

Senate Council
October 28, 2019

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, October 28, 2019 in 103 Main Building. 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 Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:01 pm. The Chair welcomed those present.

1. Minutes from October 7, 2019 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits had been received for the set of minutes from October 7, 2019. There being **no objections**, the minutes from October 7, 2019 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair informed SC that UKNow will feature an article on Thursday, October 31, 2019 announcing that the program approval process has been moved to Curriculog. The process took longer than expected to set up in Curriculog so the final day that colleges can submit the old forms for program approval is December 2, 2019. The UKNow article will link to a new video that the Chair and Ms. Brothers made to inform users how to create and submit proposals using Curriculog.

The Chair shared that faculty, students, and staff participated in an exercise about, “The Student of the Future” at the Board of Trustees (BOT) retreat last week. The Provost’s Council will be doing the same exercise on Thursday, October 31, 2019. Assistant Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Annie Weber will attend to take notes in preparation for the next strategic plan discussion.

The Chair shared that she has seen an initial draft of the call for proposals for the second round of funding for the online initiative. It will be similar to the initiative last year except there is a longer timeline.

The Chair announced that the phased retirement survey is live and responses so far have indicated that senators have asked their colleagues for feedback. A reminder will be sent to them before the survey closes on November 8, 2019.

The Chair reminded SC that liaisons were named to the academic councils earlier in the year. Richard Charnigo, who was appointed to the Health Care Colleges Council (HCCC), turned in a report recently. There are no pressing issues with the HCCC at this time. It has been difficult to keep track of activity in this councils in the past, but the liaison and Ms. Woolery’s responsibilities as HCCC coordinator will help provide an inside prospective.

2. Old Business

a. Recommendation Regarding Senate Rules 5.4.2.2 (“Conditions of Merit and Circumstance for Degree Honors”)

The Chair reminded SC that in their last meeting on October 7, 2019 it was discussed whether an ad hoc committee should be created or if one of the Senate’s standing committees should be used to discuss honors issues. A list of all Senate’s committees and their compositions were distributed to SC to aid them in considering if an existing committee is appropriate. The committee needs to consider what it means to have a professional degree with honors, if colleges are following the Senate Rules (SRs), and how distinction in departments and honors in departments will show up on diplomas. Dean Brady is prepared to accept the recommendations of the committee.

There was some discussion about the interpretation of the Governing Regulations (GR). Davy Jones (ME) from the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) explained that they have interpreted professional colleges as having authority only to grant honors with regard to the professional degrees. The SREC recommended that the Chair send an email out to inform Deans of colleges with professional programs that they can establish an honor associated with professional programs. There was no additional action needed for this particular issue.

There was more discussion about committee composition and what the charge should be regarding departmental honors in undergraduate programs. The Chair asked SC to consider what the charge should be over the next week. The charge will be discussed this coming Monday and then be sent to the Senate asking for a call for interest and then SC will review possible nominees.

b. Recommendation that Senate Council Contemplate Policy on How Many UK Credit Hours Toward a Degree Can Be Conferred on Basis of Life Experience Outside a UK Course

The Chair introduced Assistant Provost for Strategic Planning & Institutional Effectiveness Annie Weber. Weber shared information about methods used to assess prior learning experience. There were some questions about standardized tests and placement that is currently being used. She noted that there is not a consistent way of adding credit to transcripts for courses waived due to life experience.

There was discussion about how to proceed. There were suggestions that the following issues be addressed: blocks of credit for experience vs credit for specific courses; if professional schools (including those at UK) accept credit by examination; and ensuring life experience work is transcribed. Cramer made a **motion** to refer the matter to the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC). Grossman **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

3. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Aaron Cramer

i. Proposed New MA in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies

Cramer, chair of the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC), described the proposal.

The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were some.

The Chair asked if there were further questions of fact, but there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MA degree: Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies, in the Department of Geography within 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.

ii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies

Cramer, chair of the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC), described the proposal.

The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were some.

The Chair asked if there were further questions of fact, but there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate: Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies, in the Department of Geography within 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.

b. (Second) Reinstatement Committee

i. Report on Recent Activities

The Chair informed SC that the Second Reinstatement Committee is generally composed of the SC Chair, SC Vice Chair, and Student Government Association (SGA) President. The Chair distributed a report showing the number of students who have applied and the outcomes. There was some discussion and the Chair noted that this information will be shared at the next University Senate (US) meeting.

4. Proposed Change to 2019-20 Calendar (Last Day to Schedule a Final Examination in the Graduate School)

The Chair introduced Graduate School Assistant Dean Cleo Price. Price explained that the proposed date of November 21, 2019 is a more accurate timeline for scheduling of the final examination (two weeks). The current date of November 14, 2019 allows for 3 weeks between the scheduling of the final examination and the 'sitting' of the final examination. This provides 2019 candidates more time to schedule than any other group of candidates for fall degrees. Making the change would be in compliance with the procedures and rules that govern important timelines for the Graduate School.

Grossman made a **motion** to change the last day to schedule a final examination in the Graduate School to November 21, 2019. Brion **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Results of 2018-19 Faculty Evaluation of the President

The Chair reported that the 2018-19 evaluation of the President was shared with the Board of Trustees (BOT). The Chair shared the survey findings with SC. There was discussion about the survey and how to get more faculty to participate in the future.

6. Mental Health Task Force Update – Faculty Training - Leslie Vincent

Vincent shared that she is on the Mental Health Taskforce and has been asked to chair a subcommittee focused on faculty and staff training. The subcommittee is still forming but Vincent shared some of the initial finding from conversations with the members so far. She asked SC to share any recommendations with her. There were some questions and discussion.

7. Senate Meeting Roundtable

The Chair solicited comments from SC members about the October 14, 2019 Senate meeting. Below are various comments.

- Sue Roberts was praised for the work with the Blue Ribbon Panel and making the recommendations implementable.
- SGA would have liked to have been consulted regarding increased responsibility for the Graduate Student Congress prior to the Senate meeting.
- Surprisingly, there wasn't much discussion about the Blue Ribbon Panel report or the fully online PhD.

8. Items from the Floor

Soult reported that a faculty member who was applying for a graduate certificate was asked to reenroll to the Graduate School although they were already enrolled in a PhD program. This causes students to have to pay the enrollment fee twice. Vice Provost Larry Holloway will investigate this issue.

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The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Bird-Pollan, Brion, Cramer, Cross, Eastham, Grossman, Hamilton, Osterhage, Shaikh, Soult, and Vincent.

Invited guests present: Sheila Brothers, Patricia Ehrkamp, Davy Jones, Cleo Price, and Annie Davis Weber.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on Wednesday, October 30, 2019.