

University Senate  
May 3, 2021

The University Senate met in regular session at 3:00 pm on Monday, May 3, 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. He reminded senators to state their name and college affiliation before speaking.

1. President Eli Capilouto, University Senate Chair

President Eli Capilouto expressed his appreciation to faculty for their efforts supporting students and keeping the community healthy and safe. He shared his hope that everyone finds rest and rejuvenation over the coming months. He expressed his respect for Senate’s concerns about shared governance and emphasized his willingness to listen with an open mind. He shared his agreement with *Governing Regulation I*, which was cited during the recent special Senate meeting. He noted that an announcement reaffirming his commitment to shared governance would go out to campus that afternoon. President Capilouto reflected on advancements at UK over the past ten years. that were a result of the shared governance structure. He addressed concerns regarding senior and academic leadership searches and explained the process he uses for hiring these positions. He recognized the need to facilitate a greater sense of trust and explained his plan to increase engagement with faculty, staff, and students. He expressed looking forward to working with the Senate more frequently and recognized that although they may not always agree, they have mutual respect for each other. He expressed his belief that people need to be together in groups and shared his hope that everyone will be able to reflect, renew, and reconnect.

The President opened the floor for questions which included:

- Can the decision to not require immunization of students be revisited for reconsideration?  
The President responded that they are keeping an open mind and monitoring the situation. He also shared what percentages of the campus community are vaccinated and what UK is doing to move forward.
- Will he be working with SC on potential changes to the *Governing Regulations (GRs)*?  
The President responded that he is looking forward to working with the SC Chair and others on how best to have a constructive dialogue.
- Will he solicit advisory input from Senators and SC if contemplating reorganizations above the college level?  
The President responded that he would speak with the SC Chair in these circumstances as he has done in the past.

The Chair thanked the President for attending and committed himself to continuing their conversations.

## 2. Minutes from April 12, 2021 and Announcements

The Chair reported that edits were received for the minutes from April 12, 2021. There being **no objections**, the amended minutes from April 12, 2021 were **approved by unanimous consent**.

The Chair expressed his best wishes and appreciation to senators whose terms were ending and especially thanked departing student senators for their service. He then welcomed the new Student Government Association (SGA) President Michael Hawse.

The Chair reported that he will be participating in all ten commencement ceremonies during the weekend of May 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>.

The Chair reported that the Senate Hearing Panel (Privilege and Tenure) hearing that was scheduled for late April was waived by the faculty member, so it was cancelled.

The Chair reported that the Undergraduate Council (UC) approved a dual credit proposal for current/past courses and partner sites for UK instructors to deliver course content. He expects that a more robust proposal will be submitted in the fall and he anticipates a lively discussion about modifying the current Senate-approved structure for granting dual credit.

The Chair reminded Senators of curricular proposal deadlines. If seeking a Fall 2022 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:

- December 1, 2021 for new degree program proposals.
- March 1, 2022 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, 2022 for courses, all other program changes, and minors.

## 3. Officer and Other Reports

### a. Chair

The Chair reported that there have been questions about fall course modality for those with situations that make it unwise for them to participate in-person on campus. He explained that the modality questions are twofold in nature with faculty through Senate, being responsible for curricular approval, including pedagogical decisions on delivery mode, and with administration being responsible for managerial aspects, like course assignments. He reported that there is continuing work with Vice Provost Holloway on a possible framework for handling exceptions from balance concerns of both perspectives.

The Chair reported that Associate Vice President for Student Success and Chief Enrollment Officer Christine Harper spoke with SC the past week about a general education passport program. The program offers potential to simplify general education transfer issues among consortia universities with prior agreements, thus ensuring that a student's general education credit is accepted by fellow institutions. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to provide early input in the proposal development process.

### b. Provost

Provost Blackwell announced that it was his last Senate meeting serving as Provost. He expressed his appreciation to senators for their diligent service to UK and commented on the importance of shared

governance. He noted his appreciation for the SC Chair's leadership during his time at the university and their collaboration on many complicated issues, like online learning and the pandemic. He thanked senators for their support and guidance. As the Provost's remarks ended, the Chair, on behalf of past Chairs and himself, expressed best wishes to the provost.

c. Vice Chair

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

d. Parliamentarian

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

4. Degree Recipients

a. May 2021 In Memoriam Degree List

The Chair reminded senators that per KY law and *Senate Rules (SRs)*, only the senators elected by college faculty members may vote on degree lists. The Chair stated that the **motion** from SC is that the elected faculty senators approve UK's May 2021 In Memoriam Degree List, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees 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 or abstained.

b. May 2021 Degree List

The Chair reminded senators that per KY law and *Senate Rules (SRs)*, only the senators elected by college faculty members may vote on degree lists. The Chair stated that the **motion** from SC is that the elected faculty senators approve UK's May 2021 list of candidates for credentials, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. 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 or abstained.

c. August 2021 Degree List

The Chair reminded senators that per KY law and *Senate Rules (SRs)*, only the senators elected by college faculty members may vote on degree lists. The Chair stated that the **motion** from SC is that the elected faculty senators approve UK's August 2021 list of candidates for credentials, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair reminded senators of the additions to the degree list that were sent to senators earlier in the afternoon. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken on the amended degree list and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

5. Committee Reports

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

i. Proposed New BS Aerospace Engineering

Andrade (ME) explained that he would be presenting the proposals in place of SAPC Chair Vincent (BE). He acknowledged her hard work and keeping the committee on task and on schedule.

