

University Senate
March 8, 2021

The University Senate met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, March 8, 2021 via video conference. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken with the video conference “raise hand” feature. Specific voting information can be requested from the Office of the Senate Council.

Senate Council Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) called the University Senate (Senate) meeting to order at 3:00 pm. He welcomed those present and informed them that the session was being recorded for note-taking purposes. He asked everyone to use the chat box to sign in for attendance but noted that the chat function is generally used for attendance and would not be monitored during the meeting. He asked everyone to mute themselves. He asked Senate members to send an email to Sheila Brothers if they become disconnected and cannot reconnect.

He provided guidance on how to participate in the discussion and how to vote. He welcomed senators and reminded them that Senate follows Robert’s Rules of Order. He asked that senators be civil and good citizens. He also asked everyone to participate in the meetings and share information with colleagues in their home units.

1. Minutes from February 8, 2021 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits were received for the minutes from February 8, 2021. There being **no objections**, the minutes from February 8, 2021 were **approved by unanimous consent**.

The Chair reminded senators to state their name and college affiliation before speaking.

The Chair announced that CELT’s Director of Equity and Inclusion Initiatives Shauna Morgan was added as a temporary ex officio non-voting SUKCEC member for the duration of the academic year.

The Chair reported that SC heard from Chief Benefits Officer Richard Amos about retirement changes and the role of UK’s Retirement Committee. Faculty members of UK’s Retirement Committee, Kristine Hankins (BE) and Will Gerken (BE), also attended and addressed concerns from SC. SC suggested additional and much clearer communications be shared with faculty about retirement changes.

The Chair noted the recent announcement regarding the closure of UK’s Confucius Institute. He explained that the closure was due to federal rules about funding sources, not teaching, research and service activities on campus. He reiterated the Senate’s support for Asian and Chinese colleagues on campus.

The Chair reminded Senators of curricular proposal deadlines. If seeking a Fall 2021 effective date, curricular proposals must first be reviewed by the appropriate academic council(s) (GC, HCCC, UC) and received by the SC office after academic council approval by:

- March 15, 2021 for other proposals requiring committee review (new certificates, transfers of a degree, new department, change to credit hours required for graduation, significant program changes, etc.).
- April 12, 2021 for courses, all other program changes, and minors.

2. Officer and Other Reports

a. Chair

The Chair reported that there has been a recurring theme about the strength and clarity of *Senate Rules (SRs)*. He explained the importance of ensuring wide understanding of Senate’s broad and fundamental

academic responsibilities and the need to codify them in meaningful and implementable ways. He has discussed this issue with Vice Chair and Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) Chair Collett (HS) and he will be appointing a workgroup to begin to work in this area.

The Chair reported that the Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) Chair Bird-Pollan (LA) asked SC for input into SAASC deliberations on SR 5.2.2 ("Student Load"). He explained that it is more difficult to determine student credit hour load maximums, with the different summer sessions and because of the more complex nonstandard course calendars and multiple/overlapping courses used now. SC affirmed SAASC's table of total credit hours a student may attempt (per session or equivalent rolling periods of time) but found parsing difficult to understand. The Chair expressed his appreciation to Charnigo (PbH) who is working on a simple formula to determine permitted "credit hour intensity." SAASC will also investigate if SAP can enforce this. The final SAASC recommendations will come to SC and Senate for approval.

The Chair reported that Vincent (BE) is participating in a workgroup that is developing a formal badge proposal. He explained that a "badge" is a microcredential (2-3 courses) that students can include digitally on LinkedIn, social media, etc. He reminded senators of the badge pilot approved by SC last summer and reported that SC indicated willingness to review a formal proposal for the continuation of badges. The Chair expressed his appreciation for Vincent's willingness to provide early Senate input into this initiative.

b. Provost

The Provost David Blackwell did not have a report to give.

c. Vice Chair

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

d. Parliamentarian

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

e. Trustee

Trustee Blonder (ME) reported that the Board of Trustees (BOT) met on February 18th and 19th. Meeting highlights included:

- An update on Land Grant activities was presented by the Vice President for Land Grant Engagement and College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Dean Nancy Cox and Associate Dean Laura Stevens.
- The Department of Engineering Technology in the College of Engineering was approved.
- There was a presentation from the Student Government Association (SGA) which included updates about their elections and \$20,000 in student scholarships for childcare/dependents.
- Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner discussed implementation of integrated success coaching and certification that is designed to be a more holistic approach to help students. There are currently seven certified coaches.
- Several maintenance projects were approved.
- The Smart Campus iPad Initiative was approved for another year.
- Two honorary degrees were approved.

She announced that the next BOT meetings are May 3rd and 4th and that many of the presentations are on the BOT website.

Trustee Swanson (ME) reported that the Provost's Report to trustees included an overview of considerations involved when approving new academic programs and market predictions regarding future losses of college-age students attending universities. His report coincided with discussions that the Coalition of Faculty Senate Leadership (COSFL) group has been having.

