

Senate Council

Monday, February 5, 2024

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, February 5, 2024, 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. A test vote was held, and 11 votes were recorded. 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 January 29, 2024 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that minor clerical edits were made to the minutes from January 29, 2024. There being no objections, the minutes from January 29, 2024 were **approved as edited by unanimous consent**.

The Chair announced the registrar had requested an additional date be added to the 2024-2025 academic calendar. This entry was related to “Change of Major Deadline for Spring Semester with Tuition Assessment Recalculation.” This date coincides with the last day to add a class each semester.

2. Committee Reports

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

i. Prep Days Policy for Compressed Courses

Richard Charnigo (PbH), Senate Calendar Committee chair, provided a brief overview of the proposed Prep Days Policy for Compressed Courses, which included a change to SR 5.2.5.6.1 “Timing of Prep Days and Reading Days.”

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed changes to SR 5.2.5.6.1 “Timing of Prep Days and Reading Days” as it relates to the Prep Days Policy for Compressed Courses. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

SC members had minor concerns, including inquiring which type of courses the proposed change would affect. Charnigo clarified the change would affect part of term courses in the Spring and Fall semesters, as well as courses during the Summer and Winter intersession.

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

ii. BSN Prep Days Policy

Charnigo provided a description of the proposed BSN Prep Days Policy, which included a waiver of SR 5.2.5.6 "Prep Days and Reading Days." Charnigo also provided rationale behind the proposal, informing SC members that College of Nursing had recently had to provide weekend rotations for clinicals to accommodate growing admission. The current prep-reading day schedule would disrupt this weekend rotation schedule.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend the Senate approve a waiver of SR 5.2.5.6 and approve the proposed calendar changes to the Prep Days Policy for BSN. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

SC members engaged in rigorous discussion. Topics included:

- Whether or not enough students were consulted
- The impact this change may have on student success
- Concern over possible alteration this change may have in classroom contact hours
- A suggestion that the Monday of finals week is made a reading day instead of a prep day.

Doug Michael (LA) moved to send the Proposed BSN Prep Days Policy back to the Senate Calendar Committee and any additional committees that may be warranted. Leslie Vincent (BE) seconded.

Many SC members voiced their agreement that the proposal be sent back to committee. There were suggestions of additional committees that may review the proposal, including the Senate Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) and the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC).

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

b. Senate Nominating Committee (SNC) Joe Sottile, Chair

i. Nominees for Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs Search Committee

Joe Sottile (EN), Senate Nominating Committee chair, provided a brief overview of the five individuals the committee had selected as nominees for Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs Search Committee. Sottile informed SC members the only restriction for selection was being full-time faculty.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the Search Committee nominees for Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs on behalf of the Senate. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

There was little discussion.

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

c. Senate Academic Standards Committee- Leslie Vincent, Chair

i. Proposed Changes to BSCHE Chemical Engineering

Vincent, Senate Academic Standards Committee chair, provided a brief review of the proposed changes to BSCHE Chemical Engineering.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed changes BSCE Chemical Engineering. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

There was little discussion.

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

ii. Proposed Changes to BSN Nursing

The Chair introduced Angie Hensley (NU), who was attending in place of the proposer, Karen Butler (NU). Vincent provided an overview of the proposed changes, which included a change in admissions requirements to require students to have an unencumbered RN license prior to admission.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed changes to BSN Nursing. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

SC members had several questions, including:

- How is it possible to already have an RN license prior to admission? To which Hensley clarified this requirement would be for the RN to BSN pathway only. That is, this would only apply to students who had already received an associate degree and were practicing nurses but were required to complete their BSN within a certain number of years.
- Request for clarification on what an “unencumbered” license was. Hensley clarified this meant the license was not currently subjected to formal discipline by any state board of nursing and there were no conditions that would limit the nurse’s practice.
- What the results would be if a student had an unencumbered license upon admission, but gained an encumbered license at any point during the program. To which Hensley stated this had occurred before, and the student’s program was put on hold until the student regained their unencumbered license.

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

d. Senate Academic Organization Structure Committee (SAOSC)- Gregg Rentfrow, Chair

i. Proposed Closure of Minor in Indian Culture

The Chair informed SC members the proposed closure of Minor in Indian Culture would be **tabled**.

ii. Proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in Liberal Studies

Gregg Rentfrow (AG), Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee chair, provided a brief rationale behind the proposed closure of the Graduate Certificate in Liberal Studies.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed closure of the Graduate Certificate in Liberal Studies. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

Concern was voiced about faculty involvement. The Chair stated a mistake, voicing that it had been requested to **table** the proposal.

iii. Proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in Inclusive Education

Rentfrow provided a brief rationale behind the proposed closure of the Graduate Certificate in Inclusive Education, stating the program faculty had voted to approve the closure.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed closure of the Graduate Certificate in Inclusive Education. The Chair explained that, because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

There was no discussion.

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

3. Tentative Senate Agenda for February 12, 2024

The Chair opened the floor for edits to the February 12, 2024 tentative Senate agenda. The edits included:

- Changing the name of item three, “Committee Reports” to “Committee Recommendations”
- Change item 3.v. to reflect the proposal pertains to the RN to BSN pathway only
- Removing the tabled items 3.b.i. and 3.b.ii.
- Including the relevant Senate Rules in items 3.c.i. and 3.c.ii.

There being no objections, the February 12, 2024 tentative Senate agenda was **approved as edited by unanimous consent**.

4. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair opened the floor for items. SC members introduced several items, including:

- A request to include the full college vote for proposals
- A request to change the proposal form to list the calendar year and not the academic year
- Discussion on workgroup activity reports to Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53pm with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by,

DeShana Collett

Prepared by Dori Grady on February 6, 2024

SC members present: Sandra Bastin, Molly Blasing, Jennifer Cramer, Olivia Davis, Cassandra Gipson-Reichardt, Lizzy Hornung, Sami Jones, Doug Michael, Justin Nichols, Hollie Swanson, Kaveh Tagavi, Leslie Vincent, Kiersten White

Invited guests present: Richard Charnigo, Bob DiPaola, Bob Grossman, Angie Hensley, Davy Jones, Barbara Knutson, Gregg Rentfrow, Joe Sottile, Lisa Tannock, Darlene Welsh