

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

The Senate Council met in a specially called session on Monday, April 13, 2020 via video conference. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Senate Council Chair Jennifer Bird-Pollan called the special Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The Chair welcomed those present. The Chair informed everyone that the session was being recorded and asked everyone to use the chat box to sign in for attendance. The Chair provided guidance on how to participate in the discussion. She noted that because it was a special SC meeting, she would only be asking SC members to vote but she welcomed and encouraged senators to participate, ask questions, debate, etc. She explained that SC members had already considered the items on the day's agenda during a regular SC meeting as usual, but the SC wanted senators to have an opportunity to weigh in on proposals that would normally receive Senate review. She asked those present to mute themselves until called on to speak.

The Chair reminded those present for the meeting to share information with their constituents and let them know the Senate was still functioning.

1. Minutes from March 9, 2020 and Announcements

The Chair reported that some editorial changes to the minutes from the last regularly called Senate meeting were received. There being **no objections**, the minutes from March 9, 2020 were **approved** as amended **by unanimous consent**. The Chair offered a series of announcements to senators.

The Chair announced that the Connect Blue Reception has been cancelled, but we are working to reschedule it for the fall.

The Chair announced that Bill Swinford is on administrative leave from his position as the President's chief of staff and that Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Eric Monday is the Interim Chief of Staff.

The Chair reminded those present that Leslie Vincent (BE) has been working with the UK Mental Health Task Force. An email to faculty from the Task Force was sent out asking for input on student mental health issues and the faculty's role in addressing these concerns. The Chair asked everyone to submit their responses. The Task Force wants to hear faculty's views and feedback from your colleagues too.

Senate elections are slightly behind due to COVID-19. The SC Office is working to get information out to colleges about empty Senate seats. She expected there would be a fully functioning Senate in the fall.

A recipient has been chosen for the Outstanding Senator Award. The announcement will be delayed until September so the award can be given in person.

The email for the annual faculty evaluation of the President has gone out. The results will be shared with the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees in the fall. The Chair asked everyone to be sure to complete the survey and encourage their colleagues to do the same.

The first round of voting for the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees faculty member is done and the second round will begin this week. The elected faculty member will take over Bob Grossman's term which is ending June 30. The Chair asked everyone to be sure to vote and encourage their colleagues to do the same.

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

The Chair reminded SC that the final curricular deadline for 2019-2020 was April 13, 2020. Academic councils and Senate committees will continue working to move items through. The Chair encouraged anyone who has questions to reach out as the additional agenda items and web transmittals come through.

2. Consent Agenda Items

- a. Proposed Change to BHS Medical Laboratory Sciences
- b. Proposed Change to MS Chemistry
- c. Proposed Change to BSHM Hospitality Management and Tourism
- d. Proposed Change to BS Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles
- e. Proposed Suspension and Closure of MS Crop Science
- f. Proposed Suspension and Closure of PhD Crop Science
- g. Proposed Suspension and Closure of PhD Plant Physiology
- h. Proposed Suspension and Closure of PhD Soil Science

The Chair explained that the items on the Consent Agenda are fairly routine, but must, under current Senate Rules, be approved by Senate. If anyone would like to remove an item from the Consent Agenda so it can be discussed and debated, they merely needed to ask. Any items that are not removed from the consent agenda will be approved by lack of objection. The Chair asked for objections and there were none.

3. Officer and Other Reports

a. Chair

The Chair reported that the past weeks have been challenging. She recognized SC and everyone across campus for their hard work to continue students' learning. The Chair thanked Provost David Blackwell for his partnership over the last weeks. The Chair also thanked President Eli Capilouto and Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Eric Monday. She recognized that the progress that has been made is a result of collaboration and hard work by many people on campus.

The Chair explained that the *Senate Rules (SRs)* give SC authority to take some actions on behalf of the Senate as long as they are reported to the Senate. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, SC has acted on behalf of the Senate on multiple locations. The Chair shared that the SC met for four hours on March 13, 2020 and moved a series of motions to offer academic guidance to the University community. She referred senators to the SC office's COVID-19 FAQ page.

The Chair shared the calendar changes from March 13, for spring 2020, which included:

- Changed last day to withdraw from classes to May 1.
- Changed last day to change to pass/fail grading to May 1.

Oltmann asked about expanding the grading period for faculty and the Chair responded that she would consult with University Registrar Kim Taylor and SC about it.

The Chair continued to share actions taken on March 13 by SC on behalf of Senate, which included the items listed below.

- SC discussed the issue of P/F and if programs should be required to accept P/F grading. SC opted to take no formal action on whether programs would have to accept P/F grading for required courses and decided to defer that issue to each program's faculty of record. There was

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

a strong desire at SC to maintain Senate's current model of expecting faculties of record to make informed decisions about their own programs.

