

Senate Council
June 22, 2020

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 pm on Monday, June 22, 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 3:00 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 11, 2020 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits were received for the set of minutes from May 11, 2020. There being **no objections**, the minutes from May 11, 2020 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair reported that he approved on behalf of SC and Senate a late addition of a DMD student from the College of Dentistry to the May 2020 degree list.

The Chair reported that he approved on behalf of SC and Senate modification to the Fall 2020 calendar. Provost David Blackwell asked him to share his appreciation for SC's discussions that facilitated the modifications.

Provost Blackwell commented that SC Chair Cramer was very responsive and made the parameters of his authority clear. There was good feedback from faculty leaders about the modified calendar. He expressed his appreciation for SC giving the Chair authority to work on the calendar and for the time the Chair spent with him working on it. The Chair added that he hoped the SC would be able to soon vote on a full calendar with more than start and end dates.

The Chair reminded SC members that they had previously discussed the possibility of new certificates being effective for the spring semester. He noted that the same could apply to new University Scholar's Program (USP) and asked SC to let him know soon if they have any objections to either new certificates or new USPs being effective for spring.

The Chair shared that he met with Senate's UK Core Education Committee (SUKCEC) Chair Patrick Lee Lucas (DS). They discussed the possible need for more administrative support and the annual SUKCEC report. Lucas will share the report with SC in July or August.

The Chair shared that the Undergraduate Council's (UC) subcommittee on Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR) only has one person appointed. He asked that SC to consider this concern when thinking about committee assignments.

The Chair shared that he received an update from the Technology Committee. They have asked for SC to charge them with looking at research data policy and evaluation of the shift to online delivery. They have started to work on these but will be waiting until the fall to start on the research data policy. He will let SC know more as he hears back from them.

The Chair asked Jennifer Bird-Pollan (LA) to share some information about the new Title IX Policies. Bird-Pollan reported that the final regulations have been published and the Joint Working Group on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policies has been meeting every other week to develop proposed recommendations for aspects of the revised Title IX regulations that do not prescribe specific action by

UK. The recommendations will be brought to SC, President Capilouto, and the campus for feedback. Required regulations will be implemented by August 14th, but there will be more time to review the proposed recommendations. An interim *Administrative Regulation (AR)* will be developed and then campus conversations can happen before the permanent *AR*.

The Chair shared that the Clinical Title Series (CTS) report was received from the Office for Faculty Advancement. He explained that the report is used to monitor that the colleges have appropriate CTS ratios.

The Chair shared that he followed up with Associate Provost for Academic Affairs Kirsten Turner with SC's concerns about dual reporting for advisors. Turner explained the scheduled move to dual reporting is behind and that she can discuss SC's concerns before implementation at one of the upcoming SC meetings.

The Chair explained that SC needs to send another nominee for the University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees (UJCHD). SC previously discussed another possible nominee for the UJCHD and if there are no objections, he will send that name forward. There were no objections.

The Chair asked to add a new agenda item ("Approval of Alternate Delivery Modes for Fall 2020 Courses") as a new 5a, shift subsequent agenda items, and change the order of two other agenda items. There were no objections.

2. Committee-Related Items

a. Identifying Chairs for Senate Committees

The Chair reminded SC members that they had previously discussed the matter. He said allowing him to identify committee chairs would technically be a waiver of *SR 1.4.1*, which would delegate SC's authority to appoint committee chairs to him. Charnigo (PbH) **moved** to waive *SR 1.4.1*. 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.

b. Discussion on Proposed Changes to SAASC Charge

Item postponed until later in the agenda.

c. Nominee for Senate Academic Advising Committee

The Chair reminded SC of the inclusion of an additional member to be nominated by the Provost's Committee on Academic Advising to the Senate Academic Advising Committee (SAAC) and shared the name of the nominee. Grossman **moved** to approve the nominee for the Senate Academic Advising Committee from the Provost's Committee on Academic Advising. 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.

3. Readmission-Related Waiver for Senate Rules 4.1 ("Application for Admission and Readmission") – Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Christine Harper

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Scott McDonald explained the request to waive *SR 4.1*. Due to COVID-19, they anticipate that there will be students who sit out for one or more semesters. The waiver would allow these students to fill out an abbreviated form to reapply when returning. There was discussion about doing a permanent change versus a temporary waiver of the *SR*.

Grossman (AS) **moved** that for the 2020-21 academic year, the SC temporarily waive the requirement in *SR 4.1* to submit an official application for admission if a student is reapplying after one or two semesters off, effective immediately. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

4. Test-Optional-Related Waiver for *Senate Rules 4.2.1* (“Admission Requirements,” “Undergraduate Admissions”) – Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Christine Harper

The Chair explained that the item could be characterized as a request for a temporary waiver to permit broader Senate action at a later time. Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Scott McDonald explained the request to waive *SR 4.2.1* for a one-year pilot of being SAT test flexible when reviewing student admission applications. Director of Analytics Todd Brann shared data supporting the request. Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Christine Harper reiterated that, partly due to the request coming when the Senate was not in session, she preferred to first have a pilot and review the data and how it affects financial aid awards. The Chair noted that such a pilot should also involve the Senate’s Admissions Advisory Committee and the Senate’s Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC).

