

University Senate  
September 14, 2020

The University Senate met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, September 14, 2020 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 (sbrothers@uky.edu) if they become disconnected and cannot reconnect.

He provided guidance on how to participate in the discussion. 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.

The Chair explained that SC suggested the Senate meet via videoconference due to the COVID pandemic and it is important for Senate to act formally to accept this recommendation. He also explained that senators were assigned as panelists and would be voting by using the “raise hand” feature.

Dadi (EN) **moved** that the Senate meet via videoconference for the foreseeable future, due to the unprecedented impacts of the COVID pandemic. Johnson (AS) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one opposed.

The Chair welcomed University Senate Chair President Eli Capilouto.

1. President Eli Capilouto, University Senate Chair

President Capilouto expressed his deep appreciation for the adaptations that everyone has gone through to continuously deliver services to students, patients, and one another. He recognized the many challenges the country is facing and thanked everyone for their dedication to the success, well-being, and safety of the community, especially students. He shared examples of how the University community has made a difference in students’ lives.

The President’s comments addressed a wide variety of topics, including: student enrollment and retention; UK LEADS program; diversity efforts; administrative reorganizations; budget; and the important role of the University to continue its mission in these difficult times.

The President opened the floor for questions which included:

- Does he anticipate any academic reorganizations in the near future? He replied he does not.
- Does he anticipate cutting salaries or initiating layoffs due to budget cuts? He replied that maintaining jobs and the local economy is a priority and explained how the University helps to support the community. He emphasized that they would do everything in their power to maintain stability and he remains cautiously optimistic.
- There was a request for more transparency and dialogue with administration and workstreams. It was suggested that Senate meetings could be a useful venue to engage in more meaningful dialogue. There was conversation about how information is discussed and distributed.

- What does he see that is impacting the future of higher education with the pandemic? He replied that he is encouraged by vaccines but expects that COVID will be around for a while. The University will continue to adapt and respond.
- What is being done to make sure students with COVID return home safely? He explained that testing and contact tracing are an important.
- During Dr. Deborah Birx's visit to the University [White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator], she expressed interest in speaking to leadership. Might that leadership include faculty leaders like those on SC? He explained that the notice was short and she was interested in the specifics of the University's response. There were many people she wished to meet with and the perspectives of staff, faculty, and students were represented.

There were no further questions or comments. The Chair thanked President Capilouto for coming. The president again thanked the senators and invited them to let him know if they have ideas of how to improve.

## 2. Minutes and Announcements

The Chair said that minutes from the specially called Senate meeting on May 4, 2020 will be approved by SC after being reviewed by senators. There were many announcements.

The Chair gave many thanks to past chair Bird-Pollan (LA). He expressed his appreciation for her continued guidance and assistance. He recognized her tireless work for faculty and for senators during her two terms and her advocacy for shared governance and faculty governance. He is grateful for all she has done, including her willingness to remain engaged with SC and Senate.

The Chair expressed his appreciation to Douglas Michael (LA) for returning as parliamentarian.

The Chair expressed his appreciation to Vice Chair DeShana Collett (HS).

The Chair expressed his appreciation to the SC Office staff and gave a short summary of their responsibilities.

The Chair reminded Senate of the Academic Councils; Undergraduate Council chaired by Corrine Williams (PH) with Alberto Corso (AS) serving as SC liaison; Healthcare Colleges Council (HCCC) chaired by Sheila Melander (NU) with Leslie Scott (NU) serving as SC liaison; Graduate Council chaired by Interim Dean of the Graduate School Brian Jackson with Richard Charnigo (PbH) serving as SC liaison.

The Chair welcomed new senators and expressed his appreciation for their commitment to Senate and to supporting shared governance activities. He encouraged senators to ask questions.

