Senate Council

Monday, February 27, 2023

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, February 27, 2023, in 103 Main Building, although a video conference link was also available for members. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken electronically unless otherwise specified. Specific voting information can be requested from the Office of the Senate Council (SC).

Senate Council Chair DeShana Collett (HS) called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:00 PM. The Chair welcomed those present. She informed everyone that the session was being recorded for notetaking purposes and noted that it was an open meeting. She asked that all attendees, online and in person, state their name and affiliation prior to speaking, to ensure everyone knew who was speaking. The Chair asked SC members to be ready to vote via Poll Everywhere. The Chair reminded SC members that regarding the ability to speak, members must raise their hand to be called upon. The Chair also reminded everyone that SC members would have priority speaking, noting that others may be called upon as needed and given a chance to speak only if there were no additional comments from SC members. The Chair noted that *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* was clear that it was the Chair's responsibility to call on those wishing to speak. The Chair stated that suggestions made about whether the Chair should call on people would be ruled out of order, as the right to speak was determined by the Chair.

1. Minutes from February 20, 2023 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that no edits were received to the February 20, 2023 minutes. There being **no objections,** the minutes from February 20, 2023 were **approved as distributed by unanimous consent.**

The Chair informed SC members that she met with President Capilouto recently and raised concerns about questions brought up senators during the December 2022 and January 2023 Senate meetings about faculty safety regarding students. The Chair noted she sent a formal letter to President Capilouto and Provost DiPaola on Friday about these concerns and asked how the President and Provost would convey their feedback to these questions from Senate (e.g. a written report or presentation to the Senate).

2. Committee Reports

a. Senate UK Core Education Committee (SUKCEC) - Keiko Tanaka, Chair

The Chair thanked SUKCEC Keiko Tanaka (AG) and the committee for their hard work, noting that in addition to curricular reviews at every meeting, the committee was working diligently on policies designed to maintain and strengthen the University's general education requirement.

i. *Update on Activities*

Tanaka provided an update to SC members about SUKCEC activities. Tanaka discussed UK Core assessment, UK Core exception procedures for education abroad (EA) courses, the course substitution policy for students with math learning disabilities (MLD), SUKCEC composition, and how the University's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) and TEK courses could be integrated with UK Core. Tanaka explained that the 2021-2022 assessment results of UK Core yielded an improved, yet low, participation rate and misalignments between artifacts and UK Core area student learning outcomes (SLOs). Tanaka also described revised procedures for UK Core exception for EA courses and explained issues surrounding the decision-making process for course substitutions for students with math learning disabilities. Tanaka informed SC members that proposals would be forthcoming from the committee about UK Core assessment, UK Core exceptions, course substitutions, and the

SUKCEC composition. Tanaka noted the committee also planned to discuss how TEK 200 and TEK 300 courses could be embedded in the UK Core program.

SC members offered a variety of comments and questions about how senior administrators could increase participation and compliance rates with UK Core, whether students had difficulties fulfilling UK Core requirements, how administration was involved in ensuring that instructors were in compliance, and the authority of the SUKCEC. The Chair thanked Tanaka for her update.

b.   Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) - Leslie Vincent, Chair
The Chair invited SAASC Chair Leslie Vincent (BE) to provide a report to SC members.

i.   *Proposed Change to Graduate Certificate in International Education*
Vincent explained the proposed change to the Graduate Certificate in International Education. The Chair stated that the **motion** was a recommendation from the committee for the Senate to approve the proposed changes to the Graduate Certificate in International Education. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact and debate. Akiko Takenaka (AS) asked if the proposal had gone through the Senate Committee for Distance and eLearning (SCDLeL). Vincent noted that courses that were already approved for distance learning were not changing. The Chair clarified that the program did not require SCDLeL consideration since this was not a fully online program. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

