

Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee
University of Kentucky
Tuesday, December 15, 2020

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC) of the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, via Zoom Webinar.

A. Meeting Opened

Chair Rachel Webb called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

B. Roll Call

The following members of the ASAC answered the call of the roll: Cathy A. Black, Lee X. Blonder, Ron Geoghegan, Paula Leach Pope, Derrick K. Ramsey, C. Frank Shoop, Bryan Sunderland, Hollie Swanson, Rachel Watts Webb and Courtney Wheeler. Carol Martin "Bill" Gatton was not in attendance.

C. Approval of Minutes

Chair Webb reported that the minutes of the October 15, 2020, ASAC meeting had been distributed. Trustee Sunderland moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Black seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

D. ASACR 1: Candidate for Degree: May 2020

The recommendation is that the president be authorized to confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which they are 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 application was made at the close of the 2020 Spring Semester. Due to administrative error, the name was not previously submitted. Trustee Blonder moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Shoop. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

E. ASACR 2: Candidate for Degree: August 2020

The recommendation is that the president be authorized to confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which they are 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 application was made at the close of the 2020 Summer Session. Due to administrative error, the name was not previously submitted. Trustee Sunderland moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Pope. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

F. ASACR 3: Candidates for Degrees: December 2020

The recommendation is that the president be authorized to confer upon each of the individuals whose names appear on the attached list the degree to which they are entitled, upon certification by the University Registrar that the individuals have satisfactorily completed all requirements for the degree for which application has been made and as approved by the elected faculty of the Senate Council (on behalf of the University Senate) and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. By way of background, considering the University of Kentucky held the December Commencement ceremonies immediately following the completion of examinations, it is not possible for the University Registrar to certify satisfactory completion of requirements prior to the ceremonies for those candidates who complete their requirements in December. Trustee Swanson moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Wheeler. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

G. ASACR 4: Academic Degree Recommendation: Gatton College of Business and Economics

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Marketing, in the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain, within the Gatton College of Business and Economics, beginning in the 2021 Fall Semester. By way of background, the proposed program is a one-year graduate program designed to prepare students to understand the strategic role that marketing plays in the industry. Students will develop the skills necessary to formulate a comprehensive and cohesive marketing strategy to accomplish business objectives. The number of jobs requiring graduate level marketing expertise is expected to grow over the next decade and will include careers such as marketing specialists and sales managers across a variety of industries. The program will be delivered both in-person and online synchronously. Projected enrollment is 15 for the first cohort, eventually increasing to 45. The program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate and has completed the 30-day review process of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The provost of the university supports this recommendation.

In attendance to answer any questions were Dean Simon Sheather; Chair of the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain and Gatton Endowed Chair of Marketing David Hardesty; and Senior Lecturer Leslie Vincent. There were no questions or comments.

Trustee Blonder moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Ramsey. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

H. ASACR 5: Transfer of the Center for Muscle Biology: College of Health Sciences

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the transfer of the Center for Muscle Biology from the College of Medicine to the College of Health Sciences, effective January 1, 2021. By way of background, the Center for Muscle Biology was formally established in the College of Medicine in June 2008 to support and integrate basic, clinical and translational research on muscle throughout the university. Since that time, infrastructure, academic support and faculty leadership and membership have shifted to the College of Health Sciences. The proposed transfer will create formal alignment of the Center's mission and goals with the College of Health Sciences' major research focus of interventions and rehabilitation to improve musculoskeletal health. This alignment will put the program on equal footing with other programs in the college by increasing integration, availability of resources and collaborative partnerships. The disposition of faculty, staff and resources will not be impacted as the Center's physical and financial resource support is already predominantly provided by the College of Health Sciences. The Center's current governance structure, leadership and faculty involvement will remain the same under the proposed change in academic home. The proposed transfer has been approved by the Center for Muscle Biology faculty of record, the College of Health Sciences Faculty Council and the College of Medicine Faculty Council; reviewed and recommended by the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee and the Senate Council; and endorsed by the University Senate. The provost of the university supports this recommendation.

In attendance to answer any questions was Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Education and Professor Karen Badger. There were no questions or comments.

Trustee Black moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Pope. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

I. ASACR 6: Closure of Educational Unit Centers

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the following actions, effective January 1, 2021:

- Closure as educational unit center and movement to administrative unit center designation for the following:
 - Center for Advancement of Women's Health
 - Center for Microelectrode Technology
 - Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery

- Closure as educational unit center for the following:
 - Center for Developmental Change
 - Center for Learning Resources
 - Center for Manufacturing
 - Center for Research on Environmental Disease

By way of background, in a recent review of educational unit Multidisciplinary Research Centers (MDRC), it was discovered that a number of previously Senate-recommended and Board of Trustees-approved MDRCs have long ago been administratively inactivated or no longer qualify as MDRC. However, the appropriate action (either the termination of these units or change to “administrative unit”) had not been processed through the Senate nor final action rendered by the Board of Trustees. The Office of the Provost has consulted with the deans of colleges containing MDRCs that require formal action. For those MDRCs that are now functioning as an administrative center instead of as an educational unit center, the dean has contacted the respective director and faculty, and each supports the action. For those MDRCs that are not active, and have not been active for years, the provost has contacted the dean to obtain the consultation of the college Faculty Council or other similar representative body. The proposed actions have been reviewed and recommended by the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee and the Senate Council; and approved on their academic merits and endorsed on their non-academic merits by the University Senate. The provost of the university supports this recommendation.

