

Senate Council
December 7, 2009

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, December 7, 2009 in 103 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a voice vote unless indicated otherwise.

Chair Dave Randall called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order once quorum was attained, at 3:11 pm.

1. Minutes and Announcements

The Chair reported that there were a variety of announcements. Swanson would be arriving late. The SC will be having a breakfast with President Todd on December 15, at 9:30 am. Towards the end of the day's meeting, SC members will need to determine if there is a need for a 12/21 SC meeting. The first meeting of the SC in January 2010 is tentatively set for January 11; SC members will be notified if there is no need for the meeting.

Senator Wermeling will present his Code of Conduct report to the SC on February 1, and to the Senate on February 8. An email was sent this past Thursday to Frank Butler and Angie Martin, requesting information on the Athletics Association budget and contributions to UK's general fund, as requested by the SC on November 16. The nomination round for SC elections went well, and the election will take place next week.

The Chair noted that the minutes from November 16, 23 and 30 were available to SC members in hard copy for everyone. He noted that Rohr had sent in a correction to the November 23 minutes, which was visible through track changes.

Kelly **moved** to approve the SC minutes from November 16 as distributed, the SC minutes from November 23 as amended, and the SC minutes from November 30 as distributed and Ford **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair reminded SC members about the request from the Senate to see the degree list broken down by department. He noted that it would be a rough report, not the formatted report the Senate is accustomed to seeing. There were no comments or questions.

The Chair announced to SC members that he was inclined to approve a change in (unwritten) policy to grant the chair of the Health Care Colleges Council (HCCC) final approval authority over requests to add distance learning (DL) delivery to professional-level courses originating in the health care colleges. SC members discussed the issue. Woods said that any student could petition for an 800- or 900-level course to receive graduate level credit and that a past Graduate School dean put in very clear guidelines about the amount of interaction that a faculty member must have with a student in order for the student to receive graduate credit for a DL course. She asked that the Graduate School be consulted prior to going ahead with the change.

SC members requested that if the final approval authority for DL delivery was to be given to the HCCC chair, the HCCC must ensure that every request for DL delivery must include the DL Form, and that transmissions of DL-related approvals must also be sent to the Associate Provost for Academic Administration as well as the appropriate individuals in Distance Learning Programs.

The Chair suggested that the SC next review agenda item number three, since it could likely be reviewed quickly.

3. Discussion on Student's Waiver Request – Community College and UK GPA

The Chair referred to the discussion during the previous meeting and the decision to invite Associate Registrar Jacquie Hager to attend and share her thoughts on the student's request. Guest Hager said that her thoughts pertained to how the SC wished to deal with students who came before and would come in the future with similar requests – if the rule needed to be changed, then it should be changed. A waiver for one student was unfair to other students in similar situations. Hager noted that the inclusion of work from a community college (CC) into UK's GPA was determined by when the student transferred the work to UK, not when the courses were taken. Any CC work transferred after the summer of 2007 was not factored into the UK GPA. Hager added that the policy should have gone into effect in fall 2006, since that when the Senate removed references to the CC system from the *Senate Rules*, but an extension of one year was requested (and granted) to allow the Registrar's office to communicate the coming change to the CC.

Jensen **moved** to deny the request by the student to allow the grades earned at Hopkinsville Community College to factor into his UK GPA. Wood **seconded**. There was extensive discussion regarding the motion. SC members were sympathetic to the student's request, but were concerned about the overall fairness of granting the waiver for one student. When discussion ceased, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** in a show of hands with six in favor and four opposed.

Those present introduced themselves.

4. Transfer Action Plan – Steve Byars (Government Relations) and Provost Subbaswamy

The Chair invited Provost Subbaswamy and Steve Byars (Office of Government Relations) to offer information about the Transfer Action Plan, as well as general information about the legislative process.

Guest Byars spoke for some time about the current legislation, as did Provost Subbaswamy. SC members asked a variety of questions, which were answered. SC members appreciated the ability to query both Byars and the Provost.

