

University Senate  
November 9, 2009

The University Senate met in regular session at 3 pm in the Auditorium of W. T. Young Library on Monday, November 9, 2009. All votes were taken via a voice vote unless indicated otherwise.

Chair Dave Randall called the University Senate (Senate) meeting to order at 3:05 pm. He reminded senators to give their name and affiliation when they speak, communicate with their constituencies, and be aware of emails from the Office of the Senate Council pertaining to web transmittals and other matters.

1. Minutes and Announcements

The Chair reported that the October minutes were not yet ready for distribution. Regarding announcements, the Chair reported that Senator Tom Kelly and others are working with the chief information officer in Information Technology, Vince Kellen, on a possible joint faculty/IT administrative committee. The intent is to get more faculty involvement in IT issues, with respect to both instruction and research.

There was another question about the Dead Week (DW) policy. The SC asked that the Senate be informed that quizzes, etc. may be given to graduate students during DW as part of the differential expectation of graduate students in 400G- and 500-level courses.

2. SACS Requirements for Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) - Deanna Sellnow and Kaveh Tagavi

The Chair asked Professor Deanna Sellnow (College of Communications and Information Studies) to explain the matter to senators. Guest Sellnow said that the accreditation visit by SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) was fast approaching and that she asked for time on the Senate agenda to share how the accreditation process had changed since the last visit, and how best to proceed. Sellnow said that UK's Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) needed to be developed deliberately and transparently with broad-based input. She said she would also propose a rough timeline to allow delivery of the QEP report to SACS by 2013 and share information about the QEP pre-planning teams. Sellnow then gave a presentation to senators.

After her [presentation](#), Sellnow stated that an ongoing assessment of student learning outcomes should be part of UK's culture, since it was a campuswide issue related to UK's mission. Referring to an ill-fated QEP topic from another school mentioned in the presentation, Prats asked about how a university would measure the example given - ethics. Sellnow said that one of the problems with that particular topic was that it was too vague, and was done in a top-down manner; the provost and president at that institution ended up stepping down because of the slap-dash and solely administrative manner in which the QEP was developed. There were no additional questions for Sellnow, so the Chair thanked her and she departed.

Yost asked to return to the issue of DW. He asked for and received clarification from the Chair that exams can be given to graduate students during DW, since DW is only applicable to undergraduates.

3. Proposed Change to BA Art Studio

The Chair invited Professor Ben Withers (chair, Department of Art, College of Fine Arts) to explain the proposal. Guest Withers said that there were two proposals at hand, one to change the BA in Art Studio and the other to change the BFA. The difference between the liberal arts BA and the pre-professional

BFA primarily concerned the number of required 300-level courses. After an accreditation visit in 2006, faculty took the recommendations given and created a foundations committee to look at the various programs. The change was a more-coherent freshman year and also a requirement that students take courses from each of the three major art studio areas (two-dimensional, three-dimensional and new media).

No new resources were required for the change, since the department had already made a case to Provost Subbaswamy for funding for a director of foundations. Withers said he would be returning soon with a series of course changes based on the recommendations of the foundations director.

Hayes **moved** that the Senate approve the proposed changes to the BA Art Studio, effective spring 2010, and Estus **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 4. Proposed Change to BFA Art Studio

Withers said that all his comments pertaining to the BA Art Studio change were applicable for the BFA Art Studio change. Hayes **moved** that the Senate approve the proposed changes to the BFA Art Studio, effective spring 2010, and Estus **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 5. Counseling and Testing Center Presentation - Mary Chandler-Bolin, Director

The Chair said that one of his goals was to bring senators up to date on important initiatives around campus that may not be well publicized. He introduced Director Mary Chandler-Bolin of the Counseling and Testing Center (CTS) and asked her to share information about her area with senators. Guest Chandler-Bolin gave senators an overview of CTS.

