

# University Senate

Monday, February 12, 2024

The University Senate (Senate) met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, February 12, 2024, in 311 Gatton College of Business and Economics and via Zoom. 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 meeting to order at 3pm. The Chair asked Senate members attending in-person to sign in using the sign-in sheet in the back of the room. The Chair asked all Senate members to be ready to vote using Poll Everywhere and provided detailed instructions. A test vote was held and 66 votes were cast.

The Chair welcomed Senate members. 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 reminded Senate members to keep their constituents informed by reporting back to those who elected them, noting the availability of Senate-provided distribution lists for each college that will be available soon.

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 with mics off unless speaking and use a quality headset with mic button. The Chair 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 described the reasons why a senator would request to speak: the distinction between point of order, motioning, question of facts and debate, and calling the question.

## 1. Announcements

The Chair announced the SC had taken action on behalf of Senate to add an additional date to the 2024-25 academic calendar. The entry was requested by the registrar and was related to “Change in Major Deadline for Spring Semester with Tuition Assessment Recalculation.” The Chair informed Senators the publication of this date in the academic calendar would alleviate questions about the policy on tuition assessment based on a student’s major.

## 2. Consent Agenda

### a. December 11, 2023 Minutes

The Chair stated she had not received any requests to remove anything from the consent agenda for discussion later, with **no objections** the consent agenda for February 12, 2024 was adopted.

The Chair reported that there were no edits received to the December 11, 2023 minutes. There being no objections, the minutes from December 11, 2023 were **approved by unanimous consent**.

### 3. Officer Reports

#### a. Chair – DeShana Collett

The Chair informed Senators that Akiko Takenaka (AS) had been named Vice-Chair Elect during the election for Senate Council Vice Chair that took place at the January 22, 2024 Senate Council meeting. The Chair continued to inform Senators that the Senate Council had approved nominees for the Academic Area Advisory Committee for the Humanities and Arts as well as the Provost Search Committee for the Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs.

The Chair announced the Senate Council had discussed the President’s special sessions of legislative briefing, and had requested an update on these be given to Senators at the regularly scheduled Senate meetings.

Lastly, the Chair provided a brief overview of the 2022-23 Faculty Evaluation of the President.

#### b. Vice Chair - Sandra Bastin

Bastin (AG) reminded Senators of the ongoing election for Faculty Trustee, and asked Senators to encourage their constituents to vote in this important election.

#### c. Parliamentarian – Gregg Rentfrow

Rentfrow (AG) had no report.

#### d. Trustee – Hollie Swanson

Faculty Trustee Hollie Swanson (ME) provided a brief report to Senators. Swanson reminded Senators the Board of Trustees meetings were open to the public and encouraged Senators to attend.

The Chair opened the floor for questions. Several questions were asked, and it was clarified that the Board of Trustee meetings were in-person only.

### 4. Committee Recommendations

#### a. Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) – Leslie Vincent, Chair

##### i. Proposed Changes to MS Statistics

The Chair introduced Leslie Vincent (BE), Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee chair, and the proposer, Associate Professor Katherine Thomas (AS). Vincent briefly described the proposed changes to MS Statistics.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to MS Statistics, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. There were no questions.

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

#### ii. Proposed Changes to PhD Statistics

Vincent briefly described the proposed changes to PhD Statistics.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to PhD Statistics, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. Several questions were asked relating to the proposed two-part exam structure.

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

#### iii. Proposed Changes to BSCPT Computer Engineering Technology

The Chair informed Senators Associate Professor Philip Lee (EN) was the proposer. Vincent informed Senators this proposal fell under the Admissions subcommittee and turned the floor over to Scott Yost (EN), Admissions Subcommittee chair. Yost provided a brief overview of the proposed changes to BSCPT Computer Engineering Technology.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to BSCPT Computer Engineering Technology, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. There were no questions.

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

#### iv. Proposed Changes to BSCHE Chemical Engineering

The Chair informed Senators Professor Barbara Knutson (EN) was the proposer. Vincent provided a brief overview of the proposed changes to BSCHE Chemical Engineering.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to BSCHE Chemical Engineering, 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 and four abstained.

#### v. Proposed Changes to the RN to BSN Nursing Track

The Chair informed Senators Associate Dean Karen Butler (NU) was the proposer, and RN to BSN Track Coordinator Angie Hensley (NU) was also present.

Vincent provided a brief overview of the proposed changes, which included a change to the admissions requirements.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to the RN to BSN Nursing Track, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. There were no questions.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with one opposed and one abstained.

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

##### i. Proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in Inclusive Education

Rentfrow (AG) provided a brief rationale for the proposed closure.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed closure of the Graduate Certificate in Inclusive Education, 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 three opposed and five abstained.

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

##### i. Proposed Change to SR 5.2.5.6.1 “Timing of Prep Days and Reading Days” and Prep Days Policy for Compressed Courses

Charnigo (PbH) provided a thorough overview of the proposed changes. This proposed change would affect both part of term courses in the Spring and Fall semesters, as well as Summer and Winter Intercession courses.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to SR 5.2.5.6.1 “Timing of Prep Days and Reading Days” and Prep Days Policy for Compressed Courses, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. Senators engaged in some discussion, including questioning whether prep and reading days were necessary for part of term courses.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with 22 opposed and 14 abstained.