In attendance to answer any questions was Senate Council Chair and Kentucky Utilities Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Aaron Cramer. There were no questions or comments.

Trustee Ramsey moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Shoop. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

J. Student Government Association Update

Student Government Association (SGA) President and Trustee Courtney Wheeler provided an update regarding SGA activities during the Fall 2020 semester, including:

- Supporting students in quarantine and isolation during the Thanksgiving holiday by partnering with UK Dining and Health Corps to provide Thanksgiving dessert and creating a list of suggested safe activities.
- Creating an ambassador program to increase student involvement opportunities.
- Hosting more than 14 safe in-person and virtual events.
- Distributing grants:
 - Student parking coupons
 - Registered Student Organization personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Childcare/Dependent grants

- Providing professional attire to more than 100 students via Wildcat Wardrobe.
- Distributing more than 200 isolation kits.
- Starting a Coats for Cats program.
- Distributing a monthly newsletter: “On, On SGA.”

Chair Webb thanked Trustee Wheeler for SGA’s creativity and hard work in meeting student needs during the pandemic.

K. Provost Report

Provost David Blackwell thanked all those across campus who contributed to a successful Fall 2020 semester completion, during which the mission of educating students was at the forefront.

Provost Blackwell provided an overview of the upcoming Winter Intersession. The extended duration of this term allowed for an increase in course offerings, which provided students with a variety of opportunities to make progress toward degrees. In total, more than 250 course sections were offered, and more than 3,000 students were enrolled.

Provost Blackwell reviewed several recent noteworthy accomplishments in provost area units, including:

- College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Equine Week of Service, during which 550 hours of volunteer time were donated.
- College of Communication and Information Twitch channel programming, including the show “Coffee and Consoles” which has garnered over 300,000 worldwide viewers.
- College of Health Sciences:
 - Development of the Center for Telehealth Research, Education, and Practice and offering of a graduate certificate in telehealth.
 - Establishment of Physician Assistant residency programs.
 - Physical Therapy student Asia Seidt named NCAA Woman of the Year.

Provost David Blackwell provided an update regarding three dean searches, including:

- College of Arts and Sciences
- Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Education and Dean of the Graduate School
- J. David Rosenberg College of Law

L. Vice President for Student Success Report

Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner introduced Acting Dean of Students Trisha Clement-Montgomery to provide a report regarding the Office of Residence Life's residential curriculum.

Dean of Students Clement-Montgomery provided an overview of the Office of Residence Life, which focuses on the provision of services and holistic student development, including the residential curriculum. The residential curriculum acknowledges that students learn inside and outside of the classroom, is rooted in theoretical frameworks, and has four learning goals:

- Academic preparedness
- Belonging and involvement
- Responsibility
- Personal wellness

Dean of Students Clement-Montgomery indicated that one of the curricular components is C.A.T.S. UP (Care, Academic success, Time management, and Social wellness Unique Plans) sessions. C.A.T.S. UP sessions occur between resident advisors and residents. Each session provides information on a student's well-being, roommate relationships and academic and social adjustment issues. When comparing Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 C.A.T.S. UP session results, slight decreases were observed in all categories of student well-being. However, most students self-reported that they will return to UK for the Spring 2021 semester. Overall, student participation in C.A.T.S. UP sessions correlate with a higher grade point average (GPA) and a higher likelihood of being retained.

Trustee Swanson inquired if there is a difference between C.A.T.S. UP data collected from first-year and second-year students. Dean of Students Clement-Montgomery indicated that upperclassmen tend to self-report greater feelings of belonging. Trustee Swanson inquired if the pandemic has changed the rate at which students proceed through transitions as described in the curriculum's theoretical framework. Dean of Students Clement-Montgomery indicated that since students have requested more opportunities for social interactions and engagement, the Offices of Residence Life and Dean of Students are considering programmatic changes. Trustee Wheeler inquired if fully online course schedules impacted first-year students who live on campus. Dean of Students Clement-Montgomery indicated the data has not yet been disaggregated in this way, but it would be possible to do so. Trustee Black inquired how international students who live on campus fared during the Fall 2020 semester. Dean of Students Clement-Montgomery indicated these students have faced more challenges than usual, but there is an International Village Living Learning Program (LLP) that has worked to engage those who have been impacted by the pandemic.

M. Vice President for Institutional Diversity Report

Interim Vice President for Institutional Diversity George Wright provided an update regarding the institution's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) activities during the Fall 2020 semester. The 17 project teams focus on a variety of topics, including five projects that focus on support of and representation for Black and underrepresented students. These projects include:

- Improvement of UK101.
- Development of mini-internship programs.
- Creation of a multi-cultural student gathering place, which would include programming activities.

Individuals who are involved in these DEI activities will participate in an assessment of all efforts thus far. Overall, these activities have led to more productive conversations about race relations.

Vice President Wright indicated that the Office of Institutional Diversity (OID) has been able to continue the provision of student activities and space for processing current events despite the pandemic. Plans to continue these efforts during the Spring 2021 semester are underway, including the Men of Color Symposium and a campus-wide Black History Month event that will feature Dr. Bernice King as a guest speaker.

N. Meeting Adjourned

Hearing no further business, Chair Webb adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rachel Watts Webb
Academic and Student Affairs
Committee

RW/afc