After the presentation, Snow asked if there were any measures of success on how well CTS was doing. Chandler-Bolin replied that there was a standardized questionnaire given to students at intake and on follow-up but due to a recent change to a different questionnaire, there were no semester or year-long numbers she could report. Wermeling asked how CTS was integrated with the University Health Service. Chandler-Bolin replied that the two entities were separate but worked closely together, and also worked with Student Behavioral Health. There is a joint monthly meeting to do consulting (as necessary) on shared cases. Some students felt more comfortable in Student Behavioral Health, while others prefer CTS. Chandler-Bolin added that students could also be referred to general medical staff, a nutritionist, and/or to obstetrics and gynecology. There were no additional questions; after being thanked, Chandler-Bolin departed.

#### 6. Proposed Change to College of Law Admissions Requirements

Drusilla Bakert (associate dean for admissions, College of Law) explained that her college had felt for some time that two letters of recommendation were preferred but not required. A great deal of weight is placed on the letters, particularly those from faculty, and not requiring the letters implies they are not important. Guest Bakert said that the admissions committee wanted clear language that would allow them to wait on deciding on an application until the letters are received. She added that the policy change would put the college more in line with other law schools in Kentucky.

Snow **moved** that the Senate approve the proposed changes to the College of Law admissions requirements, effective spring 2010 and Grossman **seconded**. There being no questions, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 7. Work-Life Presentation on FWA - Robynn Pease

Work-Life Director Robynn Pease explained aspects of flexible work arrangements to senators and briefed them on the recent Work-Life survey sent to supervisors on campus. She asked for questions, but there were none.

Guest Pease then shared some information pertaining to her service as staff representative to the Board of Trustees (BoT). When she mentioned having voted against the "Coal Lodge" name at the recent BoT meeting, she was given a round of applause from senators.

#### 8. Office of Academic Enhancement Presentation - Karin Lewis, Director of Academic Enhancement

The Chair invited Karin Lewis (Academic Enhancement director) to share information about activities in her area, which she did. Afterwards, she took questions from senators.

Snow asked a question about her perception that there was a decrease in students' collective ability to take care of themselves. Guest Lewis replied that help with time-management skills was what students requested the most – students typically have not had to manage their time, since someone else did that for them while they were growing up. Students also lack critical study skills. Lewis said that students are taught note-taking techniques for specific disciplinary areas. She agreed that there seemed to be a general lack of preparedness.

Snow then followed up with a question about the possibility of reaching back and putting some of the programs in place at the high school level. Lewis responded that she had just taken part in a summit with Fayette County educators on similar issues. For example, one high school instructor gave students quizzes every day and those quizzes were numerous enough that it could help a student's final grade. Lewis asked that teacher to consider how that student would be affected when s/he came to UK and was confronted with their grade coming from just two midterms and a final. Although students do deserve support and help developing, there needs to be a way to wean students off that type of high school support during their college freshman year. Lewis said she hoped that the state education commissioner would consider that to be a valuable conversation to have between high school and higher education.

Grossman asked about peer tutors in specific subjects at The Study and said that he had recently encountered a situation in which a student said that erroneous information was received from a peer tutor. This concerned Lewis, and said that there were only certain students who were qualified to tutor in organic chemistry. She said that there was a stringent hiring process in place, involving an online application, interview and letters of endorsement. The tutoring positions are highly sought after, with about 450 applications received each year. Qualifications include having taken the course successfully at UK, being internationally certified and meeting certain standards. Lewis said that sometimes faculty members share a concept with students, and simultaneously ask The Study to not share the formula yet, but rather concentrate on the theory. Lewis invited feedback from senators, particularly Grossman's experiences.

There were no additional questions, so the Chair thanked her and Lewis departed.

#### 9. UK December 2009 Degree List

The Chair informed senators that the actions of the elected faculty senators with respect to the degree list were greatly appreciated – input from faculty resulted in at least two students being added to the list.

Jones **moved** that the elected faculty senators approve UK's December 2009 list of candidates for credentials, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees, as the recommended degrees to be conferred by the Board. Jensen **seconded**.