Andrade (ME) described the proposed new BS 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 BS 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.

ii. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Urban and Community Forestry

Andrade (ME) described the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Urban and Community Forestry. 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 Undergraduate Certificate: Urban and Community Forestry, in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. 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 or abstained.

iii. Proposed New USP between BSCOE and MS/PhD Computer Engineering

Andrade (ME) described the proposed new USP between BSCOE and MS/PhD Computer Engineering. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve a new University Scholars Program: BSCOE Computer Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and MS and PhD Computer Engineering in the Department of Computer Science 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 or abstained.

iv. Proposed New USP between BSCS Computer Science and MS/PhD Computer Engineering

Andrade (ME) described the proposed new USP between BSCS Computer Science and MS/PhD Computer Engineering. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve new University Scholars Program: BSCS Computer Science and MS/PhD Computer Engineering in the Department of Computer Science 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 or abstained.

v. Proposed New USP between BS Geological Sciences and MS Geological Sciences

Andrade (ME) described the proposed new USP between BS Geological Sciences and MS Geological Sciences. There was clarification that the proposal is for the BA and BS Geological Sciences. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new University Scholars Program: BA/BS Geological Sciences and MS Geological Sciences, in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences within the College of Arts and Sciences. 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 or abstained.

vi. Proposed Significant Change to DSW Social Work

Andrade (ME) described the proposed significant change to DSW Social Work. 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 DSW: Doctorate of Social Work within 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 or abstained.

The Chair thanked committee chairs for serving during an especially difficult year.

b. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure (SAOSC) – Zack Bray, Chair

i. Proposed New Center for the Environment

Bray described the proposed new Center for the Environment. There was clarification that when the activities of participating faculty are accumulated that it will accrue at least one FTE of time. The Chair

then said that the first **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed new Center for the Environment based on its academic merits. 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 then said that the second **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate endorse the proposed new Center for the Environment based on its nonacademic merits. 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 and two abstained.

c. Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) - Jennifer Bird-Pollan, Chair  
i. Proposed Change to BSN Nursing

Bird-Pollan described the proposed change to the BSN Nursing. There were no questions. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the major change to the BSN Nursing, within the College of Nursing. 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 or abstained.

d. Senate's Distance and e-Learning Committee (SCDLeL) - Roger Brown, Chair

i. Review of New Distance Learning Regulations from the Department of Education

There being **no objections**, it was agreed to skip the agenda item and come back to it when the SCDLeL Chair was available.

6. Proposed Change to Senate Rules 4.1.1 ("Application for Admission and Readmission") – Associate Vice President for Student Success and Chief Enrollment Officer Christine Harper

Associate Vice President for Student Success and Chief Enrollment Officer Christine Harper explained the proposed change to *SR 4.1.1*. There was discussion about the wording of the proposal. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the requested change to *Senate Rules 4.1.1*. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair asked if there was any debate.

Jennifer Bird-Pollan (LA) **moved to amend** the motion by replacing the first paragraph under *SR 4.1.1* ("*Application for Admission and Readmission*") with, "All applicants for admission to the University, and all University students who have not been enrolled for one or more semesters (except for students described in the next paragraph), must submit to the Admissions Office an official application for admission and supporting documents as described below. Stefan Bird-Pollan (AS) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and there was clarification about the placement of the added language. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

The Chair asked if there was any debate on the amended proposal and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

Return to agenda item:

d. Senate's Distance and e-Learning Committee (SCDLeL) - Roger Brown, Chair

i. Review of New Distance Learning Regulations from the Department of Education

SCDLeL Chair Roger Brown (AG) gave an overview of the approval process for teaching a course more than 50% online. He explained SCDLeL's recommendations for compliance with the new distance learning regulations from the Department of Education. Brown described the five current approval steps

and then described their recommendation, which is to only require departmental and college approval with SC office processing such requests. He said that first faculty within a unit who want to teach via DL have to read and understand a set of requirements about teaching via DL (delivered in some suitable way) and then the notice of faculty approval at departmental and college level can be submitted in Curriculog. The other part of the proposal is that when an instructor wants to deliver 50% or less of a course via distance learning, training will also be required. The SC office will review documentations of approval and then if all is in order, send it on to the Registrar's office to be listed as a DL course.

He noted that SCDLeL and SC had no objections to the proposal. He explained that he consulted with Assistant Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Annie Davis-Weber about the proposal, who saw nothing problematic from Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) point of view. He consulted with Associate Provost of Teaching, Learning, and Academic Innovation Kathi Kern, who said that her office would be willing to support colleges with the proposed training. He also consulted with the three academic councils. The Graduate Council (GC) and Health Care Colleges Council (HCCC) were both supportive. He noted that the Undergraduate Council (UC) had serious concerns about the proposal, suggesting that the trainings occur before any changes to the approval process.

