

Senate Council

Monday, March 25, 2024

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, March 25, 2024, 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 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 March 11, 2024 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that no edits were received to the March 11, 2024 minutes. There being no objections, the minutes from March 11, 2024 were **approved as distributed by unanimous consent**.

2. Committee Recommendations

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

i. New Graduate Degree Special Education Master of Arts in Teaching (Curriculog)

Sandra Bastin (SAPC), Senate Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) Chair, provided a brief review of the proposed new Graduate Degree Special Education Master of Arts in Teaching. The Chair stated there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed new Graduate Degree Special Education Master of Arts in Teaching, and because the motion came from committee no second was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. The new Graduate Degree Special Education Master of Arts in Teaching was **approved as distributed by unanimous consent**.

ii. New Undergraduate Certificate Biological Anthropology (Curriculog)

Heather Worne was the proposer and Sandra Bastin (SAPC), Senate Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) Chair, provided a brief review of the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate Biological Anthropology. The Chair stated there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate Biological Anthropology, and because the motion came from committee no second was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate. The new Undergraduate Certificate Biological Anthropology was **approved as distributed by unanimous consent**.

iii. Proposed Senate Rule Revision 3.1.4.3.1.5 and 4.2.2.2.6 related to the University Scholar Program (USP)

Sandra Bastin (SAPC), Senate Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) Chair, provided a brief review of the proposed new Senate Rule Revision 3.1.4.3.1.5 and 4.2.2.2.6 related to the University Scholar Program. The Chair stated there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the Senate Rule Revision 3.1.4.3.1.5 and 4.2.2.2.6 related to the University Scholar Program, and because the motion came from committee no second was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

It was noted that this proposal also effected 4.2.2.2.6.1.

Associate Provost and Dean Padraic Kenney, Dean provided background on the proposal and advised that it provided for the option of utilizing current programs more effectively and allowed students more flexibility to take courses outside of their discipline. It also allowed for the student's GPA to run between 3.0-3.5 for USP admittance dependent upon their course of study. Follow-up ideas included (1) creating a list of majors, minors and certificates that would complement the USP, and (2) creating a website with information for undergraduate students and their parents to help navigate appropriate courses for a major, minor, certificate or double major in order to be considered an appropriate candidate for the USP.

Sandra Bastin (SAPC) advised that this rule change was to clean up the language in 3.1.4.3.1.5 and 4.2.2.2.6. It was rewritten to eliminate the need for a student to have to limit courses to their major in order to take sophisticated coursework. A discussion ensued among members to clarify the rules changes. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with one opposed and none abstained.

b. Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC)- Greg Rentfrow, Chair
i. College of Education name change

Greg Rentfrow, (SAOSC), Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) chair, provided a review of the proposed College of Education name change, including a rationale for the proposed changes. The Chair stated there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the College of Education name change, and because the motion came from committee, no second was required. The Chair opened the floor for questions of fact or debate.

Greg Rentfrow explained that the changing of the name to College of Education, Human Development, and Sports Sciences would allow for greater inclusivity, additional opportunities to bring in partnerships, and more grant writing possibilities. Acting Dean Danelle Stevens-Watkins stated that she requested letters from all deans and had not received a letter from Gatton College of Business and Economics and two colleges provided letters of opposition. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

c. Committee on Teaching Evaluation Report - Elizabeth Salt, Chair

Elizabeth Salt, Adhoc Committee on Teaching Evaluation Chair, provided a presentation outlining the proposed Committee on Teaching Evaluation Report recommended changes. The chair opened the floor for questions or fact or debate. Comments were made regarding potential new teaching evaluation software reports including quantitative and qualitative feedback, how software navigates courses with multiple instructors, and who receives teaching evaluation reports. It was advised that this has been a Senate discussion in the past, the point of contention was when to administer the teaching course evaluations, before or during finals. Doug Michael called to question to proceed with the vote. Doug Michael (LA) **moved** to approve the Committee on Teaching Evaluation Report changes and Leslie Vincent **seconded** the motion. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with one opposed and one abstained.

3. Discussion on Rebound Program- Clayton Thyne

The Chair introduced Clayton Thyne, who provided a review of the proposed Rebound Program as well as the rationale behind it. Comments were made including the financial expense for students, the importance of targeting students who are almost having a problem and including students on probation in the target audience, teaching will follow UK 101 model with faculty and staff providing instruction, status of creation of courses within this program, the possible future expansion of this program to include students beyond first semester of their first year, how to determine if a student's performance is due to academic or non-academic reasons, and that there would need to be a temporary waiver of senate rule during the pilot period. A comment was made that this type of program had been discussed at the Associate Dean's level for at least five years.

4. May-August 2024 Degree List- Ft Sam Houston - Army MSW

Leslie Vincent (BE) **moved** for the elected faculty members of SC to recommend Senate approve the May-August 2024 Degree List from Ft. Sam Houston, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Molly Blasing (AS) **seconded**. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and none abstained.

5. Senate Meeting Roundtable

The Chair invited SC members to provide feedback on the March 18, 2024 Senate meeting and subsequent conversations with President Capilouto. Senate Council members expressed the following thoughts:

- Impressed with how efficiently business was conducted after President Capilouto's portion.
- It was difficult to hear on zoom.
- Grateful for opportunity for communication.
- Could there be some major understanding between the faculty and president? Could he have been misinformed by people who report to him?

- Proud of colleagues for showing up at Senate. The input faculty are giving is being listened to, but not heard. Would like to see a task force of people from the administrative side and faculty work together to come to a consensus. This will be hard work and will have better long-term results.
- President Capilouto is following a playbook that has taken place at other institutions.
- Attendance at the Senate meeting, both in-person and on Zoom, was at capacity. This demonstrates how much faculty care about this community.
- Proud of faculty and how much they care about the university.
- Proud of how the Senate Council has moved forward as President Capilouto provides new information.
- Students hear faculty and are willing to have meetings with whomever; students need to be asked.
- President is listening to the different perspectives that are being brought up. In terms of representation for the entire university, this is an opportunity to hear the voices of students & staff. Curriculum at the college level still represents faculty input as they are on college committees.

6. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

There were no items.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m. with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by,

DeShana Collett

Reviewed by Kristen Pickett

Prepared by Jeanne Mifflin on March 26, 2024

SC members present: Hubie Ballard, Sandra Bastin, Molly Blasing, DeShana Collett, Jennifer Cramer, Olivia Davis, Lizzy Hornung, Doug Michael, Justin Nichols, Hollie Swanson, Kaveh Tagavi, Akiko Takenaka, Leslie Vincent, Kiersten White

Invited guests present: Karen Badger, Robert DiPaola, Bob Grossman, Christine Harper, Davy Jones, Monica Kast, Padraic Kenney, Katherine McCormick, Britt Morgan, Gregg Rentfrow, Margaret Rintamaa, Elizabeth Salt, Danelle Stevens-Watkins, Lisa Tannock, Clayton Thyne