

Senate Council
February 7, 2011

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, February 07, 2011 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 3:03 pm.

1. Minutes from January 31 and Announcements

The Chair offered a variety of announcements.

- Kirk would like an announcement during the full University Senate (Senate) meeting regarding DanceBlue.
- Town and Gown seminar information was passed around to SC members.
- College of Arts and Sciences Dean Mark Kornbluh has offered some funding for joint symposia on a variety of topics. The Chair suggested something along the lines of “the future of academic scientists within Research 1 universities.”
- The Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leaders (COSFL) voted to approve a motion regarding tuition rates. The Chair read the coalition to SC members, the gist of which was that COSFL requested that any policies on setting developed at the Council on Postsecondary Education be flexible.

Grossman **moved** to approve the SC minutes from January 31, 2011, and Yanarella **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion passed **with** none opposed.

The Chair explained to SC members that Davy Jones had sent in various histories of faculty title series at UK for posting online. It was determined that Mrs. Brothers will email the documents to SC members before a discussion about them at a future meeting **[AI]**.

2. Discussion with College of Medicine Dean Emery Wilson on College's Research Space Allocation Policies (with Sr. Associate Dean for Research Alan Daugherty)

All those present introduced themselves, including College of Medicine Dean Emery Wilson (College of Medicine, or ME), Senior Associate Dean for Research Alan Daugherty, Davy Jones (Professor, Graduate Center for Toxicology), Kevin Sarge (Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry), Daniel Noonan (Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry) and Doug Anders (Vice-Chair and Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry).

The Chair explained that the SC invited Dean Wilson and Guest Daugherty to the SC to help inform the SC on the College of Medicine (ME) policy on space and its implementation. After a few introductory comments regarding about policies of a similar nature at the University of Louisville, the Chair invited Daugherty to offer his presentation, which he did. He answered a variety of questions from SC members. A few of the invited guests asked questions and offer comments. The presentation and discussion lasted for about an hour.

During the presentation, Daugherty explained that the current policy metric for allocating research space in the College of Medicine is \$300/square feet. When Daugherty and his predecessor met with

department chairs and center directors and discussed the space allocation policy, its implementation and its annual modifications. They made a false assumption that the department chairs and center directors were passing the information on to the faculty of the department or center. A variety of SC members expressed concern that the input of faculty members within units was not being solicited, regardless of how much information was posted on websites.

The time being shortly after 4 pm, the Chair thanked Daugherty and Dean Wilson for attending and sharing information.

3. Old Business

a. Action Items – Review Older Items

SC members discussed a variety of Action Items, particularly those that were shaded in grey on the list. The following items were determined to be moot or already in progress, and no longer needed to be on the list:

- Item number 27, (“Send SC's spring evaluation of President Todd to all Board of Trustees members. Share SC's spring evaluation of President Todd with faculty members. Create numerical ratings for the Board's evaluation in early fall and submit those privately.”);
- Item number 38, (“Identify committee to review “graduate student/post-doc education and related issues.”);
- Item number 43, (“Send email to faculty, perhaps jointly with Provost, to explain the only circumstances under which a tenured faculty member can be dismissed as a result of reorganization (under KRS statutes, and in accordance with AAUP guidelines).”); and
- Item number 45 (“Discuss the issues raised during the November 22 meeting regarding spring commencement ceremonies and whether college recognition ceremonies will continue.”).

SC members discussed the Chair’s intent to offer a “state of faculty affairs” address during the April Senate meeting. The Chair said that one idea was to review all the Senate committee reports and offer a summary. Kelly suggested she query the committees soon to solicit formal topics from them, by a certain date, to be sure the Chair has a broad overview of the issues that are percolating.

b. Proposed Changes to *Governing Regulations II* (“Governance of the University of Kentucky”)

Grossman **moved** to endorse the proposed changes to *Governing Regulations II*. Peek offered information about the proposed changes, and how they had changed since the SC last saw them.

During the discussion, Yanarella suggested SC members look into the process of appointing members to the Board of Trustees, and whether such appointments really reflected the proportionate representation based on the state’s voter registration **[AI]**. Blonder suggested it be brought up at the next SC meeting for discussion.

Wermeling **seconded** the **motion** to endorse the proposed changes to *Governing Regulations II*. There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

c. Proposed Changes to *Senate Rules 1.3.3.A* (“Senate Council Chair”)

Steiner **moved** that the SC introduce the proposed new rule language to the Senate, and Grossman **seconded**. After Steiner offered some comments about the proposed new rule, Grossman **proposed a friendly amendment** that the following sentence be added at the end of the first paragraph of proposed language:

If the chair of the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee has identified only one candidate for the position, then that person shall become SC Chair without an election.

SC members engaged in a lively discussion about the various pros and cons of the proposed language. Guest Catherine Seago (Senate Parliamentarian) suggested that the language be accepted or not.

Grossman then **offered a friendly amendment** that language be added so that if an election in the Senate produces a tie, the SC shall choose the SC Chair from the leading candidates.

SC members then discussed the description of the statement requested of candidates. SC members were in favor of leaving the language somewhat vague, to allow for some leeway in the content of the statement. The Parliamentarian offered some suggestions for moving forward, parliamentarily.

After some time, the Chair suggested that the SC could present the item to the Senate for discussion purposes only, to get their input, and then hold another discussion at a future date. SC members were generally amenable to the idea. Steiner and Grossman **withdrew** their motions.

4. Proposed New Senate Rule on Excused Absences for Religious Holidays

SC members discussed the proposed new rule, and had no objections. The **motion** to approve the proposed changes came from the ad hoc committee, therefore no **second** was necessary. There being no additional discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Additional Honorary Degree Nominees from University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees

SC members discussed the additional two honorary degree nominees from the University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees (UJCHD). After being presented by Jeannine Blackwell, chair of the UJCHD, SC members discussed the two additional nominees.

After discussion, Grossman **moved** that the elected faculty senators approve the addition of two more honorary degree nominees, so long as the Senate approves the proposed changes to *Senate Rules* pertaining to honorary degrees. Wermeling **seconded**. There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with eight in favor and one opposed.

6. Tentative Senate Agenda for February 14

SC members discussed the tentative Senate agenda for February 14. It was decided to move the Athletics representative and University Appeals Board report to the end of the agenda. The proposed new rule on religious holidays was added, and SC members again agreed that the issue of electing the SC chair should be discussed within the SC more fully before presenting a motion to the Senate.

The meeting was adjourned about 5:20.

[The Action Items are a part of the minutes, but fall at the end of the document.]

Respectfully submitted by Hollie I. Swanson,
Senate Council Chair

In attendance: Blonder, Grossman, Kelly, Nokes, Peek, Randall, Steiner, Swanson, Thelin, Wermeling and Yanarella.

Provost's Liaison present: Greissman.

Invited guests present: Doug Andres, Emery Wilson, Alan Daugherty, Davy Jones, Dan Noonan, Kevin Sarge, and Catherine Seago.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Thursday, February 17, 2011.