The Chair noted that the proposal is not ready for Senate action. He explained that SC endorsed the proposed changes in oversight of distance learning, authorized the SC office to make appropriate changes to forms, directed SCDLeL to bring back any recommended SR changes in Fall 2021, and advised SCDLeL to consult with other groups. The floor was opened for questions and there was discussion about what UC's concerns were and how to best address them. There was clarification about the threshold for review of distance learning courses. The Chair stated that there was enough feedback to continue work on the issue over the summer.

#### 7. Discussion on Senate Rules Section 7 ("Code of Faculty Responsibilities")

The Chair shared that SC discussed the purpose of *SR Section 7*, within the context of nominations for campuswide committees in March. He explained that SC declined to provide nominations for the Senate's Advisory Committee on the Faculty Code (SACFC) due to uncertainty about whether the *Governing Regulations (GRs)* delegates to the Senate the oversight authority described in *SR 7*. He reported meeting with UK legal counsel and their opinion was that this section of the *SRs* is not what they would use if disciplining a faculty member. SC voted to ask if Senate wishes to compose an ad hoc committee to consider *SR Section 7*.

Farrell (FA) **moved** that SC compose an ad-hoc committee to consider *SR Section 7*. Brion **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was clarification that the ad-hoc committee will look at *SR Section 7* to see if it is something that Senate has authority over. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one opposed and one abstained.

#### 8. Teaching and Learning During COVID-19 – Associate Provost of Teaching, Learning, and Academic Innovation Kathi Kern and Professor Ellen Usher

Associate Provost of Teaching, Learning, and Academic Innovation Kathi Kern and Professor Ellen Usher presented a report of preliminary findings about teaching and learning during Covid-19. Their objective was to understand course-related experiences and perceptions of instructors and their undergraduate students during Covid-19 in order to generate recommendations to improve teaching and learning at UK, and share findings with the scholarly community. They explained the process used to gather information from instructors and students and noted that the information is confidential. They also

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described how the information has been used to improve teaching and what next steps are being planned. The Chair thanked them for sharing their report and invited anyone with questions to reach out to them.

9. Items from the Floor

Jennifer Bird-Pollan (LA) thanked the Chair for the time and effort he put into SC work this year and noted he was a tireless advocate for faculty and students and he was owed a debt of gratitude. The Chair thanked past chair Bird-Pollan for her work during the early months of the pandemic. He then expressed his appreciation to everyone present for their hard work during a difficult year.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by, DeShana Collett  
University Senate Vice Chair

Absences: Abdel-Latif, Birdwhistell, Blalock\*, Chishti\*, Coleman\*, Collins, Elder, Fanucchi, Gent, Gustafson, Guy, Hall (Gregory), Heilig, Horvath, Jackson, Johnson (Martell), Lephart, Mehra, Miller (Hannah), Miller (Jay), Neiheisel, O'Bryan, Ossege\*, Pace, Phillips, Sands, Snyder, Swanson, Swartz, Tagavi, VanGilder, Vincent, Vosevich, Wheeler, Wilkinson, Williams (Taylor), Williams (Trace), Wilson, and Wright (George).

\* Denotes an explained absence.

Guests present: Ruth Adams, Laura Anshel, Julie Balog, Jay Blanton, Marc Blevins, Renee Bonzani, Anna Bosch, Sheila Brothers, Summer Brown, Lisa Cliggett, Trey Conatser, Sarah Cprek, Jennifer Cramer, Ellen Crocker, Al Cross, Marcy Deaton, Melanie Dicks, Andrea Erhardt, Laura Escobar-Ratliff, Joanie Ett-Mims, David Fardo, Rachel Farr, Raphael Finkel, Alan Fryar, Lisa Galvin, Sarah Geegan, Jarod Giger, Heide Gluesing-Lueerssen, Kyle Golenbiewski, Miyabi Goto, Grace Hahn, William Haneberg, Erin Haynes, Shellee Hein, Kyra Hunting, Tracie Hutchison, Davy Jones, Peggy Keller, Kathi Kern, Janet Lumpp, Alexandra Martin, Katherine McCormick, Scott McDonald, Michael McGlue, Anne-Frances Miller, Eric Monday, Amy Murrell Taylor, Tad Mutersbaugh, Uwe Nagel, Tina Navis, Nicholas Nguyen, Roshan Nikou, Carrie Oser, Karen Petrone, Christopher Pool, Natalie Pope, Michael Renfro, Sue Roberts, Buck Ryan, Richard Schein, Suzanne Segerstrom, J Selegue, Al Shapere, Zhongwei Shen, Jennifer Siebenthaler, Doug Slaymaker, Justin Sumner, Chloe Urbanski Wawrzyniak, Kathleen Urch, Ann Vail, Darlene Welsh, erica Whitaker, Corrine Williams, Lisa Wilson, Matthew Wilson, Sally Woodson, Ernest Yanarella, and Matthew Zook.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on May 14, 2021.