

# University Senate

Monday, October 10, 2022

The University Senate (Senate) met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, October 10, 2022, in 311 Gatton College of Business and Economics and via Zoom. Below is a record of what transpired.

SC Chair DeShana Collett (HS) called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. The Chair informed Senate members that no votes were planned for today's meeting and any motions made could be voted on by show of hands.

The Chair reminded Senate members that Senate meetings were subject to KRS 61.826 ("Open Meetings laws") and informed senators that the session was being recorded for note-taking purposes. The Chair informed Senate members that the Senate follows Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised and asked that senators be civil and good citizens. The Chair asked Senate members to report back to those who elected them. The Chair noted that voting by proxy was prohibited.

The Chair reminded Senate members that individuals would be called upon at the Chair's discretion, and that Senate members were given first priority for speaking. The Chair asked Senate members to keep their constituents informed by reporting back to those who elected them.

The Chair asked Senate members to state their name and affiliation prior to speaking and speak loudly and clearly. The Chair provided technical guidance to Senate members regarding Zoom, noting that the chat was disabled. The Chair asked those participating via Zoom keep their camera on as much as possible and use a quality headset with mic button. The Chair explained provided guidance for using the table microphones for those attending in-person.

The Chair provided guidance to Senate members for participating, or "seeking the privilege of the floor." The Chair noted that Senate members must seek permission from the Chair to speak and explained the distinction between point of order, motioning, question of facts and debate, and calling the question.

## 1. Announcements

The Chair informed Senate members that there were currently vacant seats at the Undergraduate Council (UC), including two for the College of Arts and Sciences (AS) and one for the College of Design (DS). The Chair explained the UC was already asking for more members to assist with such a heavy workload and noted that the SC approved adding one additional voting member for 2022-23. The Chair noted that she had asked deans and associate deans to provide nominees. The Chair reminded deans and senators that Senate's activities were as effective as the faculty serving on the academic councils and Senate committees, noting it was in everyone's best interest for there to be enough faculty members to serve in these roles to ensure faculty members were not unduly burdened.

The Chair introduced the new Senate Parliamentarian, Gregg Rentfrow (AG) and expressed her appreciation for his willingness to serve in the role. The Chair thanked former Parliamentarian Clayton Thyne (AS) for his service last year.

The Chair explained agenda items would not be displayed on the screen for those attending in-person, rather senators are expected to provide the means by which they review agenda items during the meeting. She informed Senate members that the SC office staff would apply line numbers to proposals when possible, to facilitate wayfinding in discussion.

The Chair informed Senate members that the SC was now receiving monthly updates on the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) as part of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

(SACSCOC) reaccreditation activities. The topic of the QEP is “Transdisciplinary Educational approaches to advance Kentucky (TEK)” and the QEP committee is co-chaired by SC member Susan Cantrell (ED) and Provost Bob DiPaola.

The Chair announced that the semi-annual course purge activity was winding down and expressed thanks to those who sent requests. The Chair noted that of the 2,505 courses on the purge list, requests to keep nearly 400 courses were received.

The Chair informed Senate members that the Senate Calendar Committee (SCC) was beginning its work, noting that the SCC would review all requests related to the University Calendar and make recommendations to the SC. The Chair commented that the SCC was unlikely to recommend outright waivers of University and academic holidays.

The Chair explained that the Senate academic councils were using course and program checklists for all proposals. Proposers can check their course and program proposals against the checklists prior to submission.

The Chair announced that she invited Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner to present information to Senate regarding admissions policies and UK Invest.

The Chair informed Senate members that activities related to SC elections were beginning and that Senate members should expect communications from the chair of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) Elections Subcommittee. The Chair explained that senators would submit nominations and then vote for SC members, noting that only elected faculty members were eligible to be nominated and/or vote. The Chair reminded senators that SC members elect the SC Chair from the SC composition and asked senators to think carefully about the pool of nominees for SC Chair.

## 2. Consent Agenda

The Chair explained that the consent agendas consisted of the Senate minutes from the prior meeting and activity reports from each academic council and committee. Items on the consent agenda are considered adopted unless a member asks to remove an item, for discussion later in the meeting. Senate members can ask to remove an item well before the meeting, or at the time the consent agenda would be adopted.

### a. Minutes from September 12, 2022

The Chair noted that clerical edits were received to the minutes from September 12, 2022.

### b. Activity reports from academic councils and committees

There were no comments about the reports.

The Chair asked if there were any requests to remove items from the consent agenda and there were none. There being **no objections**, the adoption of the consent agenda for October 10 was **approved**.

