The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in Room A, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower at 10:00 a.m. on June 11. Keith Gannon called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: C. B. Akins, William Britton, John Wilson and Barbara Young.

Mr. Gannon distributed the minutes of the May 14, 2013 meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by Bill Britton to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 1: Candidate for Degree: May 2013 - Resolution requesting authorization for the President to confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which he is entitled, upon certification by the university registrar that he 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 Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. The individual whose name appears on the attached list passed away at the end of the Spring Semester. After reviewing the student’s transcript, the appropriate department and college chose to recommend the awarding of the degree posthumously. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Bill Britton. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 2: Candidates for Degrees: August 2013 - Resolution requesting approval that the President be authorized to confer upon the individuals whose names appear on the attached list the degree to which he or she is entitled. Each individual whose name appears on the attached list is scheduled to complete the work leading toward the degree for which application is being made at the close of the 2013 Summer Session. Due to licensure or certification requirements degrees must be verified as soon as possible and the next Board of Trustees meeting is not scheduled until September 10. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Bill Britton. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR3: Establishment of the Center for Research on Environmental Disease – Resolution requesting approval to establish the Center for Research on Environmental Disease, in the College of Medicine, effective July 1, 2013. The goals of the Center for Research on Environmental Disease are to foster collaboration among clinical and basic scientists, catalyze translational research, stimulate educational activities, enhance the competitiveness of member investigators for extramural funding, and increase national recognition for the University in the field of research on environmental disease. To achieve these goals, the Center will promote specific research and education related initiatives by integrating the activities of various investigators with expertise in chemistry, environmental chemistry, toxicology, pharmacology, nutrition, molecular biology, animal sciences, epidemiology, biostatistics, and clinical and translational sciences from different colleges. Creation of the Center is expected to stimulate development of new institutional grants including program project grants and center grants. Clinical and basic scientists will work together to address environmental disease-related public
health concerns. The Center will promote national and international recognition of the University by its research and educational excellence. Mike Reid, Vice Dean for Biomedical Science in the College of Medicine, said the development of the multidisciplinary research center started over a year ago by pulling together faculty from a number of related fields. The Center does not have a separate degree program but will benefit multiple Ph.D. degree programs. The Center will also allow us to seek external funding not currently available to us. A motion was made by Bill Britton to approve the recommendation and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR4: Change in Name and Organizational Structure of the Graduate Center for Biomedical Engineering - Resolution requesting approval to change the name and organizational structure of the Graduate Center for Biomedical Engineering to the Department of Biomedical Engineering, in the College of Engineering, effective July 1, 2013. The Graduate Center for Biomedical Engineering was established by the Board of Trustees on March 4, 1986. Whereas most benchmark universities established departments of biomedical engineering, the University of Kentucky (UK) has retained the center designation. Although operation of the program as a graduate center preserved the multidisciplinary character of biomedical engineering, existence as a center limits certain educational opportunities and serves as a source of continuing confusion regarding the center. Even though UK’s administrative and governing regulations clearly state that Graduate Centers are equivalent to a department administratively, they are restricted to graduate education only. With the organizational change to a department, the unit will be able to offer undergraduate as well as graduate degrees. The long-term potential for growth and excellence in the biomedical engineering programs at UK are best served by a change from the Graduate Center for Biomedical Engineering to the Department of Biomedical Engineering. A motion was made by Bill Britton to approve the recommendation and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR5: Change in Name of An Educational Unit: College of Design – Resolution requesting approval to change the name of the School of Interior Design to School of Interiors: Planning / Strategy / Design, in the College of Design, effective July 1, 2013. The profession of interior design has evolved from a focus on residential design to one that now draws upon a knowledge base from multiple disciplines to enhance the function, safety, and aesthetics of all types of interior spaces. The creation of environments that support and sustain human beings psychologically, physically, and emotionally is a core value of the practice of interior design. The uniqueness of interior design is that it positions the users of space as the central focus of the design. Concurrent to these changes in the profession, mass media has popularized the name interior design to be associated with decorating, women’s studies, and a field characterized by having a “knack” as opposed to being a professional discipline requiring specialized education, experience, and examination. The reasons for the proposed name change are to enhance the marketing potential of the program; better communicate the focus and scope of the program; and increase gender diversity with the program. From our investigations, the name interiors alone is not immediately associated with decorating. Likewise, practicing professionals define their realm of practice within the design industries by using the name interiors as opposed to interior design. It is anticipated that the name School of Interiors with the tag line Strategy / Planning / Design will somewhat negate the immediate bias response occurring with our current name and provide greater opportunity to initiate conversations about the school, types of things in which the program engages the students, and career opportunities available to graduates. Dr. Allison
Carll-White, Director of Graduate Studies for the School of Interior Design, said the change will help with recruiting students. A motion was made by C. B. Akins to approve the recommendation and seconded by John Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Gannon distributed a list of five proposed topics for discussion next year. Dr. Gannon will meet with Provost Riordan this summer to determine the priority of the topics. Dr. Wilson also requested that graduate education be added to the list of topics.

Interim Provost Tracy reported on the partnership formed by the University of Kentucky with Coursera that includes nine other state universities and university systems. Prior to finalizing the agreement, Vince Kellen, Senior Vice Provost, Academic Planning, Analytics and Technologies, engaged in discussion with University Senate leadership, Arts and Sciences leadership, Chemistry and Psychology chairs and interested faculty, Enrollment Management, CELT, and members of the IT Coordinating Committee and Academic Computing Committee. The agreement signed by UK and Coursera includes the opportunity to develop free college readiness courses; create guided courses for current University students, operating much like an Learning Management System, at a cost per student; create open access courses upon mutual agreement of UK and Coursera; and license courses upon mutual agreement of UK and Coursera

UK initially proposed a Chemistry course, presented in a series of modules, that targets motivated high school students who wish to prepare for college chemistry; as well as and those preparing for placements tests (such as the Advanced Placement examination); and currently enrolled students who could use some extra help in Chemistry, as well. Psychology is also interested in offering a preparatory course in module format. Both Chemistry and Psychology are working now with APAT’s eLearning Team to prepare courses.

The instructors are signing Intellectual Property Agreements this week. The instructors retain all rights to the course content they assemble for the course and Coursera is granted a non-exclusive right to use the course. Any net revenue received from Coursera, should any be realized, would be shared 40 percent to the instructor-developer, 20 percent to the department, 20 percent to the college, and 20 percent to the university. The target for releasing the first module or modules is January 2014.

As you know, there has been extensive coverage of the partnership by The Chronicle of Higher Education, Inside Higher Ed, the New York Times, and other national, regional and local news organizations. A local information page may be accessed at http://www.uky.edu/coursera/ and will soon include an FAQ based on feedback. Feedback provided through the page’s link has been positive.

Dr. Gannon thanked Dr. Tracy and the members of the Academic Affairs Committee for their work this academic year. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Gannon
Academic Affairs Committee