The Chair reported that UK partnered with YMCA of Central Kentucky to open the Y Academy at UK to provide childcare from 6:45 am to 6:00 pm Monday-Friday. He explained that UK College of Education students studying to become teachers will work with students, gaining valuable field experiences while responding to a community need. Child Care Assistance Program funds will be accepted, and financial assistance is also available for those who qualify. The link for registration can be found in the UKNow article from August 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Chair reported that SC provided a representative to the committee reviewing *Administrative Regulation (AR) 1:5*, which is the substantive change policy. He explained that this policy ensures that

the University will not make substantive changes without letting our accrediting body know. Proposed changes were presented to SC on August 31<sup>st</sup> and SC offered comments.

The Chair reported that SC established a workgroup to review the charge of the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC). He explained that SAASC has been inundated with relatively simple program proposals so the workgroup is examining the SAASC charge to make sure proposals are being filtered correctly.

The Chair reported that an official Senate form is being developed for units to use when converting an existing program to a fully online program. The form was created by a committee comprised of representatives from OSPIE, UK Online, and SC Office, as well as the chair of Senate's Distance Learning and e-Learning Committee (SCDLLeL). SCDLeL will be vetting the form.

The Chair reported that the US Department of Education issued new Title IX regulations that required response by August. He explained that the Joint President-SC Working Group on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policies has drafted a report that details what policies at UK need to change or may change. The Co-chairs are planning to attend the October or November Senate meeting to present their report to Senate and solicit feedback.

The Chair reminded senators that SC voted to allow pass/fail grading for degree requirements for undergraduates in spring 2020. In addition, the Senate's UK Core Education Committee voted to accept pass/fail grading as transfer credit from other institutions for work done in Spring 2020 to fulfill UK Core requirements.

The Chair reported that a work group will be starting soon to review degree list processes and procedures. He explained that it is currently very complex and not always student friendly.

The Chair reported that a diversity and inclusion statement for syllabi was sent to Senate Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion for vetting.

The Chair reported that the facilities survey report was sent to the President, Provost, Executive Vice President Monday, and Vice President for Facilities Management Vosevitch.

The Chair reported that Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) is finalizing the current year's version of the *Senate Rules (SRs)*.

The Chair reported that UK Libraries is seeking input from faculty and students about their perceptions and expectations of UK Libraries. There will be an upcoming library quality improvement survey link sent to all faculty on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Survey results will allow UK Libraries to benchmark against peers and identify best practices. Send questions to Julene Jones in Libraries.

The Chair asked the Senators to respect the 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:

- February 1, 2021 for new degree program proposals.
- 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.

### 3. Officer and Other Reports

#### a. Chair

The Chair expressed his appreciation of SC's work over the summer. SC did not hold their usual day-long retreat, but instead held five "regular" meetings, scattered throughout May, June, and July.

#### i. Senate Council Actions Taken on Behalf of Senate in Spring 2020

The Chair explained that *SR 1.1.1.3* describes the circumstances under which the SC may waive a *Senate Rule (SR)* and that these waivers must be reported to the Senate at its next meeting. He reported that a PDF listing all these items that were approved by SC in spring 2020 on behalf of Senate, in response to the COVID pandemic, can be found on the Senate website agenda page.

#### ii. Senate Council Actions Taken on Behalf of Senate in Summer and Fall 2020

The Chair explained that the Chair and the SC have the authority to waive some *SRs*, as long as those waivers are reported to Senate. He listed the waivers that were given during Summer and Fall 2020.

