

Senate Council

Monday, December 4, 2023

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, December 4, 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 November 27, 2023 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that no edits were received to the minutes from November 20, 2023 or November 27, 2023. There being no objections, the minutes from November 20, 2023 and November 27, 2023 were **approved as distributed by unanimous consent**.

The Chair reminded SC members of the issues discussed in the prior SC meeting regarding lack of trust between faculty and administrative leadership. The Chair informed SC members that she had voiced concerns to President Capilouto regarding recent interactions. In response, President Capilouto had referred the Chair to the Institutional Equity and Equal Opportunity Office (IEEO) for a review and discussion. The Chair continued that, she had informed IEEO that this was not a complaint, and this was not a personal issue, rather an issue of the organizational culture and that the goal was to work towards developing solutions from a collaborative posture.

2. Old Business

a. Proposed Change to Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion

The Chair reminded SC members of the Proposed Change to Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion, which was discussed and tabled at the November 27, 2023 SC meeting. Leslie Vincent (BE) informed SC members that she had worked with the proposer of the Graduate Certificate to clarify the language.

Bob Grossman (AS) **moved** to take the proposed change to Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion off the table. Marilyn Duncan (ME) **seconded**. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

The Chair stated there was a **motion on the floor** to approve the proposed changes to the Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion, and because the motion came from committee, **no second was required**.

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

3. Committee Reports

a. Senate Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Sandra Bastin, Chair

i. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Design-Build

Molly Blasing (AS) presented in leu of Sandra Bastin (AG), chair of the Senate Academic Programs Committee. Blasing provided a brief description of the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Design-Build. Blasing explained that the decision by committee members to approve the proposal was unanimous. The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Design-Build, and because the motion came from committee, **no second was required**. 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.

ii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Design-Build

Blasing provided a brief description of the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Design-Build. Blasing explained that the decision by committee members to approve the proposal was unanimous. The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed new Graduate Certificate in Design-Build, and because the motion came from committee, **no second was required**. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. A question was raised over the difference between the proposed Undergraduate Certificate and the proposed Graduate Certificate, to which to proposer stated the Graduate Certificate is more research based.

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

4. Tentative Senate Agenda for December 11, 2023

The Chair inquired if SC members would like to see any edits made to the tentative agenda for the December 11, 2023 Senate meeting. A suggestion was made regarding item number 7, to specify the nature of the continuing discussion on absence policies. It was pointed out that item number 7 refers to the same topic as item number 4b. It was suggested that item number 7 be removed from the agenda.

Grossman **moved** to approve the amended tentative agenda. Marilyn Duncan (ME) **seconded**. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

5. Officer Elections

a. Chair

The Chair introduced Davy Jones (ME), Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) member, to facilitate the process of SC officer elections.

Jones provided a brief review of the procedures to elect SC chair and vice chair. Jones noted that there were two candidates willing to serve as SC chair, Elizabeth Salt (NU) and Doug Michael (LA), and 13 eligible voters. Jones opened the floor to the candidates for statements and both Salt and Michael provided statements. Jones opened the floor to SC members for discussion. There was little discussion.

A **vote** was taken, with Michael receiving 5 votes, and Salt receiving 4 votes. Jones stated Michael was the SC Chair elect.

b. Vice Chair

Jones provided an explanation of the SC Vice Chair election, noting there were 6 eligible candidates and 13 eligible voters. Jones informed SC members of the eligible candidates: Molly Blasing (AS), Olivia Davis (BE), Doug Michael (LA), Elizabeth Salt (NU), Kaveh Tagavi (EN), and Akiko Takenaka (AS). Jones opened the floor to SC members for nominations. Bastin nominated Salt and Blasing nominated Takenaka. Jones opened the floor to SC members for discussion. There was no discussion. Salt and Takenaka both stated they were willing to serve and provided statements to SC members. Jones opened the floor to SC members for comments or discussion. A small amount of discussion took place.

A **vote** was taken, with Salt receiving 7 votes and Takenaka receiving 3 votes. Jones stated Salt was the SC Vice Chair elect.

The Chair provided congratulations and informed SC members that the chair and vice chair elects would be announced at the next Senate meeting.

6. Discussion on Request from Provost DiPaola to Annotate the Senate Council Minutes from October 30, 2023

The Chair stated the a PDF of the approved minutes from October 30, 2023, as well as the PDF of Provost DiPaola's suggested edits were available on the meeting agenda. The Chair informed SC members that Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised prevented the approved minutes from October 30, 2023 from being edited, however, the minutes could be annotated. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for discussion.

SC members engaged in rigorous discussion, including discussing whether the original minutes accurately reflected the tone of the discussion during the October 30th meeting. Several SC members voiced their opposition to annotating the October 30 minutes, stating they believed the original minutes were an accurate representation of the meeting.

Grossman **moved** to include the full version of the Provost's edits in the minutes for today's meeting. Tagavi **seconded**. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate. SC members engaged in further discussion. Bastin made a **friendly amendment** to add a statement to the minutes stating that the SC and Provost disagreed with each other's intents during the October 30 meeting. Grossman did not accept the friendly amendment. Grossman clarified that the framing of his motion was that the Provost had presented suggested annotation for the October 30, 2023 minutes and the suggested edits were discussed by SC.

There was a **vote** to call the question, and the vote **passed** with one opposed and none abstained.

A **vote** was taken on the Provost's version of the October 30, 2023 SC minutes being included in the minutes for December 4, 2023, as a statement reflecting that the Provost thought his version was a more accurate reflection. The motion **failed**, with five opposed and one abstained.

Bastin **moved** to reaffirm that SC believes that the original minutes from October 30, 2023 were accurate. Takenaka **seconded**. The Chair opened the floor to SC members for questions of fact or debate. SC members voiced several opinions.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **failed** with four opposed and two abstained.

7. Items for the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair opened the floor to attendees for items. Among the items raised was an urge from an attendee to keep the meeting minutes robust in indicating logic and reasoning of discussion. SC members suggested that it may be best if the Provost doesn't attend every SC meeting, indicating that his attendance creates a dynamic where discussion is inhibited.

Katie Cardarelli, Sr Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, announced that she had accepted a new position and would be leaving the University of Kentucky. Cardarelli urged SC members to invest time into improving the trusting relationship on campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by,

DeShana Collett

Prepared by Dori Grady on December 5, 2023

SC members present: Sandra Bastin, Molly Blasing, Olivia Davis, Marilyn Duncan, Bob Grossman, Doug Michael, Jack Reynolds, Elizabeth Salt, Kaveh Tagavi, Akiko Takenaka

Invited guests present: Sheila Brothers, Lisa Tannock, Gregg Rentfrow