Senate Council
December 6, 2010

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, December 6, 2010 in 103 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Chair Hollie I. Swanson called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

1. Minutes from November 15, November 22 and November 29, 2010 and Announcements
The Chair noted that for a short period, the processing of curricular proposals took precedence over SC minutes. As a consequence of not having minutes from the recent meetings, there was some confusion about how to handle a continued discussion of the contents of *Governing Regulations VII* (*GR VII*). There were a few comments about whether there was an existing committee to handle the issue **[AI]**.

Grossman **moved** to approve the minutes from November 15, November 22 and November 29, 2010. Anderson **seconded**. There being no discussion, the three sets of minutes were **approved** as distributed.

The Chair explained reported that the grievance/ombud committee met the previous Tuesday, and all the chairs of the Senate's committees (Senate's Committee on Committees) were invited, but the Chair was the only faculty member who attended. The Staff Senate wishes to move forward with the issue, so the Chair suggested they move forward, and faculty will join when they are identified. Extensive work has already been done, and the rationale is that many top 20 institutions and benchmarks already have ombuds. The Chair said that she was requesting SC permission to formulate an ad hoc committee to work with the staff.

Grossman **moved** that the SC give the Chair the authority to appoint a committee to work with the staff on a non-academic ombud. Steiner **seconded**. The Chair said that she could announce it during the Senate meeting on the following Monday. Grossman commented that there was already an office on discrimination and that there would need to be clear delineation between that office and any employment ombud. After additional comments, the Chair said she was looking for three to six faculty to join the members of the Staff Senate.

There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

8. Provost Subbaswamy – *Governing Regulations VII*, Gen Ed Funding, Reorganizations, and Everything but the Kitchen Sink
The Chair invited Provost Subbaswamy to speak. The Provost began by talking about monies invested in Gen Ed, and how personnel were being funded, and discussed a variety of funding aspects with SC members. Grossman suggested a change to a Gen Ed funding PowerPoint slide, to make it clearer.

The Chair asked the Provost to comment on the proposed changes to *Governing Regulations VII* and reorganizations. The Provost said that considering the confusion and complication resulting from contemplating the proposed changes, he was in no hurry to move forward. Forward movement can happen when everyone is comfortable. He explained that one criticism from the National Institutes of Health when the first clinical and translational sciences proposal was put forward was that UK's center had no faculty appointments or courses. He offered additional information about possibilities for

changes to the organizational structure. The Provost and SC members then discussed organizational structure and centers.

Grossman asked the Provost about allowing family members of employees to use the Employee Education credit towards graduate courses, as well as undergraduate courses. The Provost said that he was willing to undertake it as an experiment. He said it could be tried for three years to see if it works. He said the funding for it would come from the President's office. Grossman expressed his appreciation for the Provost's consideration of the request. The Provost said that he only asked that the Senate utilize the same flexible approach in matters advancing the University. **[AI]**

After a few additional comments, the Provost thanked SC members, and departed.

3. <u>Committee Reports</u>
a. <u>Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee – Dwight Denison, Chair</u>

<u>Proposed New Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education (College of Education)</u>: The Chair invited Jennifer Wilhelm (ED/Curriculum and Instruction) to explain the proposal, which she did. She was assisted by Parker Fawson (department chair, Department of Curriculum and Instruction), Dean Mary John O'Hair, Margaret Mohrschroeder and Jana Bouwma-Gearhart. They answered a wide variety of questions from SC members. Afterwards, the Chair thanked the guests for their attendance and they departed.

SC members engaged in additional discussion. Randall expressed some concern that the proposed new department might not have the personnel resources to create a quality STEM program. Thelin offered some positive comments about the proposed new department, and there were additional comments by other SC members.

When there was no further discussion, a **vote** was taken on the motion from the Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee to approve the proposed new Department of Science, Technology, Education and Math (STEM) Education. The motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. <u>Officer Elections</u>
The Chair turned the position of chair over to Vice Chair Anderson, and left the room.

Chair Anderson asked if there were any nominations for the position of chair. Grossman **nominated** Hollie I. Swanson for the position of chair. Nokes **seconded**.

Nokes **moved** to close nominations for the position of chair, and Kyle **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken on the **motion** to close nominations and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

A **vote** was then taken on the **motion** to elect Hollie I. Swanson to the position of chair, and the motion **passed** with none opposed. Therefore, Hollie I. Swanson was elected to the position of chair, for a term of June 1, 2011 – May 30, 2012.

SC members then discussed the position of vice chair. Steiner voiced concern that the election of officers did not include more senators, although he had no objection to the current officers. Chair

Anderson said that Swanson could return, as the position of chair had been determined. Swanson returned and Anderson turned the meeting back over to the Chair.

SC members then discussed the position of vice chair, and agreed that in January the SC should discuss increasing the Senate's involvement in officer elections **[AI]**.

Grossman volunteered to serve as vice chair, although he noted that he had prior personal time commitments beginning in the summer, and had to make it known he might have to resign if the time commitment became too onerous. Chappell **seconded** the nomination of Grossman for vice chair.

Nokes **moved** to close nominations for the position of vice chair, and Kyle **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken on the **motion** to close nominations and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

A **vote** was then taken on the **motion** to elect Robert Grossman to the position of vice chair, and the motion **passed** with none opposed. Therefore, Robert Grossman was elected to the position of vice chair, for a term of June 1, 2011 – May 30, 2012.

4. Proliferation of Distance Learning – Raphael Finkel
Raphael Finkel (EN/Computer Science) explained to SC members that he had a handout he would offer to them when he was finished speaking. Guest Finkel then explained his concerns about the proliferation of distance learning (DL) courses, particularly those that involve a videotape of a professor's lecture. Finkel's concerns were as follows: 1. DL courses involve reallocation of tuition money; 2. new Gen Ed lines for lecturers are being used to teach DL courses; 3. the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (AS) is offering bonuses to regular title series faculty to record courses for lecturers to offer during the summer; 4. whether DL courses have the same pedagogical value as traditional classroom courses; 5. AS is going to request approval for a great number of DL courses; and 6. there is some ambiguity in the definition of distance learning.

Finkel and SC members then engaged in discussion about Finkel's concerns. During the conversation, SC members determined they would invite Ruth Beattie to come and talk to SC members about DL courses **[AI]**. SC members also decided that they wanted to learn more about AS's plans for DL course **[AI]**, and would be in contact with the dean. There was additional discussion.

SC members then talked about how to possibly address the issue. It was determined that the SC needed to create a charge for a committee to review distance learning courses **[AI]**.

The Chair offered a few announcements:

- There will be no SC meeting on December 20.

- The Chair approved the inclusion of one student from Business and Economics to UK's December degree list.

- The Chair passed around information about what the Senate will be seeing regarding the Interim General Education Oversight Committee. She asked SC members to share comments with Assistant Provost Bill Rayens.

Anderson **moved** to adjourn and Chappell **seconded**. There being no objection, the motion was **approved**. The meeting was adjourned shortly before 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Hollie I. Swanson, Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Anderson, Blonder, Chappell, Grossman, Kelly, Kirk, Nokes, Randall, Swanson and Thelin.

Provost's Liaison present: Greissman.

Invited guests present: Parker Fawson, Raphael Finkel, Jana Bouwma-Gearhart, Mary John O'Hair, Margaret Mohrschroeder, Rosetta Sandidge, Kate Seago, and Kaveh Tagavi.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, December 17, 2010.