- Late addition from GS (PbH) for AK-85 – approved by SC.
- One-time waiver of interpretation in *SR 5.4.2.2* ("Conditions of Merit and Circumstance for Degree Honors") for College of Law (result of mandating P/F courses in Spring 2020) – approved by SC.
- Fall 2020 academic calendar (major dates) - approved by Chair, with SC input via listserv.
- Fall 2020 academic calendar (Graduate School dates) – approved by SC.
- At request of Enrollment Management, for the 2020-21 academic year, SC temporarily waived the requirement in *SR 4.1* to submit an official application for admission if a student is reapplying after one or two semesters off, effective immediately.
- Waiver of parts of *SR 4.2.1* pertaining to expectations of standardized tests for admission for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 – approved by SC. It was clarified that SC approved the waiver as a one-year test pilot at the request of Enrollment Management. Due to COVID, many students do not have access to take standardized tests, but a more permanent proposal may come in the future.
- Late addition to August 2020 degree list (DMD) – approved by Chair.
- Fall 2020 Academic Calendar (additional Graduate School details) - approved by Chair.
- Fall 2020 Academic Calendar (K Week dates) - approved by Chair.
- Nonstandard calendars (Fall 2020) for PharmD (PH) and JD (LA) students – approved by SC.
- Nonstandard course calendars (Fall 2020) - approved by SC.
  - Executive MBA courses (EMBA)
  - Restorative Dentistry courses (RSD)
  - Physician Assistant Studies courses (PAS)
  - Physical Therapy courses (PT)
  - Communication Sciences and Disorders courses (CSD)
  - Arts Administration courses (AAD)
- Change to Fall 2020 calendar (midterm grade window did not allow time for advisors to work with students prior to the last day to withdraw) - approved by Chair.
- Change to Fall 2020 calendar (reading day mistakenly included in final exam week) - approved by Chair.
- Waiver of Dead Week policies (*SR 5.2.4.6*) for four AT 600-level courses (permit practical exams during Dead Week) – approved by Chair.
- Late additions to August 2020 Degree List – approved by SC.

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- College of Engineering BI-74
  - Student submitted 'paper' degree application, but student affairs officer did not enter it in SAP.
- Gatton College of Business and Economics Student TA-93
- Gatton College of Business and Economics Student TD-01
- Gatton College of Business and Economics Student WK-30
  - All three BE students: new student affairs officer entered applications after April 1 deadline.
- College of Education Student ML-18
  - Confusion about two final grades and resolved over summer, but student was eligible to graduate August 2020.
  - To graduate this coming December (2020), student would first have to reapply to UK and then resubmit an application to graduate.
  - Student being deployed and all involved support retroactive addition to August 2020 degree list.
- Motion to Amend Previously Adopted Degree List – approved by SC.
  - May 2019 Degree List: Rescind MEd Educational Leadership and Confer EdS Educational Leadership for Student WT-79
    - Student inadvertently enrolled in 30-hr first master's degree (MEd), but completed requirements for specialist degree (EdS), which requires at least 30 master's credits plus 30 additional credits.
    - Student completed all requirements for specialist degree and request is supported by all involved.
- Replacement of College of Arts and Sciences dean.
  - SC sent formal communication to Provost on Sept. 2.
    - Expressed concerns about adherence to specifics in *GR VIII* ("University Appointments").
  - SC met in emergency session on Friday, September 11 to discuss issue with Provost.
  - SC continues to monitor situation and considers it is an ongoing concern.
- SC previously agreed to allow new certificates to be effective for the spring semester, instead of having to wait until fall.
  - Also now plan to allow proposals for new University Scholars Programs (USPs) to request spring effective dates.
- Reading Day
  - SC established formal definition of a "reading day".
  - Term came from well-supported report from Ad Hoc Calendar Committee (presented May 4).
  - Report will return to Senate for final approval this semester.
  - Opted to include a "reading day" in Fall 2020 calendar and expect same for Spring 2021
  - Definition: *Current Dead Week restrictions on certain instructional activities continue to apply to Reading Days. An additional restriction would apply to Reading Days, namely no required class meetings or, more generally, no "required interactions." Reading Days are not academic holidays.*
- SC voted to clarify SRs on excused absences.
  - For Fall 2020, absence from required in-person interaction will be regarded as excused if the student has been directed to self-quarantine by the University (including its app), a medical professional, public health professional, or government official.

