

# Senate Council

Monday, November 27, 2023

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, November 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 3:00pm. The Chair welcomed those present. She informed everyone that the session was an open meeting and would be conducted as such. 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 and if time permits.

## 1. Minutes from November 20, 2023 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the minutes from November 20, 2023 will be distributed this week and approved at the next SC meeting on December 4, 2023.

The Chair reminded attendees that SC meetings are open, however the minutes are written following Robert's Rules of Order. The Chair continued that minutes are a summary of the general discussion during meetings, and direct quotes are not provided in the minutes to allow SC members a safe space to voice their opinions. Despite others who may take personal notes, the Chair indicated that SC minutes would continue to be drafted as has been done historically, particularly not including direct quotes which can be taken out of context.

## 2. Request to Waive Senate Rules 1.3.2.1.1.4 ("General Policies for Academic Councils," "Terms")

The Chair stated there was a request to waive SR 1.3.2.1.1.4 for the College of Arts and Sciences, for their Graduate Council election, to permit them to elect two representatives to two-year terms in the Spring of 2024. The Chair informed SC members this may need to be done for other colleges upon request. Marilyn Duncan (ME) **moved** to approve to recommend Senate waive SR 1.3.2.1.1.4 ("Terms") for the College of Arts and Sciences, for their Graduate Council election, to permit them to elect two representatives to two-year terms in Spring 2024, for the purpose of staggering terms. Sandra Bastin (AG) **seconded**. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. There was no debate.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

## 3. Committee Reports

### a. Senate Calendar Committee (SCC)- Richard Charnigo, Chair

#### i. Proposed Changes to 2023- 2024 PharmD Calendar

Richard Charnigo (PbH), chair of the Senate Calendar Committee, provided a brief explanation of the modifications to the 2023-2024 PharmD calendar. The Chair explained that there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to the 2023-2024 PharmD calendar, and because the motion

came from committee, **no second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate. There was no debate.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### ii. Proposed Changed to 2023-2024 DMD Calendar

Charnigo briefly explained the rationale for the proposed changes to the 2023-2024 DMD calendar. The Chair explained that there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to the 2023-2024 DMD calendar, and because the motion came from committee, **no second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate. There was no debate.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### iii. 2024-2025 Academic Calendar

#### iv. 2026-2027 Academic Calendar, Tentative

#### v. 2024-2025 MD Calendar

#### vi. 2026-2027 MD Calendar, Tentative

#### vii. 2024-2025 DMD Calendar

#### viii. 2026-2027 DMD Calendar, Tentative

#### ix. 2024-2025 PharmD Calendar

#### x. 2026-2027 PharmD Calendar, Tentative

#### xi. 2024-2025 JD Calendar

#### xii. 2026-2027 JD Calendar, Tentative

Charnigo provided a brief explanation of the 2024-2025 calendars and 2026-2027 tentative calendars. The Chair explained that there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed 2024-2025 calendars and 2026-2027 tentative calendars, and because the motion came from committee, **no second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate.

The Chair mentioned the 2024-2025 MD calendar does not contain the holiday for the presidential election. Charnigo stated the calendar should contain that holiday, and suggested approving the calendar pending adding the holiday.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

### 4. Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC)- Gregg Rentfrow, Chair

#### a. Proposed Suspension and Closure of Graduate Certificate in Gerontology

Gregg Rentfrow (AG), chair of the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee, provided a brief description of the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology as well as rationale for the proposed suspension and closure of the certificate. The Chair explained that there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed suspension and closure of the Graduate Certificate in

Gerontology, and because the motion came from committee, **no second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate.

There was lengthy discussion. SC members voiced a number of concerns regarding the closure of the graduate certificate, including the loss of important curriculum. It was suggested that the curriculum taught in the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology has been imbedded in other programs. A suggestion was made to simply suspend the certificate and reevaluate, however that avenue was not pursued.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with two opposed and none abstained.

Discussion continued, with a suggestion that a committee be charged to review the certificate and see what can be done.