ii.   *Proposed Change to Doctor of Nursing Practice*
Vincent explained the proposed change to the Doctor of Nursing Practice. The Chair stated that the **motion** was a recommendation from the committee for the Senate to approve the proposed changes to the Doctor of Nursing Practice. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact and debate. There were no questions or debate. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

iii.   *Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 4 ("Rules Relating to Admission to the University")*
The Chair asked SC members to recall the sweeping changes to *SR 4 ("Rules Relating to Admission to the University")* that were proposed by Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Christine Harper. The Chair explained Harper opted not to move forward with the changes until the Supreme Court of the United States rendered some admissions-related rulings, expected mid-summer. At the time of that announcement, SC members suggested moving forward with some of the changes, particular to the areas where the *SRs* were out of compliance with current federal enrollment policies. The Chair explained that she would ask SC members to review this language today, and again at the next SC meeting with edits from today's meeting incorporated. The Chair explained the version on the agenda codified existing University undergraduate admissions policies and removed outdated language that described policies which had not been enforced for years. At the SC office's request, staff in the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OSPIE) had reviewed the changes and offered comments to help ensure compliance with all relevant admissions policies. The Chair noted that those edits would be incorporated into the version that SC members would receive at the next SC meeting. The Chair asked SC members for comments and suggestions about sections with outdated language in need of revision. The Chair noted that the intent of this review was not to identify new substantive issues, but that such issues could be addressed when Harper sent forward her edits.

SAASC Chair Leslie Vincent (BE) noted that most of the wording in the proposed changes was nearly identical to the wording that SC members had seen previously. Vincent informed SC members that SAASC voted unanimously to recommend Senate approve the proposed changes.

SC members offered a variety of comments and clerical edits. SC members discussed some of the specific language used and placement for language. Harper offered insight into the rationale some of the specific language used and the placement of such language.

The Chair noted that changes suggested by SC members and changes from OSPIE would be incorporated and distributed to SC members before the next SC meeting.

c.   Senate Nominating Committee (SNC) - Bob Grossman, Chair
  i.   *Nominees for Summative Review Committee for Gatton College of Business and Economics Dean Simon Sheather*
       SNC Chair Bob Grossman (AS) described the nominees for the summative review committee for Gatton College of Business and Economics Dean Simon Sheather. Kaveh Tagavi (EN) suggested two additional nominees. SC members briefly discussed the composition of the committee. A **vote** was taken, and the motion to approve the four nominees discussed **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

  ii. *Nominees for Summative Review Committee for College of Engineering Dean Rudy Buchheit*
       Grossman described the nominees for the summative review committee for College of Engineering Dean Rudy Buchheit. Leslie Vincent (BE) suggested an additional nominee. Doug Michael (LA) **moved** to approve the four nominees discussed. Vincent **seconded.** The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact and debate. There were no questions or debate. A **vote** was taken, and the motion passed with none opposed or abstained.

3. Items from the Floor

The Chair welcomed items from the floor from SC members.

Faculty Trustee Hollie Swanson (ME) asked if guidance had been provided regarding the use of artificial intelligence (AI) applications in academic settings. Senior Associate Provost for Administration and Academic Affairs Katie Cardarelli commented that Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT) Director Trey Conatser delivered an informative presentation about the subject recently to associate deans. SC members discussed the pedagogical use of AI and concerns relating to academic integrity. Student Government Association (SGA) President Andrew Laws commented that students were interested in the new technology. The Chair suggested it may be fruitful for Conatser to attend one of the Senate meetings to provide more information to faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 PM with **no objections.**

Respectfully submitted by,
DeShana Collett

Prepared by Katie Silver on Tuesday, February 28, 2023

SC Members Present: Blasing, Collett, Cramer, Davis, Duncan, Grossman, Laws, Michael, Raglin, Salt, Swanson, Tagavi, Takenaka, Vincent

Invited Guests Present: Sheila Brothers, Katie Cardarelli, Kathy Collins, Debra Hampton, Christine Harper, Gregg Rentfrow, Keiko Tanaka