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- Changes to Senate’s Institutional Finance and Resource Allocation Committee (Joint committee with Staff Senate).
  - Generally difficult to find faculty senators with University financial experience who are interested in serving.
  - Even harder to find faculty senators to chair it.
  - Staff Senate starts meeting in July, but Senate committees begin meeting in September.
  - SC still interested in having two faculty serve on the committee but requested committee chair will always be staff.
- SC heard from General Counsel Thro about free speech in classrooms.
  - Thro described differences between “unproductive speech” and “constitutionally protected speech”.

b. Provost

The Chair welcomed Provost David Blackwell to the floor. Provost Blackwell expressed his appreciation to SC Chair Aaron Cramer and the SC for engaging on important issues like the academic calendar and modalities. He emphasized that the health and safety of faculty, staff, and students was his top priority for the fall semester and his second was to find the best way to meet student learning objectives. He reported on the course modalities for the fall semester and upgrades to make classrooms safer. He also reported that winter and spring calendars are being worked on and will be coming before SC. He again thanked the faculty for their hard work.

c. Vice Chair

The Chair welcomed Vice Chair DeShana Collett (HS). Vice Chair Collett explained that Outstanding Senator Award was created in 2011 to recognize outstanding contributions by senators. The criteria for the award was changed in 2017 to allow former senators, as well as current senators, to be nominated. However, it does not allow current SC members to be eligible for nomination. She informed senators of the criteria for selection of Outstanding Senator. These include:

- Showing active and exemplary service on one or more Senate committees during their tenure.
- Substantively communicating with the Senate and while working with the faculty at large on important issues that impact the faculty as a whole.
- Giving a strong voice to faculty issues in meetings, public events, and/or local/regional news media and actively defended the principle of shared governance in University forums and debates.
- Generating and effecting the Senate’s larger agenda and goals.

The Vice Chair then announced the Outstanding Senator Award went to Debra Harley, in the College of Education, Early Childhood, Special Education, and Councilor Education. She noted that the award is normally presented in May, but due to COVID it was postponed until September and presented virtually. The Vice Chair and Chair congratulated Harley.

d. Parliamentarian

Parliamentarian Douglas Michael (LA) introduced himself. He explained that meetings are governed by Robert’s Rules. He is an advisor to the Chair and generally only speaks when asked for guidance. He will make sure that that Robert’s Rules are enforced to facilitate debate. The Chair thanked him for agreeing to serve in this role again.

d. Trustee

Trustees Blonder (ME) and Swanson (ME) were introduced.

Blonder reported highlights from the most recent Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting including:

- The Executive Committee approved the final questions for the President's evaluation. They will also be considering the faculty evaluation that the SC sent out last spring. SC has nominated faculty to be interviewed for this part of the evaluation.
- Governor Beshear reappointed the current BOT Chair Bob Vance for six more years.
- Governor Beshear appointed Trustees Ray Daniels and Ron Geoghegan.
- Leases were approved for UK HealthCare including clinics for psychiatry, family medicine, and Barnstable Brown Diabetes Center.
- Additions and revisions to the degree list were approved.
- The Student Government Association President Courtney Wheeler gave an excellent talk about what the SGA is doing.
- Personnel actions were approved.
- A large gift was accepted to establish scholarships for students that graduated from Harlan County High School.
- The first reading of a revision to *Governing Regulations II* was accepted, establishing an annual self-evaluation and updating the conditions for removal of BOT members
- Updates to the conditions for removal of board members.

Swanson expressed appreciation for the feedback the faculty trustees have received from faculty and reported that they are trying to be as responsive as possible.

#### 4. Committee Reports

##### a. Senate's UK Core Education Committee (SUKCEC) - Patrick Lucas, Chair

###### i. 2019-20 Report

The Chair welcomed SUKCEC Chair Patrick Lee Lucas (DE). Lucas thanked past chair Bird-Pollan (LA) for her help during his transition as SUKCEC chair. He presented an overview of the annual report which included how the committee was formed, findings from listening sessions hosted by members, future action plans for 2020-2021, and assessment issues. He shared data analysis and concerns about student experience in UK Core courses. He encouraged senators to bring questions, ideas, or concerns they may have to SUKCEC. He clarified that the best way to contact the committee is by sending him or Ms. Ett-Mims an email.

