

Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
University of Kentucky  
Tuesday, December 5, 2023

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC) of the University of Kentucky (UK) Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, in the Harris Ballroom of the Gatton Student Center.

A. Meeting Opened

Chair Rachel Webb called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

B. Roll Call

The following members of the ASAC answered the call of the roll: Cathy Black, Alex Boone, Aaron Cramer, Ron Geoghegan, Brenda Gosney, Lizzy Hornung, Paula Leach Pope, Hollie Swanson and Rachel Watts Webb.

C. Approval of Minutes

Chair Webb reported that the minutes of the September 15, 2023, ASAC meeting had been distributed. Trustee Pope 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: Candidates for Degrees: December 2023

The recommendation was that the President be authorized to confer upon the individuals whose names appeared on an attached list the degrees to which they were entitled, upon certification by the University Registrar that the individuals had satisfactorily completed all requirements for the degrees for which application had 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, considering the University of Kentucky would hold the December Commencement ceremonies immediately following the completion of examinations, it was not possible for the University Registrar to certify satisfactory completion of requirements prior to the ceremonies for those candidates who completed their requirements in December.

Trustee Cramer moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Swanson. Hearing no discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

#### E. Provost Report

Provost DiPaola was joined by fellow Co-facilitator and University Senate Council Chair DeShana Collett to provide an update on Project Accelerate Work Group 2: More Readiness. Overall guiding principles for the acceleration effort were reviewed, as well as the group's charge, which is focused on the university's general education curriculum. Examination of other institutions demonstrating best practices and assessment of the current UK Core will be used to develop recommendations around competencies and outcomes expected. Work Group membership consists of representatives from the Office of the Provost, University Senate, and President's Cabinet, a college dean, and Student Government Association and Staff Senate representatives. Next steps included a progress report on the assessment of UK Core and a timeline for Phase 1 completion and Phase 2 recommendations.

Chair Webb called for questions. Trustee Swanson requested examples of the aspirational peer institutions being used as benchmarks and asked if teaching modalities and the incorporation of active learning techniques would be considered. Benchmarks have not been chosen but will be included in the report. Teaching modalities and active learning techniques have not yet been topics of discussion, but they are anticipated. President Capilouto appreciated the group looking narrowly and broadly to find trends outside of academia where industries are developing their own core curriculum to prepare people for the workforce.

#### F. Vice President for Student Success Report

Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner was joined by fellow Co-facilitator and Dean of the College of Health Sciences, Scott Lephart, to provide an update on Project Accelerate Work Group 1: More Educated Kentuckians. Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner reviewed the Work Group's charge, which linked enrollment growth to Kentucky's workforce needs while incentivizing students to remain in Kentucky after graduation. The Work Group hopes to accomplish a five-year smart enrollment growth plan aligned with workforce needs, including a talent and infrastructure plan to support enrollment growth. The Work Group also plans to assess career and workforce readiness efforts in conjunction with graduates staying in Kentucky to address shortages in teaching and nursing careers. Work Group membership was reviewed and consisted of representatives from the Student Government Association and University Senate, a college dean, an associate provost, and faculty and staff from across the enterprise.

Chair Webb called for questions. Trustee Swanson asked if it was correct that 50% of Kentucky high school graduates attend higher education. If so, is enough attention paid to cultivating relationships with guidance counselors in K-12. Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner stated Christine Harper, chief enrollment officer, focused heavily on deepening those relationships, as well as her team working parallel with branch campuses and transfer personnel.

Trustee Cramer asked if UK has the capacity to increase enrollment, e.g., personnel and space. Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner stated the Work Group will assess infrastructure from the perspectives of space, personnel, talent, faculty, and support staff. Trustee Cramer asked if funds will be available to grow talent. Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner stated the Work Group had not been charged with that and deferred to Provost DiPaola and Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Eric Monday to discuss how the college funding models intersect with Work Group 1's charge. Provost DiPaola stated much time is spent in business planning for sustainability, which has been enhanced by increasing interactions between the colleges and the Provost Budget Office.

Trustee Daniels asked about the formation of focus groups and if one could work with the state to better the funding mechanism for in-state students, e.g., increased revenues from gaming, and increased retention. Vice President for Student Success Kirsten Turner said a subgroup is looking at ways to mitigate "brain drain" and ways to encourage students to remain in-state and enhance their college experience.

G. SGA President Report

Student Government Association (SGA) President Lizzy Hornung highlighted activities in which the SGA participated this semester. Those included, but were not limited to, Freshman Senator Elections, Coats for Cats, Success Fair, Student Organization Funding, Early Voting Shuttle and Watch Party, and Wildcat Wardrobe Scrubs. Five freshman senators were elected. Coats were distributed to 350 students. Funding was provided to 78 student organizations. One hundred and ten sets of scrubs were provided to students who needed them for labs and clinicals in the healthcare professions.

Chair Webb called for questions and there were none.

H. Meeting Adjourned

Hearing no further business, Chair Webb adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rachel Watts Webb  
Academic and Student Affairs  
Committee

RW/sjr