Trustee Blonder (ME) also reported that there have been identity thefts of hundreds of UK employees and recommended reviewing the "Thrive" email sent from Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer Kim Wilson for more information.

3. Old Business

a. Proposed Change to *Senate Rules 5.2.5.6* ("Dead Week")

Associate Dean for Administration and Academic Affairs Kim Anderson described the proposal. The floor was opened for questions and there was clarification that the proposal is to change only the name and does not change any of the current "Dead Week" rules. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed change from "Dead Week" to "Prep Week," with an effective date of Fall 2021. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

4. Degree Recipients

a. Requests to Amend Previously Adopted Degree List (December 2020): Rescind MAC Counselor Education (Specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling) and Confer MRC Rehabilitation Counseling (Specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling)

i. College of Education Student MA-88

ii. College of Education Student JS-81

The Chair explained the request to amend the previously adopted degree list (December 2020) by rescinding the MAC Counselor Education (Specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling) and conferring MRC Rehabilitation Counseling (Specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling) for the two students in question. The floor was opened for questions and there was clarification that this is a one-time problem and that it is a one-step process to both rescind and confer. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the elected faculty senators amend the December 2020 degree list for College of Education students MA-88 and JS-81 by rescinding MAC Counselor Education (Specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling) and conferring MRC Rehabilitation Counseling (Specialty in Clinical Mental Health Counseling). Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and two abstained.

5. Committee Reports

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

i. Proposed New BS in Computer Engineering Technology

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new BS in Computer Engineering Technology. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new BS degree: Computer Engineering Technology, in the Department of Engineering Technology, within the College of

Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with two opposed and one abstained.

ii. Proposed New BS in Lean Systems Engineering Technology

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new BS in Lean Systems Engineering Technology. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new BS degree: Lean Systems Engineering Technology, in the Department of Engineering Technology, within the College of Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and two abstained.

iii. Proposed New MS Aerospace Engineering

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new MS Aerospace Engineering. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MS degree: Aerospace Engineering, in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with two opposed and one abstained.

iv. Proposed New PhD Aerospace Engineering

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new PhD Aerospace Engineering. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new PhD degree: Aerospace Engineering, in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

v. Proposed New MS in Biostatistics

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new MS in Biostatistics. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MS degree: Biostatistics, in the Department of Biostatistics, within the College of Public Health. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

vi. Proposed Significant Change to PhD Studies in Higher Education

Vincent (BE) described the proposed significant change to the PhD Studies in Higher Education. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the significant change to the PhD: Studies in Higher Education, in Department of Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation within the College of Education. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and three abstained.

vii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Senior Diversity Officer Leadership

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Senior Diversity Officer Leadership. There was clarification of how the proposed certificate differs from the certificate offered by the College of Arts and Sciences but that students might be interested in both certificates. The Chair then said that

the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate: Senior Diversity Officer Leadership, in the Department of Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation within the College of Education. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one opposed.

viii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Human Resource Management

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Human Resource Management. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate: Human Resource Management, in the Department of Management within the Gatton College of Business and Economics. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ix. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Substance Use Disorder

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Substance Use Disorder. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate: Substance Use Disorders, in the College of Social Work. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

x. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Advanced Specialty Program in Endodontics

Vincent (BE) described the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Advanced Specialty Program in Endodontics. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new Graduate Certificate: Advanced Specialty Program in Endodontics, in Department of Endodontics within the College of Dentistry. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and two abstained.

The Chair thanked SAPC Chair Vincent (BE) for her work and that of her committee members. He noted that the SAPC is one of the hardest working committees and suggested senators thank SAPC members when they see them. He noted that members of Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) were also working very hard this year and he expressed his appreciation for them.

b. Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) - Jennifer Bird-Pollan, Chair

i. Proposed Change to MSCHE Chemical Engineering

Bird-Pollan (LA) described the proposed change to MSCHE Chemical Engineering. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed changes to the MSCHE Chemical Engineering. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

ii. Proposed Suspension of Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation Counseling

Bird-Pollan (LA) described the proposed suspension of the Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation Counseling. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed suspension of the Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation Counseling. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

iii. Proposed Changes to SR 5.4.1.2 ("Academic Suspension Policies") and SR 5.4.1.3 ("Reinstatement")
Bird-Pollan (LA) described the proposed changes to SR 5.4.1.2 ("Academic Suspension Policies") and SR 5.4.1.3 ("Reinstatement"). The floor was opened for questions and Acting Assistant Provost for Student and Academic Support Marianne Young explained that the number of cases varies from college to college. The Chair reported that there are roughly six cases for second reinstatement each year for. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed changes to SR 5.4.1.2 ("Academic Suspension Policies") and SR 5.4.1.3 ("Reinstatement"). Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and two abstained.

iv. Proposed New Race and Ethnicity College Requirement for College of Arts and Sciences
Bird-Pollan (LA) described the proposed new Race and Ethnicity requirement for undergraduate students in the College of Arts and Sciences. The floor was opened for questions. Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs Anna Bosch clarified what the review and approval process for courses satisfying the proposed new requirement will be.