Charnigo (PH) **moved** to waive the parts of *SR 4.2.1* pertaining to expectations of standardized tests for admission for fall 2021 and Spring 2022. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was clarification that students will still be able to request their test scores be considered. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

2. Committee-Related Items

b. Discussion on Proposed Changes to Senate’s Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) Charge

The Chair explained that SAASC’s current charge is written very broadly and over time has evolved into looking at specific program changes. SC had previously asked SAASC to draft recommended changes to its charge, but their workload has not allowed time for this. A description of the types of proposals that SAASC regularly reviews was shared and the Chair asked SC to discuss their thoughts on the role of the SAASC.

Discussion from SC included:

- Suspending admissions and closing a program takes up a lot of time so perhaps there is an alternative way of reviewing and approving these.
- Currently, changes in course credit that affect the number of credit hours for major requirements must be reviewed by SAASC. A rule could be developed to allow some of these to be processed by web transmittal instead.
- Allow consent agendas and web transmittals to handle items of lesser significance items.
- The SAASC charge should not be changed in a way that would limit them in the future.

Grossman (AS) **moved** for SC to appoint an ad-hoc committee to: review the SAASC’s charge: suggest rule changes to its charge or processes for program approvals; and recommend the types of items to go on web transmittals. Bird-Pollan (LA) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was discussion of when the committee should meet and who should be on it. Brion (EN) made a friendly amendment to allow the SC Chair to empanel the ad-hoc committee with input from SC. Grossman and Bird-Pollan agreed to the amendment. There being no objections, the amendment was accepted by unanimous consent. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. The Chair asked SC members to send him suggestions on who to include.

5. COVID-19 Ongoing Policy Discussions

a. Item added during meeting, per Chair's request and with SC consent: Approval of Alternate Delivery Modes for Fall 2020 Courses

The Chair reported that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) has not approved flexibility beyond the end of the school year.

Charnigo (PbH) **moved** that due to the COVID-19 situation, SC act on behalf of the University Senate to approve use of alternative delivery modes for courses offered in fall 2020 and, contingent upon SACSCOC approval, through spring 2021. Grossman (AS) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate. Soutl (AS) made a friendly amendment to include the statement, "as needed to protect health of students staff and faculty." Charnigo and Grossman agreed to the amendment. There being no objections, the amendment was accepted by unanimous consent. The Chair asked for guidance regarding who he should communicate with about this. There was support for communicating the information broadly and quickly, perhaps in coordination with Provost Blackwell. There was lengthy discussion, including debate for and against including the spring semester in the motion. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

b. Proposed Tentative Fall 2020 Academic Calendar

The Chair shared the proposed fall 2020 calendar and asked SC how they would like him to handle changes that may come up between SC meetings. There was discussion about why dead week was four days instead of five on the proposed calendar and it was explained that the new reading day was being included as a part of dead week. University Registrar Kim Taylor also commented that the calendar has not been reviewed by the usual constituents yet. She added that the last day for a dissertation to be accepted should be November 20th not December 11th.

Grossman (AS) **moved** to change the the proposed fall 2020 calendar dates for dead week to Thursday, November 19th through Wednesday, November 25th. Blonder (ME) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was discussion about making sure faculty and students understand what the new reading days are. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Grossman (AS) **moved** to accept the edit to the proposed fall 2020 calendar that changes the last day for a dissertation to be accepted to November 20, 2020. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

There was discussion about the shorter time frame for grades to be turned in on the proposed calendar. Charnigo (PH) **moved** that SC request that the final day for submission of grades for the fall 2020 semester be changed to Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 5 pm, rather than Monday, December 7, 2020 at 5 pm for fall 2020 only. Brion **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Grossman (AS) **moved** to approve the proposed fall 2020 calendar as amended. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was discussion about what kinds of calendar changes SC is comfortable with the SC Chair approving on behalf of SC and what SC would like to be consulted about. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

c. University Senate Meetings in Fall 2020

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The Chair shared that after guidance with Legal Counsel, there are no concerns about conducting the fall Senate meetings online. He expects that Zoom will be used and asked that anyone who has experience with larger meetings to share their feedback with Stephanie Woolery.

6. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair noted that this was Bob Grossman's last meeting as a SC member. He recognized him for his contributions as faculty trustee and SC member. Grossman thanked the Chair for his comments and indicated he intended to attend SC meetings in the summer and fall as an observer.

There was clarification that programs wanting nonstandard calendars will still need to come to SC for approval.

There was discussion about how students will be tested and monitored during the semester for COVID. There was also extensive discussion about whether or not there should be a requirement that faculty teach online components for students who need to isolate due to COVID. The Chair said he would keep everyone informed of any issues as they arise. He thanked SC members for being so responsive, even via text at night. The Chair said it helped him to be able to speak with the benefit of their input

Brion (EN) **moved** to adjourn. Grossman (AS) **seconded**. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 5:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Cramer,
Senate Council Chair

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

Guests present: David Blackwell, Anna Bosch, Sheila Brothers, Clark Demaree, Davy Jones, and Ellen Usher.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on August 11, 2020.