

Senate Council
January 28, 2013

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, January 28, 2103 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 3:04 pm.

1. Minutes from January 14, 2013 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no corrections were received for the minutes. Therefore the minutes from January 14, 2013 stood **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**. There were a variety of announcements.

The Chair told SC members that the summer retreat might occur in mid June, perhaps the 13th or 14th. She said the date would be emailed to SC members for possible confirmation.

Michelle Sohner, the sergeant at arms for the University Senate (Senate) will retire at the end of February. As such, a plaque is being ordered to give to her as a token of the Senate's appreciation at the meeting February 11.

The Chair approved the addition of one undergraduate student to the December 2012 degree list, who was omitted due to a University error.

The Chair met with President Capilouto and discussed the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Multidisciplinary Centers and Programs. She reported that the President is open to discussing the reporting structure for the vice president for research. He will share the report with a variety of other individuals and get additional input.

Although there was intent to use clicker technology at Senate meetings, after further investigation it would take too much time to set them up properly for each meeting. The idea has been put on the back burner for now.

SC members deliberated on and chose faculty members to serve on the summative review committee for the dean of the College of Design.

The Chair reminded SC members about the informal chat with Board of Trustees Chair E. Britt Brockman, MD on Thursday.

2. Old Business

a. Update on Administrative Regulations 4:9 ("International Education Travel") - Associate Provost for International Affairs Susan Carvalho

Associate Provost for International Affairs Susan Carvalho offered SC members an update on how the relatively new *Administrative Regulation 4:9* ("International Education Travel") was working out. Guest Carvalho explained that one unexpected benefit was the new ability to ensure that all education abroad travel requests were now required to go through a faculty member's college international travel committee, which ensures better adherence to best practices.

It was determined that neither the SC nor the Senate needed to review the proposed changes to AR 4:9, which involved a name change and a modification to a risk management practice. Carvalho agreed to offer the same report to the Senate in February.

b. Education Abroad Course Approval Process - First Annual Report - Associate Provost for International Affairs Susan Carvalho

Carvalho began by explaining that this particular issue had remained in the SC and had not been presented to the Senate. She then presented information on the process for approving an existing course for education abroad. Guest Abby Hollander (study abroad coordinator) also answered questions for SC members. SC members asked that future reports include the number of UK students who participated, the total number of credit hours and the average number of students per trip.

c. Foreign Language Requirement - Ruth Beattie, chair, UK Core Education Committee

Guest Ruth Beattie, chair of the UK Core Education Committee (UKCEC), offered an explanation for the suggestion by UKCEC that the SC form a subcommittee to review the details of UK's foreign language requirement. There was extensive discussion among those present about how to proceed – the suggestion of a subcommittee to review the matter was not debated, but rather under which body (SC or UKCEC) the subcommittee will be formed.

It was ultimately decided that UKCEC will create and charge a subcommittee with developing a plan for testing proficiency in a foreign language by April with testing to begin in August and a report to the Senate in August. The report will include the steps to full implementation as well as formal language to be inserted into the Senate Rules.

d. Proposed Final Approval for One-Year Masters in Public Administration and One-Year Masters in Public Policy Programs (calendar issue)

Guests Merl Hackbart (Martin School interim director) and Dwight Denison (director of graduate studies) explained the changes to the proposal since the SC last saw it. There was very brief discussion.

Anderson **moved** to recommend to the Senate that it approve the calendar for the proposed one-year Master in Public Administration and proposed one-year master in Public Administration, in addition to the traditional two-year program, effective immediately. Wasilkowski **seconded**. There being no additional discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

e. Graduation Writing Requirement

Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Ben Withers explained the proposal to change the Graduation Writing Requirement. Guests Deanna Sellnow (Department of Communication), Roxanne Mountford (director of the outdated but still functioning Writing Initiative), and Anna Bosch (Arts and Sciences Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs) also took part in the discussion. To start out, Sellnow explained that the old Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR) required a 15-page paper. The proposal for a new graduation composition and communication requirement (GCCR) requires a course that involves ~~either a~~ written ~~or oral~~ component, along with one other modality, ~~either oral or digital~~. Departments can create their own course to complement the major or they can use a class offered by the Department of English or the Division of Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Media. Students in the Honors Program can meet the GCCR requirement through Honors Program coursework – there is no need to take a separate class.

Hippisley asked if the intent was to mandate communication standards in English, which is the language specifically identified in the *Senate Rules*. SC members discussed the issue. If there was intent to change the language of proficiency, that change would need to be expressly approved by the Senate. The original intent was clearly to require proficiency in English and not another language. After brief discussion a straw poll was taken; nine out of 10 SC voters thought the GCCR must require proficiency in English.

There was some confusion about the next steps to take. Those present agreed that the SC can affirm the work on the new GCCR. In the meantime, Withers will ensure a proposal is created to identify a new committee to administer the GCCR and to draft possible language on the GCCR to insert into the *SR*.

Grossman **moved** that the SC endorse the principles outlined in the GCCR proposal presented during the meeting. Anderson **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

3. Proposed May 2013 Honorary Degree Recipients - Dean Jeannine Blackwell, Chair, University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees

Guest Jeannine Blackwell, dean of the Graduate School and chair of the University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees (UJCHD) offered a presentation on the three nominees for honorary degrees, to be granted in May. Wood **moved** that the three proposed honorary degree recipients and the degree types be sent to the Senate with a positive recommendation. Brion **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

4. Proposed Formalization of Winter Commencement - John Herbst, Chair, Commencement Committee

Grossman **moved** to make winter commencement permanent and Anderson **seconded**. Guest John Herbst offered SC members a brief presentation on winter commencement. There was some confusion about the *SR* already mentioning a winter commencement. Ms. Brothers explained that when the winter commencement pilot was created, the SC and Senate were asked to approve the granting of honorary degrees at the pilot winter commencement, to ensure that ceremony contains the same aspects as the May ceremony. The Senate ultimately approved a change to the *SR* that codified a winter commencement so that honorary degrees at winter commencement could be offered, but the Senate never officially approved the institution of a winter commencement.

Wood objected to the motion on the floor, because although it was a technicality, winter commencement was already part of the *SR*. Grossman and Anderson **withdrew** the motion to make winter commencement permanent.

Anderson **moved** to accept the report from the Commencement Committee about December commencement and forward the report to the Senate. Wasilkowski **seconded**. There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Proposed Changes to (Graduate School) 2013-14 Calendar (Last Day for Candidates for a May Degree to Sit for a Final Examination)

Wood **moved** to change the last day for candidates for a May degree to sit for a final examination from April 18 to April 19. Brion **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

There being no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lee X. Blonder,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Anderson, Blonder, Brion, Christ, Debski, Grossman, Hippisley, Swanson, Wasilkowski, Watt, Wilson, Wood and Wright.

Invited guests: Ruth Beattie, J. S. Butler, Anna Bosch, Jeannine Blackwell, Susan Carvalho, Dwight Denison, Morris Grubbs, Merl Hackbart, John Herbst, Abby Hollander, Roxanne Mountford, Deanna Sellnow and Ben Withers.

Provost's Liaison present: Richard Greissman.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, February 1, 2013.