

Minutes  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
Board of Trustees  
February 23, 2018

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in the Board Room, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor Patterson Office Tower, on February 23, 2018. Trustee Angela Edwards called the meeting to order at 10:47am. The following members were in attendance: Angela Edwards, Lee Blonder, Bob Grossman, David Hawpe, Derrick Ramsey, Sandy Shuffett, and Barbara Young.

Chair Edwards stated that the first item of business is the approval of the minutes of the December 12, 2017 ASAC meeting which are included in the members' materials. Trustee David Hawpe moved approval of the minutes which was seconded by Trustee Bob Grossman. Finding no discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

ASACR 1: Candidate For In Memoriam Degree: May 2017-The recommendation is that the President be authorized to confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list an *In Memoriam Posthumous Degree*. The degree for which application has been made has been approved by the elected faculty of the University Senate and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. By way of background, an *In Memoriam Posthumous Degree* allows for recognition of a connection to the University of Kentucky for 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. Discussion: Trustee Bob Grossman inquired about why the resolution itself says it has already been approved by the ASAC of the BOT when they have yet to vote on it. He pointed out that once it gets to the full Board, they will presumably have already approved it. Provost Blackwell indicated that it is not a typo, that all of the recommendations contain this same language. Chair Angela Edwards also pointed out that they are written like this and she and the Provost concurred that it reads this way so that when the recommendations get to the full Board, the Committee has approved it. Finding no further discussion, Trustee Sandy Shuffett moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee David Hawpe. Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

ASACR 2: Candidate For Degree: May 2017-The recommendation is that the President be authorized to rescind a May 2017 degree and confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which the individual 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. By way of background, the individual whose name appears on the attached list completed the work leading toward the degree for which an application was made at the close of the 2017 Spring Semester. Due to an administrative error, an incorrect degree was awarded. Trustee Lee Blonder moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Bob Grossman. There was no discussion and the motion passed without dissent.

ASACR 3: Candidate For Degree: August 2017-The recommendation is that the President be authorized to rescind an August 2017 degree and confer upon the individual whose name appears

on the attached list the degree to which the individual 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. By way of background, the individual whose name appears on the attached list completed the work leading toward the degree for which an application was made at the close of the 2017 Summer Session. Due to an administrative error, an incorrect degree was awarded. Trustee Bob Grossman moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Sandy Shuffett. There was no discussion and the motion passed without dissent.

ASACR 4: Candidates For Degrees: December 2017-The recommendation is that the President be authorized 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. By way of background, the individuals whose names appear on the attached list completed the work leading toward the degree for which an application was made at the close of the 2017 Fall Semester. Due to administrative errors, the names were not previously submitted. Trustee Sandy Shuffett moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Barbara Young. There was no discussion and the motion passed without dissent.

ASACR 5: Deletion of Degree: College of Education- The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the deletion of the Bachelor of Arts in Education: Secondary Education – Science Education, in the Department of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education, within the College of Education, effective immediately. By way of background, at its May 2012 meeting, the Board approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in STEM Education and an approved content area (e.g. Mathematics, Physics) degree. Students earn this degree with secondary teaching certification (grades 8-12) in one or more state-certifiable STEM subjects. This degree was established as an alternative to the Bachelor of Arts in Education: Secondary Education—Science Education, which does not lead to certification. As there are currently no students in the major, the deletion of the degree will not affect any faculty, staff, or students. This proposal has the approval of the Department of STEM Education, the College of Education Courses and Curricula Committee, and the University Senate. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation. Dr. Rosetta Sandidge, Senior Associate Dean, Office for Academic Programs, Accreditation and Planning in the College of Education was present, who stated that the final student in the program completed the program last year, and there are no other students in the pipeline. She reiterated that the new program has teacher certification connected with it, while this old program did not, and respectfully request that the ASAC approve this recommendation. Trustee Bob Grossman moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee David Hawpe. With no further discussion, the motion passed without dissent.

Chair Edwards introduced UK's new Provost, David Blackwell, who gave some background on his life and career, and the trajectory that led him to UK as Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics in 2012, and now Provost as of January 8, 2018. He mentioned he has a soft spot for veterans and is aware of the challenges and opportunities for these particular students. He

spent his first day as Provost at a conference in Washington, DC, with other R1 Provosts from around the country and Canada. He learned everyone is facing similar challenges. The disruptions the Trustees discussed at their Fall retreat are being faced in all of higher education. Since becoming Provost he has been attending numerous meetings and listening to groups of students, groups of staff, and has attended the University Senate meeting. He views the University Senate as an essential partner and has engaged with the Chair of the University Senate Council, Katherine McCormick. He recently had lunch with a group of students and heard about their concern about Return on Investment (ROI) and course relevance to their future. The Provost sees this as a challenge; students should come away with a set of skills from every major that qualify them in the workplace and we need faculty to aid students in making the connection between courses and their life ahead. Fiscal challenges and other disruptions will be addressed in the five-year financial sustainability planning process, which will be discussed at the full Board of Trustees meeting this afternoon.

The Provost discussed questions going forward, such as: “How do we keep great students in Kentucky? How do we support our alumni earlier with deeper engagement and throughout their careers? Student debt is a concern. Demographics of higher education is changing so we have to grow and prove our case—and UK has a great story to tell.” Provost Blackwell is optimistic and positive that UK can handle the problems we face.

The Provost emphasized to the Committee the Fall to Spring retention rate is 93.7% (highest in approximately a dozen years). Student and Academic Life is working hard on retention. Another initiative underway aimed at student success is the First Year Experience which is currently being re-designed by Associate Provost Greg Heileman’s area. Greg Heileman and Kirsten Turner gave a brief overview of the initiative, which is called Wildcat Foundations. Student financial wellness is another focus and the Provost gave an update on UK LEADS. Another issue that was raised at the R1 Provosts Meeting is the meaning of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century education. The message is our graduates need to be creative in terms of their careers and we need to equip them with a broad set of skills. Provost Blackwell is interested in unique approaches to preparing our students for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Another focus of the Provost is Graduate Education (specifically doctoral education) and how to make it relevant for the needs of students. Strong doctoral programs are essential for our research mission and aid our undergraduate students as well. The Provost plans to review the report from the Blue Ribbon Panel on Graduate Education and address modernizing and innovating the University’s graduate education.

The Provost announced an opportunity to interact with undergraduate research students immediately following the Committee meeting. They are exhibiting their projects that were recently showcased to Kentucky lawmakers at the annual Posters at the Capital Event in Frankfort, KY. Provost Blackwell introduced Dr. Phil Kraemer, who oversees the Undergraduate Research program, to speak about the program and how it works at UK. He spoke about faculty mentored research—the students become creators of knowledge, not just recipients of knowledge. He encouraged the Committee members to stop and meet the students. Provost Blackwell suggested to Chair Edwards that High Impact Learning Practices might be a future discussion topic.

Finding no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Edwards  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee

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