

The Chair asked members and guests to introduce themselves as there were more attendees than usual.

## 1. Minutes from January 30 and February 6, 2023 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that edits were received to the January 30 and February 6, 2023 minutes. There being **no objections**, the minutes from February 6, 2023 were **approved as amended by unanimous consent**.

The Chair reminded SC members that all members have the right to speak during a meeting, including ex-officio members. The Chair stated that input from members was welcome, and that no member should feel their input was not welcome.

The Chair announced that Student Government Association (SGA) Senator Kiarah Raglin was spearheading an initiative to improve engagement of SGA senators and the University Senate. The initiative would involve recorded interviews with SC members and other individuals who regularly partner with SC and Senate. The Chair asked SC members to check the listserv for more details and asked SC members to hold time on their calendars for 2:00 PM on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> so they could participate. The Chair noted that questions would be provided to SC members ahead of time.

The Chair informed SC members that the SC office was building the badge proposal process in Curriculog, in part to facilitate routing. The Chair noted it would be ready for use later this week.

## 2. Committee Reports

### a. Senate Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Sandra Bastin, Chair

The Chair invited SAPC Chair Sandra Bastin (AG) to provide a report to SC members.

#### i. *Proposed New PhD Linguistics*

The Chair stated that proposer Jennifer Cramer (AS) was attending. Bastin explained the proposed new PhD Linguistics in the Department of Linguistics in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Chair stated the **motion** from the committee was for Senate to approve the new PhD Linguistics in the Department of Linguistics in the College of Arts and Sciences. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened to the floor to members for questions of fact and debate.

SC members asked questions about the students in the MA Linguistics program. Cramer clarified that students would continue to matriculate, but that after a certain point, students would no longer be admitted directly into to the MA Linguistics.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

*ii. Proposed New BA/BS Criminal Justice*

The Chair noted that proposer Kalea Benner (SW) was attending today. Bastin explained the proposed new BA and BS Criminal Justice in the College of Social Work. The Chair stated the **motion** from committee was for Senate to approve the new BA and BS Criminal Justice in the College of Social Work. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to members for questions of fact and debate.

A robust discussion took place, in which the proposer and proposal contact person Kalea Benner (SW) responded to the following comments from SC members:

- The difference between the BA and the BS in Criminal Justice
  - Benner clarified that 15 additional credit hours in sciences courses, including a foundational chemistry course, were required for the BS
- The difference between criminology and criminal justice
  - Benner noted criminology was the theory for why such behavior may occur, while this program was intended to prepare practitioners in settings such as law enforcement or victim advocacy
- Whether there would be opportunity for collaboration with the minor in criminology at the College of Arts and Sciences
  - Benner informed SC members that SW began working with the Department of Sociology (AS) in 2018 to see how they could collaborate, but noted their department did not have the resources to make additional commitments at this time
- Whether students in the criminology minor were anticipated to move to the College of Social Work
  - Benner said there was potential for this, noting there was not currently a minor for criminal justice
  - Benner also noted the recently proposed BA Law and Justice, which differed from the BA/BS Criminal Justice
- Why the program was housed in the College of Social Work
  - Benner commented that there was a great amount of untapped potential for offering a holistic approach to criminal justice environments that their students, many of which were outside the state of Kentucky, could apply to their environment
- What the typical home college of this program was
  - Benner noted that of the eight colleges of Social Work in the US, five had criminal justice programs, adding that this was a good academic home as well as professional discipline
- What type of faculty the college would hire for the program
  - Benner replied that regular ranked faculty would be hired, and added that at some point teaching faculty could be needed

Molly Blasing (AS) asked if there would still be a potential in collaboration with the Department of Sociology once new faculty were hired. Benner explained the College of Social Work welcomed a collaboration, noting an effort was made on the part of Social Work to collaborate with Sociology and Political Science, but that limitations with research assignments prevented those departments from

doing so. Faculty Trustee Aaron Cramer (EN) commented that a difference in strategy among colleges had to do with the resource environment. The proposal from the College of Social Work was based on faculty who were yet to be hired, while the Department of Sociology was unable to obtain resources to commitment to a collaboration. Cramer noted that although this was outside of the Senate's legislative purview, it was important to pay attention to this difference. Bastin noted that the questions posited by SC members, with the exception of financials, were all discussed by the SAPC, noting that the committee had performed due diligence on the proposal.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with two opposed and none abstained.

*iii. Proposed New USP BS Biosystems Engineering and MS Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering*

The Chair noted proposer Michael Sama (EN) a prior commitment, but that Michael Montross (EN) was attending. Bastin explained the proposed new USP between BS Biosystems Engineering and MS Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering. The Chair stated the **motion** was for the Senate to approve the proposed new USP between the BS Biosystems Engineering and MS Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to members for questions of fact and debate.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

*iv. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Globally Competent Teaching*

The Chair stated proposer Sharon Brennan (ED) was attending. Bastin explained the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Globally Competent Teaching. The Chair stated the **motion** was for the Senate to approve the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Globally Competent Teaching in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, within the College of Education. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to members for questions of fact and debate.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

b. Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) – Gregg Rentfrow, Chair

The Chair invited SAOSC Chair Gregg Rentfrow (AG) to provide a report to SC members.

