

Senate Council
March 1, 2010

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, March 1, 2010 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 at 3:04 pm. Those present, including guests, introduced themselves.

1. Minutes from February 15 and Announcements

The Chair reported that Grossman would be leaving early, so unless there were objections the Chair said he was inclined to rearrange the agenda. There were no objections.

SC members decided that there would be no meeting on March 15.

There was one small change to the February 15, 2010 minutes – Kelly needed to be added to the list of SC members present. Chappell **moved** to approve the minutes from February 15 as amended and Anderson **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

2. Proposed New Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education, Research, and Practice

Guests Dean Perman and Andrea Pfeifle (College of Medicine) explained the proposal. SC members asked a variety of questions. When discussion ceased, Chappell suggested that SC members move to the next agenda item for discussion out of respect for the guests waiting for other agenda items, and then return to the item later for a vote. There were no objections.

3. Proposed Change to Admissions Requirements for MA/MS in Library and Information Science

The Chair invited Guest Jeff Huber to share information about the proposal, which he did. There were a couple of questions from SC members.

8. S and U Grades in 0-Credit Courses

Grossman explained that there was a grade notation that could be utilized by an instructor to recognize progress in a course that continues over multiple semesters. However, that grade, SI, indicates satisfactory progress. Grossman proposed that a new grade, UI, be adopted to demonstrate unsatisfactory progress. He thought it was an issue for the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) to consider, but stated that review by the SC first was appropriate. There was brief discussion, and the Chair suggested that a motion be moved after Davy Jones, SREC chair, arrived.

4. Request to Suspend GRE for MS in Rehabilitation Counseling

Guest Sonja Feist-Price shared information about the proposal. After some questions and general discussion, it was determined that the request to suspend the GRE for the MS in Rehabilitation Counseling has been previously incorporated into the Graduate School Bulletin. The Chair thanked Feist-Price and she departed.

S and U Grades in 0-Credit Courses

Due to Davy Jones's arrival, Grossman **moved** to establish a proposal for a new UI grade (to demonstrate unsatisfactory progress), change the definition of the SI grade, and send it to the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee for consideration. Swanson **seconded**. There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

9. Two Issues from Senate's Rules and Elections Committee: Policies Regarding Other Examinations and Excused Absences

The Chair introduced Guest Davy Jones, chair of the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC). Jones explained that the SREC was somewhat divided over the intent of *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2* ("Excused Absences"). The problem was specifically with the phrase "Trips for members of student organizations sponsored by an educational unit." Jones said that the SREC could be forced to come to a decision and vote on the issue, but said he would prefer hearing input from the SC as a whole prior to making a final decision.

SC members engaged in a lively discussion of the phrase and its various possible meanings. Chappell **moved** that the issue be returned to the SREC for rewording to clarify the rules, and then returned to the SC. Grossman **seconded**. Jones acknowledged the charge, but reiterated that since the SREC had been unable to come to a unified decision, it would be extremely helpful to know the opinion of the SC.

After additional discussion, Chappell **called the question**. Subsequently, a **vote** was taken on the motion that the issue be returned to the SREC for rewording to clarify the rules, and then returned to the SC. The motion **passed** with none opposed.

Jones then presented the second issue to SC members. *Senate Rules 5.2.4.8* ("Policies Regarding Other Examinations") contains the phrase "approved by the department chair," which was somewhat vague. He asked for input as to how that rule should be interpreted. SC members discussed the issue.

After some time, a consensus was reached among SC members that approval by the department chair should occur prior to each semester in which a faculty member intends to teach. Chappell **moved** that the SREC draft a revision of *Senate Rules 5.2.4.8* based on the day's discussion and return the revised language to the SC for approval. Anderson **seconded**. There being no additional discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion passed with none opposed.

5. Proposed New University Scholars Program: BS Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles and MS Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles

Guest Kim Spillman explained the proposed new University Scholars Program comprised of a BS in Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles and an MS in Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles. There was little discussion.

6. Proposed New Dual Degree Program: PharmD and MS Physician Assistant Studies

Guests Kelly Smith and Gil Boissonneault explained the proposed dual degree program. SC members asked a variety of questions, including queries about the duties of individuals with a PharmD degree.

7. Online Course Evaluations - Roger Sugarman, Institutional Research

Guest Roger Sugarman (Director, Institutional Research) began by specifically noting that semi-recent language from a Kentucky Kernel article about a drastic movement toward online teacher and course evaluations was misleading. On the contrary, discussions about a shift to online teacher and course evaluations were proceeding at a gradual pace. He then offered information about how the online method came about, student response rates to trial usage and possible conclusions that could not and should not be drawn.

SC members discussed the issue amongst themselves and with Sugarman. SC members learned that the College of Nursing faculty voted to utilize online course evaluations, yet faculty in the College of Education were offered no opportunity for input into using online evaluations, even though it was now mandatory for them.

Prior to departing, Sugarman said that he would very much welcome having a Senate Council representative serve on a work group to recommend policies and procedures regarding online teacher and course evaluations. The Chair thanked him and he departed.

Proposed New Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education, Research, and Practice

Anderson **moved** to endorse the proposed New Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education, Research, and Practice and send it to the Senate with a positive recommendation. Swanson **seconded**. SC members discussed the proposed new center and expressed concerns about the budget and reporting structure.

Chappell **moved** to table the proposal until the next meeting, and Steiner **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Proposed New Dual Degree Program: PharmD and MS Physician Assistant Studies

SC members discussed the proposed dual degree program. There were some questions about the necessity of the degree apart from a graduate's ability to bill for pharmaceutical activities. SC members agreed that additional information was needed prior to making a recommendation to the Senate and voting.

Proposed New University Scholars Program: BS Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles and MS Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles

SC members discussed the proposed new University Scholars Program and about how the quality of recruited students applying for such programs is measured. There were also comments regarding the purpose of University Scholars Programs as a recruitment tool for new students versus a retention tool for current students who could move into graduate programs.

A **motion** was made and **seconded** to approve the proposed new University Scholars Program consisting of a BS in Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles and an MS in Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Randall,
Senate Council Chair

SC members in attendance: Anderson, Chappell, Grossman, Jensen, Kirk, Nokes, Randall, Steiner, Swanson and Thelin.

Invited guests present: Gil Boissonneault, Sonja Feist-Price, Jeff Huber, Davy Jones, Jay Perman, Andrea Pfeifle, Kelly Smith, Kim Spillman and Steve Voss.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, March 19, 2010.