

# Senate Council

Monday, April 15, 2024

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, April 15, 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 3:00 PM. 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 and a test vote was performed. 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 April 1, 2024 and Announcements

The Chair informed SC members that one edit was received for the minutes from April 1, 2024, that did not substantially change the minutes. There being no objections, the minutes from April 1, 2024, were **approved as distributed by unanimous consent**.

The Senate Council Retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, the location is not yet determined.

Provost Bob DiPaola announced that approximately 200 faculty promotion letters were recently distributed, specific demographics will be included in Dr. Tannock's report to SC on April 22, 2024. On-campus interviews are taking place this week for candidates for Dean of the Rosenberg College of Law.

## 2. Degree Recipients

### a. Revised to May 2024 In Memoriam Degree List

SC Chair Collett advised that there were two late additions to the May 2024 Degree List. The Chair reminded senators that per Kentucky law and Senate Rules, only the senators elected by college faculty members may vote on degree lists. Bastin moved for elected faculty SC members, on behalf of the elected faculty senators of the University Senate, to approve the revised May 2024 In Memoriam degree list, for submission through the President, to the Board of Trustees. Blasing second. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

### b. Revised May 2024 Degree List

SC Chair Collett advised that there was one addition to the May 2024 Degree List. The Chair reminded senators that per Kentucky law and Senate Rules, only the senators elected by college faculty members may vote on degree lists. Takenaka moved for elected faculty SC members, on behalf of the elected faculty senators of the University Senate, to approve the revised May 2024 degree list, for submission

through the President, to the Board of Trustees. Cramer second. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

### c. Revised August 2024 Degree List

SC Chair Collett advised that there were three additions to the August 2024 Degree List. The Chair reminded senators that per Kentucky law and Senate Rules, only the senators elected by college faculty members may vote on degree lists. Vincent moved for elected faculty SC members, on behalf of the elected faculty senators of the University Senate, to approve the revised August 2024 degree list, for submission through the President, to the Board of Trustees. Blasing second. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

## 3. Committee Recommendations

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

#### i. Proposed BA in Integrated Strategic Communication

Leslie Vincent (BE) gave an overview of the proposed BA in Integrated Strategic Communication. The Chair stated that there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed BA in Integrated Strategic Communication, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### ii. Proposed BS in BS Integrated Strategic Communication

Leslie Vincent (BE) gave an overview of the proposed BS in Integrated Strategic Communication. The Chair stated that there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend Senate approve the proposed BS in Integrated Strategic Communication, and because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### iii. Proposed Rebound Proposal

Leslie Vincent (BE) gave an overview of the proposed Rebound Proposal. The Chair stated that there was a **motion** on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed Rebound Proposal, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

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

#### i. Proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in College, Career, and Civic

Gregg Rentfrow (AG) gave an overview of the Proposed closure of Graduate Certificate in College, Career, and Civic. The Chair stated that there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate

approve the proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in College, Career, and Civic, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A concern was expressed about the number of program closures, and it was noted that certificate or degree closure removes assessment and administrative responsibilities. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

#### ii. Proposed Closure of Minor in American Studies

Gregg Rentfrow (AG) gave an overview of the proposed Closure of Minor in American Studies. The Chair stated that there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed Closure of Minor in American Studies, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

#### iii. Proposed Closure of Minor in Indian Culture

Gregg Rentfrow (AG) gave an overview of the proposed Closure of Minor in Indian Culture. The Chair stated that there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed Closure of Minor in Indian Culture, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

#### iv. Proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in Liberal Studies

Gregg Rentfrow (AG) gave an overview of the proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in Liberal Studies. The Chair stated that there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed Closure of Graduate Certificate in Liberal Studies, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### v. Proposed Closure of MS – Biomedical Engineering, Professional Masters

Gregg Rentfrow (AG) gave an overview of the proposed Closure of MS – Biomedical Engineering, Professional Masters. The Chair stated that there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed Closure of MS – Biomedical Engineering, Professional Masters, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### vi. Proposed Closure of Undergraduate – Digital Design Literacy

Per the proposer's request, this has been moved to the April 29 Senate Council agenda.

#### vii. Proposed Closure of MS – Urban and Environmental Design

Per the proposer's request, this has been moved to the April 29 Senate Council agenda.

#### viii. Proposed Suspension of Admissions to MS – Information Communication Technology

Gregg Rentfrow (AG) gave an overview of the proposed Suspension of Admissions to the on-campus MS – Information Communication Technology. There is a recommendation from the committee for the Senate to approve the proposed Suspension of Admissions to the on-campus MS – Information Communication Technology. Because the motion comes from committee, no **second** is required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

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

##### i. New Application Deadline for Summer Admission for International Students

Richard Charnigo (HP) gave an overview of the Establishing an Application Deadline for Summer Admission for International Students in Cohort Based Programs with Only a Summer Start proposal. There was a recommendation from the committee for the Senate to approve the Establishing an Application Deadline for Summer Admission for International Students in Cohort Based Programs with Only a Summer Start proposal. . Because the motion comes from committee, no **second** is required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. Clarification was made that the proposal only affected a deadline for matriculation to graduate programs in a summer session. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed or abstained.

#### d. Senate Distance Learning and e-Learning Committee (SCDLeL) - Sara Police, Chair

##### i. Proposed new Graduate Certificate in Arts Emergency Management

Per the proposer's request, this has been moved to the April 22 Senate Council agenda.

##### ii. Proposed new new Graduate Certificate in Creative Social Entrepreneurship

Per the proposer's request, this has been moved to the April 22 Senate Council agenda.