Sellnow asked about the process for amending the degree list after the Senate approved it. The Chair said that only students who had completed their program's degree requirements would be awarded their degree. If the requirements were not completed, the student would not receive the degree, regardless of having been included on the degree list.

Arrington asked about a student who defended, but was not on the list. The Chair replied that it was the responsibility of elected faculty senators to ensure the degree list was correct prior to the meeting – names of students are not added from the floor. Suarez asked how senators from the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) could most effectively review the list – she said her only thought was to send the list to the DGS. Jones said that every member of a department has a legitimate interest in ensuring the part of the degree list corresponding to their unit was correct. He said an elected faculty senator could send it to all faculty in their unit to review, or, at a minimum, to at least the department chairs, DUSs and DGSs.

Kovash explained that in A&S there were so many different departments that it was hard to review the degree list. He asked about it being broken down by department. Suarez said that would make it far easier to review the list. The Chair said that the Office of the Senate Council would check with the Registrar about that possibility.

There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken on the **motion** and the **motion** passed with none opposed.

#### 10. Update on Gen Ed Activities

The Chair reported that a mass email would go out during the week to all faculty with a list of the vetting team compositions, along with a link to meeting information. He said faculty with specific interests were very welcome to attend the meetings. He invited Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Mike Mullen to add his comments.

Mullen said that vetting teams (VT) number one and seven had already met and were off and running. The VT were working to evaluate about 60 proposals, some of them revisions to existing courses, with about 24 courses to be on the books for spring. He said the courses were being vetted to ensure they met the requirements of the course templates as approved by the Senate.

Lee asked about the procedure for a VT reviewing an existing course. Mullen replied that a revised syllabus and narrative must be submitted to illustrate the learning outcomes, etc. In response to Lee's follow up, Mullen suggested that faculty members contact him (Mullen) instead of the VT directly, to help get a course proposal into the review process.

Hayes asked about reviewing all the existing University Studies Program courses to ensure they meet the requirements of the course templates. Mullen replied that as of the present time, there was no plan

that a USP course would automatically default to a Gen Ed course. VT were not searching out courses to review, but were reviewing courses submitted to them.

Mullen said that the results of the VTs' deliberations would be brought to the Senate in December for the Senate to evaluate the courses and how well the process worked. Jensen asked if the VT meetings were open to faculty. The Chair said that they were and that a link to meeting information would be included in the mass email.

There being no additional business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34.

Respectfully submitted by Hollie Swanson,  
University Senate Secretary

Invited guests present: Drusilla Bakert, Mary Chandler-Bolin, Karin Lewis, Robynn Pease, Deanna Sellnow and Ben Withers.

Absences: Adams\*; D. Anderson\*; H. Anderson\*; Arents; Atwood; Back; Barnes\*; Bishop\*; Blackwell\*; Brennen; Case\*; Coyne\*; Culver; Dyer; Edgerton\*; English; Ensslin; Ettensohn; Gesund; Gonzalez\*; Hall; Hallman; Hardesty\*; Harris; Hatcher; Haurylko; Hazard\*; Heller; Howard; Huberfeld; Isaacs\*; Jackson; Januzzi; Kidwell; Kwon; Lester; Maglinger; Marano; Martin\*; McCormick\*; McCorvey; McMahan; McNamara; Mehra; Mendiondo\*; Miller; Mobley; Nardolillo; Nieman\*; Nokes\*; D. O'Hair\*; M. O'Hair\*; Perman; Pienkowski\*; Ray; Reed\*; Richey; Rieske-Kinney; Ritchie; Roorda; Rouse; Shannon; Shay; R. Smith; Speaks\*; Steiner\*; Stenhoff; Subbaswamy; Sudharshan; Swanson\*; Telling\*; Todd; Tracy\*; Travis; Troske; Turner; Viele; Wells; Whitt; Wiseman; Witt; Wood\*; Yanarella; Zhang.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Monday, December 7, 2009.

---

\* Denotes an absence explained prior to the meeting.