From: DeShana Collett
To: Grady, Doris M.
Subject: [Test]:UK Senate December 2023 Newsletter
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Dear Faculty Colleagues,

As we finish the semester and begin to embark on a new year, it is crucial for faculty, as the intellectual backbone of our institution, to become vigilant and attuned to the dynamic academic and political matters shaping our campus. Our commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive academic environment requires us to be informed, engaged, and proactive in addressing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

The nexus between academia and politics is undeniable, and our campus is not immune to the broader socio-political landscape. It is imperative that we remain aware of the political currents that are impacting our academic pursuits. This awareness empowers us to respond thoughtfully to changes, to advocate for our continued expression of academic freedom as individuals and faculty bodies, and to uphold the principles that underpin a thriving University Senate and educational institution.

Our academic community plays a pivotal role in shaping the minds of the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and change-makers. As faculty members, the University's creative engine of educational content, we are responsible for fostering an environment that encourages critical thinking, diversity of thought, and intellectual curiosity.

In the coming months, let us remain attentive in our commitment to academic excellence. This includes staying updated on the latest research and educational methodologies, collaborating with colleagues, and fostering an atmosphere that encourages open dialogue and the free exchange of ideas. By doing so, we contribute to the cultivation of a robust academic community that serves as a beacon of knowledge and enlightenment.

Let us embrace the challenges and opportunities that come our way; confident in our ability to shape a future where knowledge, inquiry, and dialogue thrive.

DeShana Collett, Ph.D., PA-C
Chair, University Senate Council
Professor, Physician Assistant Studies
College of Health Sciences

It's the Holiday Season

December is a month filled with diverse celebrations and holidays across cultures and traditions. As we navigate this season, appreciating the multitude of festivities becomes an invitation to learn, respect, and connect. These holidays showcase the rich tapestry of cultural and religious diversity, bringing people together to share joy, reflection, and goodwill. Click here to learn more about a few of the many holidays that will be celebrated this season.

Trustee's Corner

The December Board of Trustees meetings covered audits, investment gains, and updates on partnership and recruitment initiatives. The Finance Committee approved gifts, budget revision, and increased rates for housing and dining. The Executive Committee reported a positive evaluation of President Capilouto, emphasizing enrollment and infrastructure achievements, but indicated opportunities for improvement, including making progress to advance belonging and inclusion and strengthening faculty relationships and perceptions relating to shared governance. Various workgroups discussed education initiative, UK Core assessment, and responsiveness. Board actions included naming the Health Education Building and commending Trustee Cramer for leadership and service.

The University Senate thanks Trustee Cramer for his selfless dedication to advocating for our institution's principle of shared governance. Cramer's unwavering commitment to the University's mission and values has been instrumental in ensuring that the collective wisdom of our University community continues to be guided by these fundamental principles. We wish him luck in his new endeavor as Chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department within the Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering.

UK Bookstore Faculty and Staff Appreciation Sale

The UK Bookstore is having a Faculty and Staff Appreciation Sale through Thursday, December 14. The sale is an additional 10% off the employee discount, for a total of 20% off regularly priced UK clothing, souvenirs, and general reading books.

Senate Committees

Are you interesting in participating in shared governance at the University of Kentucky? Consider serving on a University Senate committee! Please fill out the survey here to indicate your committee interests. Many Senate committees do not require Senate membership; they only require faculty status at the University.

Faculty Conversations with the President

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

Fall Semester Senate Meeting Dates

Fall 2022 Senate meetings will begin at 3:00 PM and may last up to two hours.

September 11, 2023

October 9, 2023

November 13, 2023

December 11, 2023

View Senate Agendas

Deadlines for Curricular Proposals

Proposals seeking a Fall 2023 effective date must be received by the SC office by these deadlines.

December 1, 2023

New degree programs

February 16, 2024

Other proposals requiring cmte review

April 12, 2024

Courses, all other program changes, and minors

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