## 3. Officer Reports

### a. Chair

The Chair provided a report to Senate members.

The Chair reported that SC had approved ad hoc committee that would survey current, non-credit-bearing activities and, if warranted, make recommendations to the SC. The Chair noted the similarity to the issue resolved the prior year regarding courses without faculty oversight.

The Chair informed Senate members that last year, past SC Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) expressed concerns to President Capilouto and Provost DiPaola about the Regulation Review Committee (RRC) not having met for

over a year. Presentations had been requested for SC and Senate this year on a number of regulation changes, but such requests had not yet been successful. Presentations on *Administrative Regulation (AR) 3:16* and *AR 1:4* were requested, but the invitation was declined. The Chair noted that *AR 4:10* ("*Code of Student Conduct*") was currently being vetted but commented that Senate input was not currently being sought. The Chair explained that seeking constituent feedback was traditionally a two-pronged approach, noting that if the Staff Senate or University Senate representative on the RRC asked, the regulation was placed on a meeting agenda and a representative from University Legal Counsel would present the proposed changes. The Chair informed Senate members that currently, RRC members do not have a mechanism to request that a change be presented to the body they represent. The Chair noted that consultation with faculty was required by various regulations and commented that it was unclear why the Senate was being excluded. The Chair told Senate members she would report on upcoming RRC meetings to SC and to Senate.

The Chair announced that in Spring 2022, SC asked the Senate Advisory Committee on Disability and Accommodation and Compliance (SACDAC) to look into issues related to concerns from faculty about reasonable accommodations, as faculty were not sure how to appeal a reasonable accommodation based on pedagogical feasibility, and lacked the resources needed to provide reasonable accommodations. The Chair noted that SC received a report from SACDAC Chair Justin Lane (ED) in September. The SC discussed the report and requested further work from SACDAC including benchmarking practices from other institutions, reviewing ADA laws and looking accommodations not covered by such laws, developing a more transparent website for UK's Disability Resource Center (DRC), and evaluating if the current SACDAC composition satisfied the committee's charge.

The Chair informed Senate members that SC discussed Finals Week and *SR* language, noting the *SRs* did not prohibit homework being due during Finals Week. There were disparate opinions among SC members, some related to disciplinary areas. The issue was remanded to the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC).

The Chair announced that the SC office had completed preparing college-specific listservs for senators to communicate with their respective colleges. The Chair suggested that colleges with more than one senator take turns each month reporting to their respective faculty body on what occurred in the Senate.

#### b. Vice Chair

SC Vice Chair Leslie Vincent (BE) did not have a report today.

#### c. Parliamentarian

Parliamentarian Gregg Rentfrow (AG) did not have a report today.

#### d. Trustees

Faculty Trustees Aaron Cramer (EN) and Hollie Swanson (ME) provided a report to Senate members about the recent Board of Trustees meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Cramer informed Senate members that prior to the meeting, the new members of the Board of Trustees participated in a new member orientation organized by President Capilouto. Cramer explained the Board of Trustees meeting and Board committee meetings included discussion of a variety of topics. The following week, a number of trustees participated in the Council on Postsecondary Education's (CPE) Kentucky Trusteeship Conference in Louisville, KY. Cramer noted the Executive Committee of the Board met this morning to accept the University's audited financial statements, a necessary meeting due to a timing issue with the reaffirmation report submission to SACSCOC. Cramer informed Senate members that the Board would meet again on October 20<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup> for its annual retreat, focused on the Inspiring Ingenuity principle of the strategic plan. Cramer noted that the Faculty Evaluation of the President would be presented to the Board' Executive Committee by SC Chair

DeShana Collett and the Board would be voting for officers and Executive Committee members during this meeting.

#### 4. Ombud's Report for 2021-22 – Alice Turkington, Ombud

The Chair welcomed Academic Ombud Alice Turkington. Turkington provided the Ombud's report for the 2021-2022 year. Turkington also thanked Associate Ombud Laura Ansel, as well as college associate deans of academic affairs and various offices on campus that her office worked with on many cases.

Senate members asked a variety of questions related to cases received from graduate students compared to undergraduate students, cases involving international students, and how much time faculty spent on appeals.

The Chair thanked Turkington for her time and report.

#### 5. UAB Report for 2021-22 - Former UAB Chair Joe Fink and UAB Chair Julia Costich

The Chair welcome former University Appeals Board (UAB) Chair Joe Fink (professor emeritus). Fink provided a report to Senate members for the UAB's activity in 2021-22. Fink provided background and details about the appeals process and the composition of the UAB. Fink thanked constituents across campus who were involved in the UAB process and introduced the UAB Chair Julie Costich (PbH).