#### 5. Request for Waiver of Two-Year Limit in SR 5.1.7.5.1 (“Retroactive Withdrawal,” “Requirements”) for College of Arts and Sciences Student AE-99

The Chair informed Senators this request came from Dean Ana Franco-Watkins (AS). Dean Franco-Watkins explained to Senators this student experienced extraordinary circumstances, which was the basis for this request.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve to waive SR 5.1.7.5.1 (“Retroactive Withdrawal,” “Requirements”) for the College of Arts and Sciences student AE-99, to allow submission of an RWA appeal past the two-year deadline, and because this motion came from Senate Council, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. Senators voiced several concerns, including the fairness to other students if the waiver was granted as well as a suggestion that the Senate Retroactive Withdrawal Appeals Committee review the request and decide whether the rule waiver should be granted.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with nine opposed and 12 abstained.

#### 6. Request for Waiver of Two-Year Limit in SR 5.1.7.5.1 (“Retroactive Withdrawal,” “Requirements”) for College of Arts and Sciences Student TJ-06

Dean Franco-Watkins explained the reasoning behind the request, stating that there had been miscommunication between the student and the advisor.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve to waive SR 5.1.7.5.1 (“Retroactive Withdrawal,” “Requirements”) for the College of Arts and Sciences student TJ-06, to allow submission of an RWA appeal past the two-year deadline, and because this motion came from Senate Council, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. Senators voiced comments and concerns, including a desire to see more evidence of mishandling on the part of the University, as well as a request to edit the Senate Rules to indicate that a student can petition to have the rule waived.

A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with 16 opposed and 12 abstained.

#### 7. Proposed Changes to SR 3

The Chair informed Senators that SR 3 needed to be updated to bring the SRs in line with the current process used by the Senate Council Office. These changes would provide the Senate Council Office and the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OSPIE) with early alerts for program suspensions and closures. These changes were proposed by the Senate Council Office.

The Chair stated there was a **motion** on the floor to approve the proposed changes to SR 3 and direct the Senate Rules and Elections Committee to make revisions as needed if other areas of the Senate Rules need to be updated to reflect the SR 3 changes. The Chair stated that because this motion came from the Senate Council, no **second** was required.

The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. Senators asked for clarification on the differences between the three types of program changes that were specified in the proposal. Akiko Takenaka (AS) **moved** to amend the proposed changes as follows:

##### 3.3.2.1.1 ~~Proposals initiated by program/unit faculty~~ Initiation of Proposals

1856 Proposals **initiated by the faculty** or other academic administrators of the academic program or educational unit shall follow the...

1857 procedures established in the University Senate Rules and/or those established by that unit

1858 and those established by the college. Proposals are required to include evidence of compliance with existing unit procedures for (a) faculty approval of proposals for significant reduction to or closure of an academic program, or for (b) faculty advisement on proposed changes to academic organization. The proposal must be submitted to the Senate within 12 months of when the faculty of record approved the proposal.

Leslie Vincent (BE) **seconded**.

Scott Yost (EN) **moved** to include “to be considered” to line 1858. Akiko Takenaka (AS) **seconded**. Senators continued to discuss the proposal.

A **vote** was taken to approve the amended changes to SR 3, and the motion **passed** with two opposed and seven abstained.

A **vote** was taken to approve the proposed changes to SR 3 as revised and direct the SREC to make revisions as needed if other areas of the Senate Rules need to be updated to reflect the SR changes, and the motion **passed** with one opposed and seven abstained.

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

The Chair asked Senators to reach out to Senate Council members with opinions from their constituents regarding the recent Kentucky legislative proposals. The Chair also requested Senators remain in contact with Staff Senate and Student Government Association regarding legislature. The Chair opened the floor for items.

Akiko Takenaka (AS), Senate Academic Facilities Committee chair, provided a brief update on the planned renovation for Whitehall Classroom Building.

A brief update was provided on CR1 and Board of Trustees workgroups.

Roger Brown (AG), Senate Rules and Elections Committee chair, confirmed there was no conflict of interest if Collett were to win the election for Faculty Trustee, given that she is currently the Senate Council Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56pm with **no objections**

Respectfully submitted by,

DeShana Collett

Prepared by Dori Grady on Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Absences: Alice Turkington, Alison Gustafson, Alison Lewis, Alyssa Eckman, Beth Guiton, Brian Murtha, Charles Griffith, Danelle Stevens-Watkins, Daniel Vivian\*, Douglas Michael, Eli Capilouto, Ethan Wells, Jake Lemon, Jennifer Hunt\*, Justin Miller, Kathryn Lanphere, Katrice Albert, Kenneth Campbell, Kiarah Raglin, Kirsten Turner, Lee Owen, Leon Sachs, Lisa Cassis, Mary Davis, Nancy Cox, Ned Crankshaw, Olivia Ellis, Omer Arain, Peter Akpunonu, Philip Delcher, Rebekah Radtke, Richard

Ingram, Rudolph Buchheit, Sam Gerdemann, Sarah Hall, Scott Lephart, Sean Pepper, Thomas Seigler,  
Yelyzaveta Burlutska

\*Denotes an absence explained prior to the meeting