The Chair noted that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed new Race and Ethnicity College requirement for Arts and Sciences. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. He called for debate and there was extensive discussion among senators. Most senators expressing opinions were supportive of the proposal, but there were some philosophical and technical concerns about certain aspects of the proposal. There was discussion about the possibility of expanding the proposal to include other social issues. Associate Dean of Inclusion and Internationalization Cristina Alcalde explained that the proposal was developed by colleagues with expertise in race and ethnicity and clarified that faculty with diverse backgrounds are developing and reviewing courses that satisfy the proposed new requirement. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with five opposed and five abstained.

v. Proposed Three-Year Extension of Test-Optional Admissions Pilot
Bird-Pollan (LA) described the proposed three-year extension of the test-optional admissions pilot. The floor was opened for questions. Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Christine Harper explained that the extension was requested for a three-year period in order to collect sufficient data for evaluation of the pilot; the previously approved request for a one-year pilot was not long enough to provide sufficient data. She clarified how student scholarships would be awarded during the pilot and confirmed that colleges with selective admissions may choose to opt out. Some senators expressed concerns about ensuring appropriate faculty oversight of admission changes to affected programs.

The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed waiver of the parts of SR 4.2.1 pertaining to expectations of standardized tests for admission for 2022 - 23, 2023 - 24 and 2024 – 25. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. There Chair asked if there was any debate. Concern was expressed because admissions are within the purview of program faculty, but faculty were not even asked for input.

Yost (EN) offered an **amendment** to add a statement to the motion, "Starting in the fall of 2022, no student shall be admitted to the University under the test-optional admission criteria until all colleges report the results of a college-level faculty vote on this test-optional three-year pilot extension." Calvert (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was discussion about setting a timeline.

Tai (CI) offered an **amendment to the amendment** to add a deadline to the amendment, "All colleges must submit faculty feedback by April 1st." There was no **second** so the amendment **failed**.

Debate continued about Yost's amendment and there was clarification that all colleges, not just test optional colleges, were intended. There was discussion about senators' responsibility to gather feedback from their constituents.

Charnigo (PbH) offered a **substitute amendment** to replace Yost's proposed amendment language by specifying approval of a two-year pilot extension, with faculty input at that time to determine any further extension of the pilot. Brion (EN) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with twelve opposed and six abstained.

Debate continued about the amended motion. There was a lengthy discussion about the implications of approving a two-year pilot instead of a three-year pilot. A **vote** was taken and the motion **failed** with twelve in favor, forty-four opposed, and three abstained.

Yost (EN) requested that the record reflect that the faculty must oversee this, and administration should have come to Senate in a much timelier fashion.

The Chair noted that with the failed amendments, senators could again debate the original motion, but there was no further debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one opposed and five abstained.

c. Senate's Research and Graduate Education Committee (SRGEC) - Susan Cantrell, Chair

i. SRGEC Response to Proposed Changes to Undergraduate Research

The Chair asked if there were objections to postponing the agenda item because of time constraints. There were no objections.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by, DeShana Collett
University Senate Vice Chair

Absences: Abdel-Latif, Birdwhistell, Blackwell, Boyd, Brown (Robyn), Cassis, Collins, Davis (Mary), DiPaola, Eckman, Fanucchi, Flaherty, Gent, Guy, Hall (Claire), Harris, Heilig, Horvath, Jackson, Lane, Lephart, Martin, Mehra, Michael, Miller (Hannah), Miller (Jay), Neiheisel, Okeson, Oltmann*, Phillips (Jada), Richey, Sands, Sheather, Snyder, Swartz, Tagavi, Troland, VanGilder, Vernon, Vosevich, Warren*, Wells*, Wilkinson, Williams (Trace), Wilson, Wright (Alison), and Wright (George).

* Denotes an explained absence.

Guests present: Nelson Akafuah, Cristina Alcalde, Kimberly Anderson, Laura Anshel, Karen Badger, Kalea Benner, Anna Bosch, Sheila Brothers, Heather Bush, Rick Childress, Ralph Crystal, Amanda Ellis, Joanie Ett-Mims, Jane Jensen, Davy Jones, Katherine McCormick, Tina Navis, Natalie Parks, Michael Renfro, Allan Richards, Sue Roberts, Marion Rust, Eduardo Santillan-Jimenez, Kevin Sarge, Mary Sherman, Jennifer Siebenthaler, David Silverstein, Scott Soltis, Tammy Stephenson, Ann Vail, and Marianne Young.

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Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on March 19, 2021.