Minutes
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
May 8, 2015

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in the Board Room, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower, at 10:00 a.m. on May 8. Angela Edwards called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Cammie Grant, Robert Grossman, David Hawpe, Kelly Holland, Jake Ingram, John Wilson and Barbara Young.

Ms. Edwards stated the minutes of the March 16, 2015 Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting were distributed earlier and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by David Hawpe to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

Provost Tim Tracy updated the committee on the status of the dean searches that are currently underway. The Strategic Plan has been distributed to campus and feedback is being solicited via Town Halls and other venues. Dr. Tracy discussed strategic objective and action steps related to the Undergraduate Student Success goal. The final version of the Strategic Plan will be distributed to Board members prior to the June meeting.

ASACR 1: Candidates for Degrees: May 2015 – Resolution requesting authorization for the President to confer upon each individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which he or she is entitled upon certification by the University Registrar that the individual has satisfactorily completed all requirements for the degree for which application has been made and as approved by the elected faculty of the University Senate and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. Since Commencement exercises are held immediately following completion of examinations, it is not possible for the University Registrar to certify satisfactory completion of the requirements prior to Commencement exercises for those candidates who complete their requirements in May. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by David Hawpe. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 2: Candidates for In Memoriam Degrees: May 2015 – Resolution requesting authorization for the President to confer upon the individuals whose names appears on the attached list an In Memoriam Posthumous Degree. The degrees for which application has been made have been approved by the elected faculty of the University Senate and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. An In Memoriam Posthumous Degree allows for recognition of a student’s connection to the University of Kentucky regardless of their progress toward completion of degree requirements. Undergraduate, graduate and professional students who were registered in a degree program and were in good academic standing at the time of their death, but did not complete degree requirements, are eligible for an In Memoriam Posthumous Degree. A motion was made by Bob Grossman to approve the recommendation and seconded by John Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 3: Candidates for Degrees: December 2014 – The original resolution requests authorization for the President to confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which he or she is entitled, upon certification by the University Registrar that the individual has satisfactorily completed all requirements for the degree which application has
been made and as approved by the elected faculty of the University Senate and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Grossman recommended that the ASACR 3 be changed to rescind the degree. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the amendment and seconded by Cammie Grant. The motion was unanimously approved.

The recommendation was amended to request authorization for the President to rescind a May 2014 degree with a double major and confer upon each individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which he or she is entitled, upon certification by the University Registrar that the individual has satisfactorily completed all requirements of the degree for which application has been made and as approved by the elected faculty of the University Senate and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. Each individual whose name appears on the attached list completed the work leading toward the degree for which an application was made. Due to an administrative error, one name was not previously submitted. A second individual was awarded a single degree with a double major in May 2014. The student may not have been advised of the difference between a double major and two degrees prior to applying for graduation, with the latter being the preferred category. The degree with a double major will be rescinded and two degrees will be awarded. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Cammie Grant. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 4: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Arts and Sciences – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Master of Science with a major in Digital Mapping degree in the Department of Geography, within the College of Arts and Sciences, effective in the Fall 2015 Semester. The master’s degree proposal is part of a larger initiative to train students in a range of web-based systems for producing online geovisualizations and applications. Information about location and spatial analysis has become ubiquitous in everyday life and central to an array of disciplines, including soil science, public health, and the digital humanities. The demand for geospatial technology expertise is burgeoning. Location-aware devices, such as smart phones, have saturated everyday life and present enormous opportunities for online mapping tools and analysis in applications ranging from smart-city and civic development to human-environmental relations and increasing demands for ‘big data” analytics.

The curriculum for the program is rich with technical training in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and online mapping including the creation and use of geodata; cutting edge techniques for scraping geodata from social media and other web-based sources; as well as online spatial visualization tools such as TileMill and D3. Students are challenged to critically engage with potential pitfalls of online mapping such as locational privacy and changing technical standards. The University of Kentucky is well-positioned with instructional assets in critical GIS and online mapping as well as strong ties to academic and industrial networks to serve a largely untapped market. Rich Schein, Chair of the Department of Geography, said the program targets a fast growing industry. A motion was made by Kelly Holland to approve the recommendation and seconded by David Hawpe. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 5: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Education – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Master of Science with a major in Applied Behavior Analysis degree in the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling, in the College of Education, effective in the Fall 2015 Semester. The field of behavior analysis has grown exponentially nationwide over the past ten years. As the number of individuals with challenging behaviors has increased, there has been a need for professionals uniquely trained to
support them in educational, familial, and vocational settings. Behavior analysts provide assessment, intervention and evaluation of challenging behaviors through the use of behavioral principles that should result in a meaningful change in the individual’s social behavior(s).

