

Senate Council
January 13, 2014

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, January 13, 2014 in 103 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Senate Council Chair Lee X. Blonder called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

1. Minutes from December 16, 2013 and Announcements

The Chair reported that there were no corrections to the minutes. Therefore, the minutes from December 16, 2013 were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

There were a few announcements.

- The UK Strategic Planning speaker series has begun – John Thelin is the first speaker (January 21) and David Addis (January 28) will be the second.
- The “Effective Faculty Governance” webinar will be on Thursday, February 6.
- Both Ms. Ellis and Ms. Brothers, the Senate Council office staff, will be out of the office for the next two weeks. Ms. Ellis is ill and Ms. Brothers is on vacation.

2. Proposed Revision to Spring 2014 and Future Calendars – Add New Graduate School Degree List Deadline (April 15)

The Chair explained that the action taken would add the new April 15 deadline for graduate students to apply for an early August degree to the academic calendars that the University Senate (Senate) recently approved.

Debski **moved** that the SC approve, on behalf of the Senate, the minor calendar change of adding the April 15 Graduate School graduation deadline for the early August degree list, and report this change to the Senate in February. Harling **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

3. Proposed Revision to Spring 2014 Calendar - Add National Conference on Undergraduate Research

The Chair introduced Associate Registrar David Timoney, who refreshed SC members’ memories about the April 2014 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) and the affect on campus, including classrooms. He proposed a new line to the calendar, which would highlight the NCUR event.

April 3 – April 5	Thursday through Saturday – The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) is taking place on campus. Classes scheduled in impacted classrooms will be redirected to attend conference. All other classes are recommended to also be redirected to the attend conference. Contact Registrar’s Office for more information
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There were a variety of questions from SC members. Christ and Wood offered alternative wording for the entry.

April 3 – April 5

Thursday through Saturday – The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) is taking place on campus. Classes scheduled in impacted classrooms will be redirected to attend conference. All other classes are ~~recommended~~ invited to also be redirected to the attend the conference at the discretion of the instructor. Contact Registrar’s Office for more information.

Christ **moved** that the SC approve the Registrar’s request with the additional wording, and editing related to the additional “the” and a period. Pienkowski **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

3. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) - Davy Jones, Chair

i. In Memoriam Posthumous Degree

It was explained that the intent was to leave the issue of posthumous degrees in the hands of the faculty, while still giving the President a way to provide a degree posthumously. If the death was due to a student committing a “heinous act,” then the posthumous degree would not be approved. The proposed language also ensures the President can freely talk with a deceased student’s parents, etc. about a posthumous degree without first discussing the issue with the SC. There will also be a change to the Administrative Regulations as a result of the proposed new language, following Board approval.

Pienkowski **moved** to send the proposed new Senate Rules language for posthumous degrees to the Senate with a positive recommendation. Harling **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

b. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) - Greg Wasilkowski, Chair

i. Proposed New Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies

Brown, a member of the Senate’s Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC), presented the proposal for a new Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies. There was brief discussion about removing the document about the faculty vote in 2010 but keeping the most recent vote documentation, from August 2013. SC members suggested a couple of other minor edits to the proposal, which Guest Roxanne Mountford agreed to make.

Harling **moved** that the SC recommend (positively) the Senate endorse the proposal for the formation of the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences. Brown **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstaining.

c. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) - Andrew Hippiisley, Chair

i. Proposed New BA/BS Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies

Hippiisley went over the basics of the proposal, noting that it had been partially reviewed by the SC in the recent past. Debski asked College of Arts and Sciences Dean Mark Kornbluh, about the use of free electives. Guest Kornbluh replied that free electives were not required at that time, but the required credit hours are 42. There was a brief discussion with Mountford, also, about revising numbers of credit hours on the new program form. Mountford agreed to make the changes.

Pienkowski **moved** to take the proposal for a new BA/BS Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies off the table and Debski **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Harling **moved** that the SC recommend the Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new BA/BS in Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies, in the College of Arts and Sciences. Christ **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation

Hippisley explained the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation. There were a few suggestions from SC members about clarifying the faculty of record and areas of concentration, which Guest Carll-White agreed to make. Pienkowski **moved** that the SC recommend that the Senate approve the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation, within the College of Design. Brown **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Update on SGA Vote on Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Non-Faculty Membership - Scout McCamy

Palli offered a report to SC members on the vote by the Student Government Association regarding the report of the SC's ad hoc committee on Senate Non-Faculty Membership. Palli reported that the SGA gave the report a negative recommendation due to the purview that the University Senate holds over the curriculum, academic calendar and the Student Code of Conduct. The recommendation was for additional discussion, because the curriculum, Student Code of Conduct, etc., affect students. There was a possibility students could support the ad hoc committee's report if a new rule was instituted that required the inclusion of students in discussions of student-centered matters, such as the curriculum and the Student Code of Conduct.

Wilson expressed concern about the possibility of changing Governing Regulations V. Wood agreed with Wilson and added that there was no intent to exclude students from an advisory role – they would continue to be ex officio non-voting members if the report's recommendations were instituted. Wood and Palli agreed to meet with other student for further discussions.

There being no further business to attend to, McCormick **moved** to adjourn and Pienkowski **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lee X. Blonder,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Anderson, Blonder, Brown, Christ, Day, Debski, Harling, Hippisley, McCormick, Pienkowski, Wilson and Wood.

Invited guests present: Adam Banks, Allison Carll-White, Davy Jones, Mark Kornbluh, Roxanne Mountford and David Timoney.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Thursday, January 30, 2014.