- SC waived the portion of *SR 5.1.4* ("Courses Taken on a Pass/Fail Basis") that prohibits use of P/F grading for freshmen.
- Waived the portion of *SR 5.1.4* ("Courses Taken on a Pass/Fail Basis") that prohibits use of P/F grading for students on academic probation.
- Decided that no courses taken during spring 2020 count towards the lifetime maximum of four P/F courses for undergraduates.
- Clarified that instructors are authorized to change their syllabi due to the COVID-19 situation and must communicate any changes to students as quickly as possible.
- Suggested the Chair communicate to instructors that they be as flexible as possible with students during spring 2020.
- Recommended against requiring doctor's notes for absences related to illness.

On March 23, the SC discussed the issue of allowing UK Core courses to be taken as pass/fail, but wanted input from Senate's UK Core Education Committee (SUKCEC). SUKCEC subsequently voted to allow UK Core courses to be taken pass/fail for spring 2020 and SC did not take any further action regarding this issue.

- On March 30, on behalf of Senate, the SC approved proposed changes to *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2.3.1* ("Excused Absences") regarding short-term absences for members of the military and the KY National Guard. The Veterans Resource Center will now be the point of contact for students in the military who are called to serve. Also on March 30, the SC reviewed some program-specific changes, described below.
 - Approved changes to the PharmD program for class of 2021. The approved proposal dropped the number of required clinical rotations for affected students from 7 to 6. total credit hours after changing is still above minimum required by accrediting agencies.
- Approved changes to the JD program courses for spring 2020.
 - Pass/fail grading made mandatory for all Law students in spring 2020.
- Proposed changes to 2019-20 academic calendar related to the Graduate School.
 - Pushed back by about a week the last day to sit for a final exam, last day to submit thesis, and last day to submit final (edited) thesis.
- Approved a nonstandard calendar for AT 642 (not COVID-related).
- Approved modifications to Graduate School policies for international students for fall 2020 admissions (current recruiting cycle).
 - Accepting Duolingo scores in addition to TOEFL/IELTS.
 - Changed deadline for submitting applications from (was) March 15 to at least the end of the spring 2020 semester.
- Approved one-time change to PharmD to allow students to opt for pass/fail grading for all courses in spring 2020.
- Approved one-time change to DMD to allow students to opt for pass/fail grading in DMD courses in spring 2020.
- At the request of Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Christine Harper, waived certain aspects of *SR 4.2.1* ("Admission Requirements").
 - Temporarily accept self-reported GPA and courses taken (Undergraduate Admissions to verify self-reported data later).

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

- Temporarily automatically admit students with 3.00 weighted GPA without an SAT or ACT test score.

b. Provost

Administration is focused on leading through the COVID-19 disruption by consistently following a number of principles, particularly the health and safety of everyone in the community and continuing the missions of research, public service, and patient care. He emphasized the accommodations for spring 2020 are unique and any further actions will need to be discussed.

Provost Blackwell shared that workstreams and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) are working every day to manage issues and make recommendations. He explained that Administration remains concerned about students, especially those in remote areas. He shared some of the many ways that UK is reaching out to help students.

Provost Blackwell said that the COVID-19 situation was going to affect UK's budget and said communications would come out as more is learned.

The Provost highlighted the work of UK HealthCare Enterprise Director of Infection Prevention and Control Kim Blanton and UK HealthCare Medical Director for Infection Prevention and Control Derek Forster. They have contacted every student, staff, and faculty member who are infected with COVID-19 or who have been exposed to it, to coach, follow up on, and help them in any way possible.

Provost Blackwell also reported on the possible return of students in fall of 2020, redeployment of UK HealthCare faculty and staff, the UK budget, and the probationary period for tenure-eligible faculty.

The floor was opened for questions which included:

- When will the university know if classes will be in-person or online for the fall?
We are not ready to make a decision about that yet but will be monitoring the situation.
- How many UK faculty, staff, and student cases of COVID-19 have there been?
Don't know specific numbers for UK faculty, staff, and student cases, but UK hospital has only had ten hospitalizations.
- How COVID-19 effects ongoing plans for construction and restoration of facilities?
Projects that are already happening or for which bonds have already been issued will move forward.
- How will the online courses that have been developed during COVID-19 be used in the future?
A workgroup is already working on ways for this work to be utilized in the future.
- Will there be options for faculty, and students who are not comfortable attending in person in the fall?
Yes, there will be options for faculty and staff and students.

The Chair thanked Provost Blackwell for coming.

c. Vice Chair

Vice Chair DeShana Collett (HS) did not have a report to give.

d. Parliamentarian

Parliamentarian Doug Michael (LA) did not have a report to give.

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

e. Trustee

Faculty Trustee Lee X. Blonder (ME) reported that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees approved a daycare center for UK HealthCare employees.

Faculty Trustee Bob Grossman (AS) gave report on the last in-person meeting of the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees including how COVID-19 might affect the hospital supply chain, approval of eight new degree programs, \$13.5 million gift from Trustee Bill Gatton for the expansion of the Gatton Student Center, renaming of the Department of Statistics, disposal of a barn, and the selling of a pipe organ.

4. Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 1.4.3.4 ("Senate Retroactive Withdrawal Appeals Committee (SRWAC)")

The Chair welcomed University Director for Academic and Career Advising Marianne Young, who explained the proposal. There were no questions. Soult (AS) made a **motion** to approve on behalf of the Senate the proposed changes to *SR 1.4.3.1* ("Senate Retroactive Withdrawal Appeals Committee (SRWAC)"), effective July 1, 2020. Andrade **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 1.4.3.5 ("Senate Academic Advising Committee (SacAC)") (PDF)

The Chair welcomed Chair of SacAC Rebecca Freeman (AS) who explained the proposal. There were no questions. Cantrell (ED) made a **motion** to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed changes to *Senate Rules 1.4.3.5* ("Senate Academic Advising Committee (SacAC)"), effective immediately. Andrade **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

6. Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 5.2.4.2.2 ("Making Up Graded Work")

The Chair welcomed Associate Dean for Administration and Academic Affairs Kim Anderson (EN) to explain the proposal. Cramer (EN) made a **motion** to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed changes to *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2.2* ("Making Up Graded Work"). Vincent (BE) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal and there was some. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

7. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) – Bill Smith, Chair

i. Proposed Suspension and Closure of the BHS Physical Therapy (PHTH-BHS)

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. After brief discussion, SC members expressed a desire to allow a committee's motion to come forward, without asking for a member to move the motion and second it. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve on behalf of Senate the suspension of admissions and approve on behalf of Senate for submission to the Board of Trustees the closure of the Bachelors of Health Sciences Physical Therapy program (PHTH-BHS). Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

ii. Proposed Changes to Undergraduate Certificate in Nutrition for Human Performance

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed changes to the Undergraduate Certificate in Nutrition for Health Performance. Because the **motion** came from

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

iii. Proposed Changes to JD and Senate Rules 5.3.4.1 (“Attendance and Academic Discipline in the Professional Programs,” College of Law”)

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed changes to the JD and *Senate Rules 5.3.4.1* (“Attendance and Academic Discipline in the Professional Programs,” College of Law”). Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

iv. Changes to PhD Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there was none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed changes to the MSEP Epidemiology. Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

v. Proposed changes to MSEP Epidemiology Proposed

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there was none. The Chair stated that the motion on the floor was to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed changes to the PhD Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

b. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Aaron Cramer, Chair

i. Proposed New Plan B Option for MS Plant Pathology

Cramer described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve on behalf of Senate the significant change to the MS Plant Pathology, in the Department of Plant Pathology within the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ii. Proposed Change to Master of Music

Cramer described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve on behalf of Senate the significant change to the Master of Music, in the School of Music within the College of Fine Art. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

iii. Proposed Change to Doctor of Musical Arts

Cramer described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve on behalf of Senate the significant change to the approve the significant change to the Doctor of Musical Arts, in the School of Music within the College of Fine Arts. Because the motion came from committee, no **second**

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

iv. Proposed New USP between the BS Agricultural Economics and Master of Public Administration (MPA)

Cramer described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve on behalf of Senate the establishment of a new University Scholars Program between the BS Agricultural Economics and Master of Public Administration. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

v. Proposed New MA Liberal Studies

Cramer described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve on behalf of Senate, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MA Liberal Studies, in the College of Arts and Sciences. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

c. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) – Zack Bray, Chair

i. Proposed Move of BSHPS in Plant and Soil Science from Department of Plant and Soil Science to Department of Horticulture

Bray described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the first **motion** on the floor was to approve on behalf of Senate the proposed move of BSHPS in Plant and Soil Science from Department of Plant and Soil Science to Department of Horticulture based on its academic merits. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair stated that the second **motion** on the floor was to endorse on behalf of Senate the proposed move of BSHPS in Plant and Soil Science from Dept of Plant and Soil Science to Dept of Horticulture based on its nonacademic merits. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

8. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair noted that there were a few minutes left and asked if anyone wanted to raise issues, but there were no comments.

Andrade (ME) made a **motion** to adjourn. Vincent (BE) **seconded**. The motion **passed** with none opposed. The Chair thanked those participating in the meeting and said she was grateful for senators' participation. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,
Senate Council Chair

Specially Called Senate Council Meeting
April 13, 2020

SC members present: Andrade, Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Cantrell, Charnigo, Collett, Cramer, Grossman, Hamilton, Richardson, Shaikh, Sault, and Vincent.

Guests present: Carmen Agouridis, Kim Anderson, Ruth Beattie, Dave Blackwell, Luke Bradley, Christian Brady, Sheila Brothers, Roger Brown, Steve Browning, Deborah Chung, Jeff Clymer, Anastasia Curwood, Reny de Leeuw, Rick Durham, Rebekah Epps, Regina Fragneto, Rebecca Freeman, Nicole Gauthier, Michael Goodin, Jennifer Greer, Janie Heath, Larry Holloway, Davy Jones, Yuha Jung, Gia Mudd-Martin, Shannon Oltmann, Jennifer Osterhage, Jim Pauly, Sean Pepper, Chris Pool, Howard Roberts, Joe Stemple, Kim Taylor, Monica Udvardy, Kristine Urschel, Martina Vasil, Doug Way, Annie Davis Weber, Eric Welch, Melinda Wilson, Scott Yost, John Young, Marianne Young.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on April 27, 2020.