*i. Proposed Closure of Undergraduate Certificate in Directing Forensics*

Rentfrow explained the proposed closure of the Undergraduate Certificate in Directing Forensics. The Chair stated the **motion** from the committee was for Senate to approve the closure of the Undergraduate Certificate in Directing Forensics. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened to the floor to members for questions of fact and debate.

SC members briefly discussed reasons for why the certificate was never implemented. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

*ii. Proposed Suspension and Closure of Graduate Certificate in Structural Engineering*

The Chair noted that proposer Issam Harik (EN) was attending. Rentfrow explained the proposed suspension and closure of the Graduate Certificate in Structural Engineering. The Chair stated the **motion** from the committee was for Senate to approve the suspension and closure of the Graduate Certificate in Structural Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened to the floor to members for questions of fact and debate.

SC members asked the proposer questions about why the certificate was not successful. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

*iii. Proposed Suspension and Closure of Graduate Certificate in Human Technology Interaction*

The Chair noted that proposer Issam Harik (EN) was attending. Rentfrow explained the proposed suspension and closure of the Graduate Certificate in Human Technology Interaction. The Chair stated the **motion** from the committee was for Senate to approve the suspension and closure of the Graduate Certificate in Human Technology Interaction. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened to the floor to members for questions of fact and debate. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

### 3. Senate Meeting Roundtable

The Chair invited SC members to participate in a Senate meeting roundtable to discuss the February 13, 2023 Senate meeting.

SC members expressed a varieties of thoughts, including praise for the quality of the hybrid meeting with the Chair running the meeting remotely and praise for the update on the QEP. SC members expressed concerns about the discussion that surrounded the College of Education name change and about some of the (perhaps misleading) statements made by College of Education representatives about manipulation of voting data. Akiko Takenaka (AS) noted that it seemed liked the discussion reached an impasse instead of being an opportunity for open dialogue. SC members agreed that it was important to ensure that a proposal did not get to this point again by the time it reached the floor of the senate. Sandra Bastin (AG) commented on the time it took the proposal to reach the SC office, noting that many changes had happened in the college since the proposal's inception. Bastin suggested that an easier progression for a complicated may need to be explored. The Chair noted that without additional personnel in the SC office, this would be challenging to explore. Leslie Vincent (BE) suggested placing college name change proposals on early notification emails in the way that programs were to inform more outside constituents of a such a proposal. The Chair also noted it was important to urge proposers to reach out to senators and the SC office for more information if necessary.

### 4. Items from the Floor

The Chair welcomed items from the floor.

The Chair asked if there were any objections to discussing nominees from the Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement search committee. There were **no objections**. Senate Nominating Committee (SNC) Chair Bob Grossman (AS) provided a list of names to SC members for the search committee. Leslie Vincent (BE) **moved** to approve the nominees discussed as the SC's nominees to serve on the Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement search committee and allow the Chair to choose another if those nominated were unable to serve. Kaveh Tagavi (EN) **seconded**. The Chair opened the floor to members for questions of fact and debate. The Provost commented that he was receptive to having two nominees from SC to serve on the search committee instead of one. Vincent also suggested adding an additional name to the list of nominees. There being **no objections**, the additional name was added by way of **unanimous consent**. A **vote** was taken, and the motion to approve the amended list of nominees as discussed as the SC's nominees on the Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement search committee, and also to allow the Chair to choose another if those nominated were unable to serve, **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

Kaveh Tagavi (EN) expressed concerns about the appropriateness of visitors debating in Senate meetings and asked about the order in which attendees were called on. The Chair reminded SC members that Senate members were given priority, but that if no more hands were raised from Senate members, the Chair could call on a visitor. The Chair stated that it was under the purview of the Chair to allow visitors to speak at Senate meetings. The Chair also said it was the purview of the Chair to determine whether what a visitor was saying was out of order. SC Vice Chair Leslie Vincent (BE) noted it was important to hear outside perspectives, and did

not see an issue if the Chair recognized someone for that. Vincent stated she would promote that type of inclusive environment.

The Chair informed SC members that there had been continual concerns from faculty across campus about situations involving students that made employees feel unsafe. The Chair asked SC members to keep this in mind as SC would need to engage in future conversation about the topic. SC members discussed how some of these situations impacted faculty and what systems and resources were in place across campus for employees in such a situation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 PM with **no objections**.

Respectfully submitted by,  
DeShana Collett

Prepared by Katie Silver on Wednesday, February 22, 2023

SC Members Present: Bastin, Blasing, Collett, Cramer, Davis, Duncan, Grossman, Michael, Salt, Swanson, Tagavi, Takenaka, Vincent

Invited Guests Present: Kalea Benner, Sharon Brennan, Sheila Brothers, Jennifer Cramer, Robert DiPaola, Issam Harik, Michael Montross, Gregg Rentfrow