

Senate Council  
November 16, 2020

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 pm on Monday, November 16, 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 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 noted that it was an open meeting. He asked everyone to use the chat box to sign in for attendance and provided guidance on how to participate in the discussion.

1. Minutes from October 26, 2020 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits were received for the set of minutes from October 26, 2020. There being **no objections**, the minutes for October 26, 2020 were **approved by unanimous consent**.

The Chair shared that Ms. Brothers would be out of the office for two weeks.

The Chair reported that there would be no SC meeting the following week due to Thanksgiving and their next meeting would be on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Chair reported that Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Jennifer Siebenthaler contacted the SC Office about the possibility of making a clerical edit to the *Senate Rules (SRs)* and Bulletin. He explained that Gatton College of Business's probation/suspension language used the informal term of "dropped" instead of "suspend" in one instance. Since there is no policy for this type of change, the SC Office contacted chairs of all bodies that would normally review a regular major program change. The SC, Undergraduate, Graduate, and Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) Chairs all approved of the process and clerical nature of change. They plan to codify the change in the next update of the *SRs*.

The Chair reported that he sent SC's survey recommendations to President Capilouto and Provost Blackwell.

2. Old Business

a. University Calendars

i. 2021 - 2022 Calendar

ii. 2023 - 2024 Calendar, Tentative

iii. 2021 - 2022 Dentistry

iv. 2023 - 2024 Dentistry, Tentative

v. 2021 - 2022 Law

vi. 2023 - 2024 Law, Tentative

vii. 2021 - 2022 Medicine

viii. 2023 - 2024 Medicine, Tentative

ix. 2021 - 2022 Pharmacy

x. 2023 - 2024 Pharmacy, Tentative

The Chair reminded SC of their approval of the Fall 2021 calendar at their last meeting. He noted that there was concern about "dead days" during winter intersession and summer so voting on these calendars were tabled. Since then, the *SRs* were referenced, and University Registrar Kim Taylor submitted updated calendars for review. Kuhnlein (SGA) **moved** to approve the resubmitted University calendars for 2021-2022, 2023-2024 (Tentative), 2021-2022 (Dentistry), 2023-2024 (Dentistry),

Tentative), 2021-2022 (Law), 2023-2024 (Law, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Medicine), 2023-2024 (Medicine, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Pharmacy), and 2023-2024 (Pharmacy, Tentative). Cantrell (ED) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and it was noted that Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) discussed summer "dead days" and "reading days". A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

There was discussion about SREC bringing a proposal to SC in the future about "dead days" and periods of instruction during summer and winter intersession.

### 3. COVID Discussions

#### a. Approval of Alternate Delivery Modes for Summer 2021 Courses

The Chair reported that scheduling for Summer 2021 is in process and SC has been asked to approve alternative delivery modes.

Brion (EN) **moved** that due to the COVID-19 situation, the SC acts on behalf of the University Senate to approve the use of alternative delivery modes for courses offered in Summer 2021 as needed to protect the health of students, staff, and faculty. Bird-Pollan **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### b. Review of Syllabi Statements

##### i. Social Distancing and Mask Policy

##### ii. Classroom Recording and Copyright Policy

The Chair reminded SC of the syllabus statement recommendations for Fall 2020 and explained that they should be reviewed before recommending them again for Spring 2021. He opened the floor for discussion and there was much about the syllabus policy, intellectual property, and what is written about it in the *Administrative Regulations (ARs)*. It was clarified that the syllabus recommendations are suggestions and it is the instructor's choice to use them. Concern was expressed that instructors may not be aware of their intellectual property rights.

Charnigo (PbH) proposed the following preface be added to the syllabus statement.

[Instructors have rights over their intellectual property, as described in AR 7:6. Language such as the below may optionally be incorporated into syllabi for instructors to assert their rights but grant some rights to students. In particular, the last sentence may be edited at the instructors' discretion.]

All original content for this course -- which may include handouts, assignments, and lectures -- is the intellectual property of the instructor(s). Students enrolled in the course this academic term may use the original content for their learning and completion of course requirements this term as well as additional uses with prior written approval by the instructor(s). In addition, students may use the material for reasonable educational and professional purposes extending beyond this class, such as studying for a comprehensive or qualifying examination in a degree program, preparing for a professional or certification examination, or to assist in fulfilling responsibilities at a job or internship.

Collett (HS) **moved** that SC endorse the syllabus statement with the proposed preface for Classroom Recording and Copyright Policy for the Spring 2021 semester and extend SC's interpretation of excused absences to include an excuse from required in-person interactions if the student has been directed to self-quarantine by the University (including its app), a medical professional, public health professional, or government official to the Spring 2021 semester. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was

debate and there was clarification about required documentation needed for excused absences. Charnigo (PbH) offered a **friendly amendment** to extend the motion to cover Winter Intersession 2020 and Summer Session 2021. Collett and Brion **accepted** the friendly amendment. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

There was further discussion of how to announce the information about the syllabus template and excused absences. There were suggestions to include the information in the monthly SC Office newsletter and email announcements.

#### 4. Committee Reports

##### a. Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) - DeShana Collett, Chair

##### i. Explanation of Revised Senate Rules

SREC Chair Collett thanked SREC for their diligent work and recognized the members. She gave an overview that included their mission and recent activities including the reorganization of *Senate Rules* (SRs) and populating the SRs with appropriate Graduate Faculty Rules. It was noted that the Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) has discussed recommending that specific program language for programs should be included in the Bulletin and not in the SRs. The SREC will share their report with Senate in December.

#### 5. Items from the Floor

It was noted that the calendars previously approved in the meeting did not include all academic and university holidays.

Collett (HS) **moved** to reconsider the motion to approve the resubmitted University calendars for 2021-2022, 2023-2024 (Tentative), 2021-2022 (Dentistry), 2023-2024 (Dentistry, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Law), 2023-2024 (Law, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Medicine), 2023-2024 (Medicine, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Pharmacy), and 2023-2024 (Pharmacy, Tentative). Cantrell (ED) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

Collett (HS) **moved** to amend the University calendars for 2021-2022, 2023-2024 (Tentative), 2021-2022 (Dentistry), 2023-2024 (Dentistry, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Law), 2023-2024 (Law, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Medicine), 2023-2024 (Medicine, Tentative), 2021-2022 (Pharmacy), and 2023-2024 (Pharmacy, Tentative) to include the required University and academic holidays. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

Kuhnlein (SGA) asked if students on SC and Senate be given special consideration when scheduling classes in order to attend the SC and Senate meetings. The Chair agreed to investigate the matter.

The Chair expressed his gratitude to SC and reminded them there would be no meeting the following week.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Cramer,  
Senate Council Chair

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SC members present: Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Cantrell, Charnigo, Collett, Cramer, Kuhnlein, Sault, Vincent, Wheeler, and Williams.

Guests present: Roger Brown, Bob Grossman, Davy Jones, Kathi Kern, and Kim Taylor.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on November 20, 2020.