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) has acknowledged the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling as an approved university training site for the course sequence to sit for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) certification examination.

Currently, the master’s degree programs that offer some of the courses for the BCBA require teacher certification to enter the program. The proposed program will provide an opportunity for students not seeking teacher certification to be able to complete a graduate degree while fulfilling the requirements to sit for the BCBA examination. The program will allow for recruitment of students from a variety of undergraduate majors. In addition, it will provide a depth of understanding in applied behavior analysis, managing challenging behaviors and autism spectrum disorders; train students to work in school and with parents and caregivers. Students from this program will be marketable in a variety of private and public entities.

Allan Allday, Department of Early Childhood, Special Education & Rehabilitation Counseling, reported that this will be the only program in the state to work with children to address behaviors. A motion was made by John Wilson to approve the recommendation and seconded by Bob Grossman. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 6: Dual Degree Program Recommendation with the Universidade Federal de Vicosa – Resolution requesting approval to establish a new dual degree program between the University of Kentucky (UK) Department of Plant Pathology and the Departamento de Fitopatologia at the Universidade Federal de Vicosa (UFV) in Brazil, effective in the Fall 2015 Semester. Both programs are ranked among the top five similar departments in their respective countries. Students in the dual degree program will earn doctoral degrees in Plant Pathology from both institutions by simultaneously completing the requirements of both programs. The advantages to the students include the unique ability to obtain advanced practical training and to develop cultural and language fluency in both the United States and Brazil, while the advantages to the respective departments include the ability to recruit academically superior students from both countries and facilitation of research collaborations to focus on plant disease problems of mutual interest. The departmental strengths are complementary, with UK specializing in the molecular and cellular biology of plant-microbe interactions and UFV focusing primarily on applied pathology and sustainable approaches to plant disease management.

This dual degree program will allow students to acquire academic credits and to develop part of the research for their doctoral dissertation at the partner university. A minimum stay of 12 consecutive months at the partner university will be required for the program. The goal is to prepare students to work across borders in academic, government, or industry settings. Graduates of the program will be able to leverage resources from both countries to solve problems of mutual interest at the highest level. A motion was made by Bob Grossman to approve the recommendation and seconded by Kelly Holland. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 7: Change in Name of an Educational Unit: College of Communication and Information - Resolution requesting approval to change the name of the School of Library and Information Science to the School of Information Science, in the College of Communication and Information.
Information, effective July 1, 2015. The School of Library and Information Science has grown beyond its master’s program in Library Science. Prior to January 2013, the School consisted solely of a master’s degree in library and information science; and now houses three different degree granting programs (Library Science, Information Studies, and Information Communication Technology). It also houses a non-degree seeking program primarily responsible for teaching the UK Core “Composition and Communication” sequence.

Due to the growth beyond ‘library’ science, the faculty voted to change the School’s name to School of Information Science. The new name is more consistent with similarly structured programs across the country. It represents the work the School is engaged in at the undergraduate and graduate level in support of UK students. A motion was made by David Hawpe to approve the recommendation and seconded by Bob Grossman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Jake Ingram gave his last update to the Board as Student Government Association President. As everyone knows, the Student Center facility will close in May and the new Student Center is scheduled to open in January 2018. Temporary spaces for the student organizations have been identified in Blazer Hall. During the past year the Student Government Association has sponsored the Cats Cab program. It aims to enhance student wellness by providing them with a safe ride home on the weekends. This year the service hours for students were increased and the cost per rider decreased. LiveSafe was launched this semester and is available to all students, faculty, and staff and has already seen 1600 downloads. It is fully integrated with the UK Police Department. Jake introduced Austin Mullins, next year’s Student Government President.

Due to the limited time, Ms. Edwards announced that Katherine McCormick had graciously offered to delay the Carnegie Reclassification Taskforce Report to the June meeting and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Edwards
Academic and Student Affairs Committee