Because of time constraints, the Chair asked if there were objections to moving agenda items 4.b.i, 4.c.ii, and 5 to the next Senate meeting. There were no objections.

##### b. Senate's Academic Facilities Committee – Kevin Donohue, Chair

###### i. Results of 2019-20 Facilities Survey – Chris Pool, Past Chair

Agenda item moved to next Senate meeting.

##### c. Senate's Academic Programs Committee - Leslie Vincent, Chair

###### i. Proposed New 2+4 and 3+4: BS Human Health Sciences and PharmD

The Chair welcomed SAPC Chair Leslie Vincent (BE). Vincent explained the proposal for a new 2+4 and 3+4: BS Human Health Sciences and PharmD. There were no questions of fact. The Chair then said that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the Senate approve the establishment of a new 2+4 and 3+4: BS Human Health Sciences and PharmD, in the College of Pharmacy. 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 abstaining.

ii. 2019-20 Report

Agenda item moved to next Senate meeting.

5. Update on CIP Changes – Assistant Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Annie Davis Weber.

Agenda item moved to next Senate meeting.

6. Presentation on Campus Communications – UK Police Chief Joe Monroe

The Chair welcomed UK Police Chief Joe Monroe. Chief Monroe emphasized the importance of transparency and accountability in earning the trust of the community. He shared how mechanisms are in place to ensure accountability and that UK Police has been accredited for the last 25 years. The floor was opened for questions. Chief Monroe addressed issues including:

- What is being done to recruit more diverse candidates. He said that not a lot of individuals want to go into law enforcement so recruiting in general is difficult. They are reaching out to HBCUs as well as trying to recruit through current minority officers. He welcomed referrals from the community and his department would be happy to recruit them.
- Information about officer reports can be found in their annual report.
- Diversity and inclusion training for officers.
- Duty of fellow officers to intervene if something is morally, ethically, or legally wrong.

7. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair addressed a question concerning the possible need to modify the Spring 2021 calendar due to COVID and flu season. He confirmed that an alternative calendar is being worked on and although it had not yet been presented, he expected that it would include a later start date and no spring break.

Concerns were raised about the International Center's relationship with faculty who have international status. The Chair noted the concern.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by, DeShana Collett  
University Senate Vice Chair

Absences: Abdel-Latif, Birdwhistell, Boyd, Bradley\*, Brown (Robyn), Cantrell\*, Charnigo\*, Chishti, Davis, DiPaola, Gauthier, Gent, Guy, Harper, Heilig, Jackson, Kennedy, Loftin, Martin\*, Miller (Hannah), Miller (Jay), Neiheisel, Okeson, Phillips, Richey, Sands, Sheather, Swartz, Tagavi, Vernon, Wilkinson, Wright (Allison), and Wright (George).

\* Denotes an explained absence.

Guests present: Jill Abney, Laura Anshel, Karen Badger, Terry Birdwhistell, Jonathan Blanton, Anna Bosch, Sheila Brothers, Will Buntin, Alexandra Burns, Julia Bursten, Kristen Cheser, Rick Childress, Liz Combs, Trey Conatser, Jennifer Cramer, Liz Debski, Allyson DeVito, Zach DeVries, Melanie Dicks, Lee Eachus, Laura Escobar-Ratliff, Rae Goodwin, Amber Gray, Katie Hardwick, Jim Hartsfield, Brenda Heeter, Larry Holloway, Mike Johnson, Davy Jones, Nancy Jones, Kathi Kern, Janice Kuperstein, Patrick Lee Lucas,

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G.T. Lineberry, Matt Losada, Carol Mason, Katherine McCormick, Joseph Monroe, Shauna Morgan, Kathryn Mullen, Jordan Phemister, Chris Pool, Lance Poston, Dierdra Reber, Sue Roberts, Ali Rossi, Rachael Shane, Azhar Swanson, Kirsten Turner, Jami Warren, Jaleesa Wells, Corrine Williams, Lisa Wilson, and Sharon Yam.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on Thursday, October 1, 2020.