

Senate Council  
August 17, 2020

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 pm on Monday, August 17, 2020 via video conference. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise. Below is a record of what transpired.

Senate Council Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:01 pm. The Chair welcomed those present. He informed everyone that the session was being recorded and asked everyone to use the chat box to sign in for attendance. He provided guidance on how to participate in the discussion.

1. Minutes from May 18, June 22, and August 3, 2020 and Announcements

The Chair reported that an edit was received and implemented for the set of minutes from May 18<sup>th</sup> and no edits were received for the sets of minutes from June 22<sup>nd</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>. There being **no objections**, the minutes from May 18, June 22, and August 3, 2020 were **approved by unanimous consent**. The Chair reported that there is one outstanding set of minutes, from June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Chair reminded SC of the ad-hoc workgroup established to review Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) charge. The workgroup has met, and they are working on a document to bring to SC.

The Chair welcomed everyone back for the first day of school. He noted that it will be an unusual semester and there will be several issues that require SC's voice. He thanked everyone for meeting over the summer and expressed that he is looking forward to working with everyone going forward.

The Chair shared that on behalf of the Senate he waived *SR 5.2.4.6* for four Athletic Training (AT) 600-level courses to permit practical exams during Dead Week. Practical exams in these courses are required for accreditation.

The Chair shared that a workgroup composed of representatives from UK Online, the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OSPIE), SC Office, and chair of the Distance and e-Learning Committee (SCDLeL) Chair Roger Brown (AG) worked on a form over the summer for programs wishing to convert from face-to-face to distance learning delivery. The form is only for use by programs that wish to offer a fully online version of their degree program or certificate and nothing about the program changes, except delivery method. The workgroup will later be working to update the program change form to accommodate programs that want to change the program and deliver it online. The suspend admissions/close a program form will also be updated to accommodate suspending/closing specific delivery modes. After vetting, the form will be given to SCDLeL for review. SCDLeL plans to discuss changing the *SRs* to document their involvement in the curricular approval process.

The Chair shared that Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) is working to finalize the updated version of the *SRs*. They are also preparing for upcoming fall elections for SC and SC officers.

The Chair shared that one of the requests from the Black Lives Matter (BLM) student group is for VIP and Counseling Center visits to be recognized as excused absences. The Chair thought the issues should be brought to SC by a registered student group or the Student Government Association (SGA). The Chair turned to SGA President Wheeler for an update. She explained that SGA is waiting to hear from the Counseling and VIP Center leadership about the suggestion. It is also being brought to the Provost's Council for feedback. The Chair asked that feedback about the request be shared with Wheeler. He also

noted that while vetting with other groups is fine, the Senate does have explicit authority over the *SRs*, which is where excused absences are defined.

2. Proposed Change to 2020-21 Academic Calendar (Deadline for Applying for Admission to the Graduate School for Summer 2021)

The Chair explained the request from the Graduate School to change the deadline to apply for admission to the Graduate School for the 2021 summer session from Saturday, April 10, 2021 to Friday, April 9, 2021. Brion (EN) **moved** to accept the proposed change. Charnigo (PbH) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

3. SC Liaisons to Undergraduate Council, Graduate Council, and Health Care Colleges Council

The Chair explained what the council liaisons do and asked SC for suggestions for each academic council. He also offered recommendations based on the current compositions of relevant Senate committees.

SC discussed nominees and ranked them. Soult (AS) **moved** to accept the proposed SC liaison to the Undergraduate Council and other ranked names as possibilities. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

SC discussed nominees. Soult (AS) **moved** to accept the proposed SC liaison to the Graduate Council. Cantrell (ED) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one abstaining and none opposed.

SC discussed nominees and ranked them. Brion (EN) **moved** to accept the proposed SC liaison to the Health Care Colleges Council and other ranked names as possibilities. Cantrell (ED) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one abstaining and none opposed.

4. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Leslie Vincent, Chair

i. 2019-20 Report

Vincent shared an overview of academic year 2019-2020 for SAPC. The overview included a breakdown of what SAPC reviewed. She noted that the new forms in Curriculumlog were very helpful with the review process and that all programs being submitted in the same format was helpful. Vincent noted that sometimes similar programs come through the SAPC at different times, which makes it more difficult to evaluate collaborations or overlaps in content. She finished by noting that “plus” programs, such as a 2+4 or 3+4, are an area of concern because it is not clear to the committee or the proposers what the correct process should be. It was clarified that SAPC reviews significant program changes in addition to new programs.

Past chair Bird-Pollan expressed her appreciation to Sheila Brothers for her hours of hard work developing the new forms. The Chair also expressed his appreciation to Ms. Brothers.

The Chair asked SC for their feedback. There was discussion about the program review process for programs that are not graduating enough students and that are being duplicated. The Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness has helped to identify programs like this, but it is an ongoing process. There was also discussion about upcoming program reviews at all of Kentucky's universities by an outside firm hired by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE).

The Chair asked if there were any other thoughts for SAPC, specifically about plus programs. Bird-Pollan (LA) **moved** to ask SAPC to clarify what “plus” programs are and to make recommendations about their nature and clarify what they are, perhaps with a formal definition. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Joint SC-President Working Group on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policies - Co-Chairs Jennifer Bird-Pollan and Martha Alexander

The Chair welcomed co-chairs of the Joint Workgroup on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policies, Jennifer Bird-Pollan (LA) and Executive Director in the Office of Institutional Equity and Equal Opportunity and Title IX Coordinator Martha Alexander. He noted that the interim *Administrative Regulation (AR)* from the workgroup had already been distributed to University.

Bird-Pollan explained the history behind previous *Administrative Regulation* changes related to Title IX. The current workgroup was formed jointly with SC and the President’s Office in January 2019. The workgroup is composed of members from SC, Staff Senate, Student Government Association, and community leaders. They worked over the summer on responses to the new Title IX regulations that were released in May. Compliance with the new regulations was required by August 14<sup>th</sup>. She explained that there are about five items in the new Title IX rules for which the University has some discretion and can choose among acceptable options; the workgroup unanimously agreed on four of the five issues and were relatively noncontroversial. The fifth pertains to the standard of evidence. The new regulation requires that all proceedings related to an alleged violation of Title IX must use the same standard of evidence throughout. The workgroup’s report was shared with President Capilouto, who will make a final decision on next steps. Bird-Pollan expected that explicit feedback will be sought from SC on this issue very soon. Bird-Pollan and Alexander were praised for the hard work they have done.

The Chair asked if there were any questions. Bird-Pollan and Alexander gave a summary of the more significant Title IX changes, one being that all parties involved now have the right to appeal. Also, there was clarification about how complaint files are handled. Bird-Pollan anticipates that the workgroup will ask for feedback from Senate in October.

6. COVID Ongoing Discussion

The Chair asked SC if they had anything to discuss regarding COVID. Discussion included:

- Student COVID testing and positivity rates.
- The impact of students who are required to quarantine on faculty who are teaching in person.
- Student accommodations if quarantining.
- Script used for dealing with students who refuse to wear a mask.
- Monitoring compliance around campus.
- University metrics used to evaluate the safety of campus.

Brion (EN) **moved** to adjourn. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. There were no objections

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Cramer,  
Senate Council Chair

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SC members present: Andrade, Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Cantrell, Charnigo, Collett, Cramer, Hall, Sout, Vincent, and Wheeler.

Guests present: Martha Alexander, Sheila Brothers, Bob Grossman, Larry Holloway, Davy Jones, and Annie Davis Weber.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on August 19, 2020.