Senate members asked a variety of questions related to increase in cases for fair and just evaluation, the nature of student conduct violations, the UAB's standard for review, and outcomes of appeals.

The Chair thanked Fink for his service and congratulated him on his retirement.

#### 6. Update on CIP Changes from 2021-22 - Director of Planning and Accreditation RaeAnne Pearson

The Chair informed Senate members that Director of Planning and Accreditation RaeAnne Pearson was unable to attend today's meeting and that the agenda item for the update on CIP changes from 2021-22 would be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

#### 7. Proposed Changes to *Senate Rules 1.3 ("Councils of the Senate")* and *SR 1.4.1 ("Structure of University Senate Committees")* - Discussion Only

The Chair explained the proposed changes to *SR 1.3 ("Councils of the Senate")* and *SR 1.4.1 ("Structure of University Senate Committees")*. The Chair provided the following information to Senate members:

- The cover page contained the rationale for the proposal and a list of major changes including clarifying SR language where it deviated from Governing Regulations IV.C.3 (approvals vs recommendations), updating committee charge text, and standardizing language for academic councils and committees about terms, responsibilities, and memberships
- The Undergraduate Council (UC) membership currently contained appointed and elected members and some colleges shared a single seat. The proposed change would give a UC seat to every college an undergraduate program with the exception of Arts & Sciences (AS would have one seat for the combined areas of Humanities and Social Sciences, plus one seat for combined areas of Biological and Physical Sciences, for a total of two seats)
- Colleges would conduct their own elections for academic councils, including UC
- The SC office had been collecting suggested edits and academic councils were asked to submit feedback by today
- Senators can send suggestions to Sheila Brothers (SC office) through Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

- The SREC would prepare final documents for Senate approval, which was expected to be presented to Senate in November

The Chair informed Senate members that this agenda item was for discussion only today and asked Senate members to use the “track changes” version as their point of reference. The Chair asked Senate members to send all clerical edits to Sheila Brothers.

#### *Overall Structure of the Revised Format*

- Extent of authority
- Interpretations by the SREC

Kaveh Tagavi (EN) expressed concern that the Senate Rules did not constrain the authority of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) to interpret the SRs.

#### *SR 1.3.2 (“University Senate’s Academic Councils”)*

- There were no concerns raised for this section

#### *SR 1.3.3 (“Graduate Council”)*

- There were no concerns raised for this section

#### *SR 1.3.4 (“Undergraduate Council”)*

- There were no concerns raised for this section

#### *SR 1.3.5 (“Health Care Colleges Council”)*

- There were no concerns raised for this section

#### *SR 1.4.1 (“Structure of University Senate Committees”)*

- There were no concerns raised for this section

#### *SR 1.4.2 (“Standing Committees”)*

Farrell (FA) suggested adding “including but not limited” regarding the SAOSC language about suspension and closure, to make it clear that the SAOSC may review other types of proposals 8. Items from the Floor

The Chair asked if there were any items from the floor.

Ken Calvert (EN) inquired about multiple meeting invitations in Outlook for recurring Senate meetings. Katie Silver (SC office) explained this was a function of Outlook, as the recurring meeting invitation for Senate meetings did not occur exactly on the second Monday of each month.

Bob Grossman (AS) raised a concern regarding the nickname “Ole Miss” used in the University publications. Grossman explained that the nickname had racist connotations. Grossman suggested the name “University of Mississippi” be used instead. The Chair said that she and Provost DiPaola could work on correcting the issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 PM with **no objections**.

Respectfully submitted by,  
University Senate Secretary Leslie Vincent

Prepared by Katie Silver on Friday, October 21, 2022

Absences: Alan Desantis, Angie Martin, Caleb Frush, Caroline Slicer, Carrigan Wasilchenko, Charles Griffith, Christian Brady, Christine Harper, Colleen Swartz, Craig Collins, Eli Capilouto, Emily Hale, Gina Dugas, Gregory

Hall, Janie Heath, Jenna Knight, Jennifer Campbell, Julian Heilig, Justin Lane, Justin Miller, Katrice Albert, Kirsten Turner, Mark Birdwhistell, Mark O'Bryan, Mary Vosevich, Michelle Sizemore, Mohammad Awad, Ned Crankshaw, Nolan Pringnitz, Olivia Ellis, Patrick Haycraft, Promise Kayembe, Richard Charnigo, Robert Coleman, Rodney Guy, Stefan Kiessling, Thomas Seigler