#### b. Proposed Suspension and Closure of Minor in Technical Systems Management

Rentfrow provided rationale for the closure of the Minor in Technical Systems Management, including other programs covering the same material and lack of current students. The Chair explained that there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed suspension and closure of the Minor in Technical Systems Management, and because the motion came from committee, **no second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate. There was no debate.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

### 5. Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC)- Leslie Vincent, Chair

#### a. Proposed Change to Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion

Leslie Vincent (BE), chair of the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee, briefly explained the proposed change to the Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion. The Chair explained that there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed change to Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion and because the motion came from committee, **no second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. SC members raised several questions, including the rationale for a proposed reduction of credit hours required for the graduate certificate. Christia Brown (AS), the proposer for the change to the Graduate Certificate, was unable to arrive to the meeting until later due to a scheduling conflict. The Chair suggested SC move on to the next agenda item and return to the discussion on the Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion once Brown had arrived to answer questions. Hearing no objections, the Chair moved to the next item on the agenda.

### 6. Update on Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness- Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs Katie Cardarelli

Katie Cardarelli (PbH), Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, provided a brief update on the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness activities. Cardarelli informed SC members that a reorganization of the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness was taking place, including the posting of the Assistant Provost for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness position. Cardarelli also stated the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness was attempting to enhance and facilitate faculty engagement in curricular assessment.

### 5. Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC)- Leslie Vincent, Chair

#### a. Proposed Change to Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion

Christia Brown (AS), proposer for the change to the Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion, explained the rationale for the change, including the reduction from 12 credit hours to 9 credit hours and the addition of two new course options for the certificate. SC members raised concern over the wording of the proposal, stating that the wording regarding the addition of new course options was confusing. The Chair suggested sending the proposal back to the SAASC for clarification. Bastin **moved** to table the proposed changes to the Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion until December 4, to give the proposer an opportunity to make edits. Elizabeth Salt (NU) **seconded**.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

The Chair clarified that the committee does not have to vote on the proposal again, they simply need to clarify the language.

#### 7. Senate Meeting Roundtable

SC members shared their thoughts on the November 13, 2023 Senate meeting. Many members stated the Senate meeting went well, although there is a different dynamic when senators are present in the room together. SC members expressed their gratitude for President Capilouto attending and remaining for the duration of the meeting. SC members brought up concern over a continuing lack of trust between administration and the Senate.

#### 8. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

SC members discussed the Provost's request from the prior week to edit the minutes from October 30. Members suggested that their willingness to consider edits was not due to any perceived error in the minutes, but rather pertained to providing an opportunity for someone to see how their comments were documented. The Chair mentioned that the October 30, 2023 minutes had already been approved and cannot be edited according to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR). However an annotation can be added to correct any misrepresentation of intent that SC determines may have occurred.

SC members continued to discuss concerns regarding trust, including a lack of transparency on administrative decisions and faculty feeling they are not being appropriately included in decision-making processes. SC members stated that in shared governance, power levels between administration and faculty should be equal. SC meetings should be a place where members feel safe expressing their opinions and for thinking and talking freely about whatever topic is under discussion. Distractions make it more difficult for SC members to do the work they were elected to do. UK's administration has quite a bit more power than individual faculty members and it is important that that be well understood. The SC office does not have a pattern of misrepresenting meeting attendees in the minutes and trust should be shown moving forward regarding meeting minutes.

Lisa Tannock (ME), Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement, stated she had been appointed co-chair of the Campus Safety Committee and informed SC members that their nominations for the committee membership had been accepted.

Provost DiPaola described the processes used for Board of Trustees (Board) meeting minutes. He provided examples of the review process the Board employs. The Chair asked for an opportunity to see

the policy that the Provost referred to. Concern was expressed about comparing SC and Board meetings; Board meetings are quite formal and structured, while SC meetings tend to involve members speaking freely and frequently on a wide variety of topics. SC members are not uncomfortable disagreeing with each other, and that sort of discourse best serves the faculty.

Aaron Cramer (EN), faculty trustee, informed SC members he would be resigning from the Board of Trustees effective December 31, 2023 to serve as chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering. SC members congratulated Cramer on his new position with a round of applause. The Chair informed members that an election will be held in January for someone to fill the remaining [one-and-a-half years] of Cramer's term, so the new trustee can be able to participate in the February Board meeting. The Chair thanked Cramer for his service to the Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by,  
DeShana Collett

Prepared by Dori Grady on November 28, 2023

SC members present: Sandra Bastin, Molly Blasing, Aaron Cramer, Olivia Davis, Marilyn Duncan, Bob Grossman, Lizzie Hornung, Doug Michael, Elizabeth Salt, Hollie Swanson, Kaveh Tagavi, Akiko Takenaka, Kiersten White

Invited guests present: Sheila Brothers, Robert DiPaola, Gregg Rentfrow