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

##### i. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Artificial Intelligence

Sandra Bastin (AG) gave an overview of the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Artificial Intelligence. The Chair stated that there was a motion on the floor to recommend the Senate approve the proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Artificial Intelligence, and because the motion came from Committee, no **second** was required. The Chair opened the floor to questions of fact or debate. SC members voiced concerns and questions including the certificate name closing off pathways and creating confusion with future certificates coming out of other programs and inquiry about a similar graduate certificate. A vote was taken, and the motion **passed** with none opposed and none abstained.

#### 4. Update on Courses Homed in the Provost's Office-Acting Vice Provost and Dean Liaison, Jennifer Greer

The Chair invited Acting Vice Provost Jennifer Greer (CI) to provide an update to SC members on courses homed in the Provost's Office.

Greer provided information to SC embers about courses and faculty bodies across campus that would be homed in the Provost's office and explained that she would serve as the dean for such courses until Brandi Frisby (CI) assumes the role of Associate Provost for Academic Affairs on May 13, 2024. SC members voiced concerns and questions including process for determining members of the EXP faculty advisory group and the impact of the proposed GRs on the courses homed in the Provost's Office.

## 5. Senate Meeting Roundtable

The Chair opened the floor to share their thoughts on the April 8 Senate meeting. Senate Council members expressed the following thoughts:

- It was courageous of students to provide their perspective about feeling disrespected, especially when considering the (real or perceived) power differential at Senate. There is a desire to better understand the student perspective, be a service leader to them, and facilitate open dialogue for their voices to be heard and valued.
- In general, the faculty want to know what is going on and what is going to happen. Many have expressed the sentiment that "all I want is to do my job."
- The faculty are here for the students. Hearing the students' perspective is helpful because of the desire to put the students first.
- The moments of disagreement in Senate meetings have shifted from productive task-related disagreement to relational conflict. This has resulted in less civility and not following the protocol of addressing comments to the Chair.
- Several senators perceived the roll call vote as an intimidation tactic and did not know the motivation behind it. There is perception that there could be retaliation. Voting records are available in Poll Everywhere for transparency.
- The Senate's repeated call for consideration of a different approach was not honored. The lack of open debate among and between campus-wide constituents goes back to the fundamental failure to consider alternative pathways in this process. Having separate conversations with different constituents creates silos and has led to fragmentation of constituents on campus, as demonstrated at the April 8<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting.
- Senators are in communication with their constituents and vote as their representatives; they do not vote for their individual opinions.
- There is confusion about President Capilouto's goal with this process. Giving more voice to students and staff could have been accomplished without destroying the University Senate.
- Whatever the outcome, this will be a long process. We have lost the goodwill that is necessary to get this work done. Repair work will be necessary as we move forward.
- Gratitude was mentioned for the people who put together the faculty proposal together. The passion in the Senate demonstrates how much people care.

## 6. Items from the Floor

Discussion centered around the need for a succinct summary to highlight the differences between President Capilouto's proposed principles and the University Senate's alternative principles, possibly obtaining support from outside agencies, the inviting President Capilouto to attend Senate Council meetings to discuss shared goals and ways to work together in this process. Difficulties have occurred in

the past as regards setting up meetings with the President and/or a representative of the Board of Trustees.

An historical anecdote was shared considering past UK President David Roselle's recent passing. It is not well known that there was a tenure case where a faculty member was continuously denied tenure; his appeal was denied through the appeals process. That person was Davy Jones. He made a personal appeal to the Senate Advisory Committee. After his meeting with the Senate Advisory Committee, they agreed that the decision was made based on a personality issue and that personality issues were not a tenure criteria. The committee determined they were authorized to recommend to the President to send the case forward to the Board for tenure approval; it would serve no purpose to send the back down through the procedural process. Professor Jones was on a terminal contract for February, March, and April of 1989. He received a call in early April from David Roselle one evening. "Dr. Jones, I'd like you to know that I have thought a lot about your case. I've met twice with the Committee and I've made a decision and I want you to know. I'm so upset by what happened to you that I'm going to recommend directly to the Board to give you tenure. We're not going to cycle this back up and I'm so upset by what happened to you that we're going to make it retroactive to the previous year and I'm going to direct your Chair to do the paperwork; your salary will be what it should have been had you been promoted the previous year." That was the first time anyone became involved in the tenure process and a case ever went directly to the Board. Based on that precedent, over the decades, there have been several other faculty on the Committee for which the President agreed that they are authorized to recommend that the only commensurate remedy is to go straight for tenure and do not recycle. Some of those faculty are still on the faculty today and are involved with the Senate and Senate Committee. We have a legacy that roots back to David Roselle.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 PM with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by,

DeShana Collett  
Chair of University Senate Council

Reviewed by Kristen Pickett

Prepared by Jeanne Mifflin on April 17, 2024

**Present:** Sandra Bastin, Molly Blasing, DeShana Collett, Jennifer Cramer, Olivia Davis, Cassandra Gipson-Reichardt, Douglas Michael, Justin Nichols, Kaveh Tagavi, Akiko Takenaka, Leslie Vincent, Lizzy Hornung, Sami Jones, Hollie Swanson, Hubert Ballard, Gregg Rentfrow, Richard Charnigo, Jackson Baird,

**Visitors:** Robert DiPaolo, Katherine McCormick, Davy Jones, Roger Brown, Lisa Tannock, Susan Cantrell, Monica Udvardy, Kera Ackerman, Robert Grossman, Monica Kast Kim Anderson, Greg Erhardt, Kristine Harper, Courtney McCalla