After discussion wound down, the Chair asked SC members if there were any other questions for the Provost. Jensen asked about the hiring process for a new vice president of Student Affairs. Provost Subbaswamy replied that he thought there would be a new hire named by January; although he could not say exactly when that person would start, he said it would at least be prior to July 1. In response to a question from Rohr about the Pharmacy dean search, the Provost said that there would be a new dean in place by July 1.

Kelly asked the Provost to say a few words about UK's current budget situation. Provost Subbaswamy and Byars responded with some thoughts and concerns. Afterwards, the Chair thanked them both and they departed.

3. Update on Vetting Teams

Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Mike Mullen gave an overview of what would be reported to the Senate regarding the activities of the vetting teams (VT). Guest Mullen noted that he had only received one final report from a VT so far.

Concerns have been raised regarding the lack of uniformity of proposal submissions (non-adherence to Senate syllabi guidelines, etc.); the minimal, if any, experience of involved faculty in undergraduate education/curriculum; and a need for greater numbers of “expert” faculty on committees (VT#1, Humanities, only had two faculty serving from the humanities). SC members discussed various aspects the issues listed below.

- DUSs in various fields, particularly the humanities, would make excellent VT members due to their administrative and disciplinary expertise, but those individuals likely already have a full plate of responsibilities.
- Although some colleges will buy out a faculty member’s course toward more service credit on the DOE, some colleges do not have a sufficient number of courses with which to do that routinely.
- There needs to be some mechanism for rewarding faculty who serve on University committees, specifically the VT.
- A better mechanism for composing the committees needs to be identified.
- There are still a few programs (particularly in the College of Engineering) for whom the proposed Gen Ed will create an increase in the number of required credits.
- There may be situations in which a Gen Ed course could be offered for four credits; Design Principle #2 states that Gen Ed should be no more than the equivalent of 30 hours, but that could be interpreted to mean that the Learning Outcomes are the most important aspect.
- A two-course series from Statistics has been reviewed for Gen Ed, although it was made clear that while it would be accepted into the pilot, the Senate may not approve it in the long run.

Wood suggested that Mullen’s offer an oral report to the Senate. After a few additional comments, the Chair said that the Gen Ed umbrella committee (made up of VT chairs, etc.) will meet before December 21, so there may be a need for a SC meeting on December 21.

5. Officer Elections

The Chair said that Hollie Swanson was the nominee for chair, and Debra Anderson was the nominee for vice chair. Wood **moved** to accept the nominations by unanimous acclamation, and Yanarella **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Therefore, Swanson was elected to serve as SC chair for the period June 1, 2010 – May 30, 2011. Anderson was elected to serve as vice chair for the period June 1, 2010 – May 30, 2011.

The Chair asked SC members about holding an SC meeting on December 21 devoted to next steps for Gen Ed. SC members were amenable, so the Chair said that SC members would receive information for that meeting on the Friday before.

6. Tentative Senate Agenda for December 14

There was a little discussion about the agenda. Mrs. Brothers noted that the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Lean Manufacturing Systems was withdrawn from Senate consideration by the college until the question of the graduate certificate's home unit was answered.

Wood **moved** that the SC approve the tentative Senate agenda for December 14 as an unordered list and Yanarella **seconded**. Chappell asked if there was a conflict between the Senate approving the calendars and the various calendar proposals still pending. Mrs. Brothers replied that the calendar proposals were not nearly ready for any approval. Any changes to the calendar approved by the Senate as a result of approving a pending calendar proposal(s) could be incorporated into a previously-approved set of calendars.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Randall,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Anderson, Chappell, Ford, Jensen, Kelly, Kirk, Randall, Rohr, Steiner, Swanson, Wood and Yanarella.

Provost's Liaison present: Greissman.

Invited guests present: Steve Byars, Jacquie Hager, Mike Mullen and Provost Kumble Subbaswamy.