# Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee University of Kentucky Tuesday, April 30, 2019 

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC) of the University of Kentucky (UK) met on Tuesday, April 30, 2018, in the Bolivar Art Gallery of the School of Art and Visual Studies.

## A. Meeting Opened

Chair Angela Edwards called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m.

## B. Roll Call

The following members of the ASAC answered the call of the roll: Angela Edwards, Lee Blonder, Cammie Grant, Robert Grossman, Michael Hamilton, David Hawpe, Kim McCann, Derrick Ramsey, Sandy Shuffett, and Rachel Webb. Carol Martin "Bill" Gatton was not in attendance.

## C. Approval of Minutes

Chair Edwards reported that the minutes of the February 22, 2019, ASAC meeting had been distributed. Trustee Grossman moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Shuffett seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

## D. ASACR 1: Correction of Major on Degrees and Transcripts

The recommendation is that the President be authorized to confer a change of major listed on official diplomas and transcripts for the individuals whose names appear on the attached list. Each individual satisfactorily completed all requirements for the requested major 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 received a PhD in Education and Counseling Psychology. Due to administrative error, their degree major was incorrectly listed as Educational Psychology when in fact the major should have been listed as School Psychology. Trustee Grossman moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Grant. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

## E. $\quad$ ASACR 2: Candidate for Degree: May 2018

The recommendation is that the President be authorized to confer upon the individual whose name appears on the attached list the degree to which 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 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 2018 Spring Semester. Due to administrative error, the name was not previously submitted. Trustee Webb moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Ramsey. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

## F. $\quad$ ASACR 3: Candidates for Degrees: May 2019

The recommendation is that the President be authorized to confer upon 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 applications have 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, since Commencement exercises are held immediately following completion of examinations, it is not possible for the University Registrar to certify satisfactory completion of requirements prior to Commencement exercises for those candidates who complete their requirements in May. Trustee Blonder moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Shuffett. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

## G. $\quad$ ASACR 4: Candidates for In Memoriam Degrees: May 2019

The recommendation is that the President be authorized to confer upon the individuals whose names appear 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. Trustee Hamilton moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Grant. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

## H. $\quad$ ASACR 5: Candidates for Degrees: August 2019

The recommendation is that the President be authorized to confer upon 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 applications have 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, each individual whose name appears on the attached list is scheduled to complete the work toward the degree for which application is being made at the close of the 2019 Summer Session. Due to licensure or certification requirements for students pursuing job placement or additional education, degrees must be verified as soon as possible. Trustee Ramsey moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Shuffett. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.
I. ASACR 6: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Science Translation and Outreach, within the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, beginning in the Fall 2019 Semester. By way of background, the Cooperative Extension Service has been engaged in science translation for more than 100 years. Extension agents work directly with local leaders and the public to address diverse public needs in different communities. Rapid scientific progress and increasing complexity have created a need for transdisciplinary education in science translation. The proposed program addresses this need through a set of required courses focusing on program development and evaluation, science literacy and translation, and research methods; elective courses allowing specialization; and a capstone course. While not exclusively targeted to such individuals, the proposal notes that nearly 100 college employees are enrolled in master's programs at other institutions. Many of these individuals are Extension Agents, a population for whom earning a master's degree opens career advancement possibilities. The proposed online degree program will address the need of such Extension Agents and others. A cohort of 10 students per year is anticipated. 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 Dr. Larry Grabau, Associate Dean for Instruction; and Dr. Paul Vincelli, Extension Professor of Plant Pathology and Provost's Distinguished Service Professor. There were no questions or comments.

Trustee Grant moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Grossman. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.
J. ASACR 7: Academic Degree Recommendation: Gatton College of Business and Economics

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with a major in General Business, within the Gatton College of Business and Economics, beginning in the Fall 2019 Semester. By way of background, the proposed degree, an online completer degree in general business, is broader than existing undergraduate degrees in the College. The College views the new major as complementing its existing undergraduate offerings in a similar way that the general and more specific graduate degree programs of the College complement each other. The program will focus on students who have started their degrees at UK but did not finish. Program admission requirements are identical to other College programs, requiring completion of 60 hours with an appropriate GPA and completion of pre-major requirements. Anticipated enrollment is expected to begin at 10 and potentially rise above 150 students. 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 Dr. Paul Childs, Chair, Department of Finance
and Quantitative Methods and Associate Professor of Finance; and Dr. Nicole Jenkins, Executive Associate Dean for Administration, Faculty, and Research and Von Allmen Endowed Chair of Accountancy. There were no questions or comments.

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

## K. ASACR 8: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Education

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies, in the Department of Early Childhood Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling, within the College of Education, beginning in the Fall 2019 Semester. By way of background, the proposed program's curriculum takes a holistic view of individuals with disabilities in the context of their environment, focusing on empowerment of people with disabilities to live full lives as independently as possible. Students in the major will learn that empowerment comes through knowledge and understanding of various disabilities and unique needs of individuals across the lifespan and within various contexts (culture, community, sociopolitical environment, families, etc.). The curriculum provides perspectives from various disciplines including Social Work, Gerontology, Sociology, Counseling Psychology, Anthropology, Special Education, Rehabilitation Counseling, and Early Childhood, in order to allow a fuller understanding of the individual as a whole. Students will gain evidencedbased knowledge and skills and then apply them at agencies during practical work. This program is designed for students who want to become employed in a variety of jobs serving individuals with disabilities and/or want to go on to graduate study in programs such as Rehabilitation Counseling. Initial enrollment of around 10 students growing toward 70 students is anticipated. 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 Dr. Kristin Maxwell, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling; Dr. Jackie Rogers, Clinical Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling; and Dr. Rosetta Sandidge, Interim Dean of the College of Education. There were no questions or comments.

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

## L. ASACR 9: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Engineering

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Data Science, in the Department of Computer Science, within the College of Engineering, beginning in the Fall 2019 Semester. By way of background, in many areas of study, vast amounts of heterogeneous data are being continuously generated (i.e. Big Data). There is a nationwide shortage of data scientists who are able to analyze and make use of such data. The proposed program leverages the University's strengths in these areas to meet
regional and national workforce demand. The proposed two-year interdisciplinary program features core coursework in computer science and statistics/biostatistics. The program is proposed to launch with a single concentration in biomedical informatics with future plans to develop concentrations in other application areas. The Master of Science is being proposed as a non-thesis (Plan B) program with each student completing and defending a project in data science. Initial enrollment of four students growing to 26 students is anticipated. 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 was Dr. Mirek Truszczynski, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Computer Science. Trustee Hawpe inquired how Dr. Truszczynski would gauge the University's computer support for this program. Dr. Truszczynski indicated it is more than adequate.

Trustee Ramsey moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Hawpe. Finding no further discussion, Chair Edwards called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.
M. ASACR 10: Academic Degree Recommendation: Martin School of Public Policy and Administration

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Public Policy, in the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, within the Graduate School, beginning in the Fall 2019 Semester. By way of background, the proposed undergraduate program will focus on how public policy decisions are made; how public policy can affect various members of society; and how leadership is exercised in the public and nonprofit sectors. Thirty years ago, there were few undergraduate programs in this area, but there has been strong growth nationally in such offerings. For example, $50 \%$ of public policy/administration programs now offer such degrees. The program focuses on analytical and quantitative tools for understanding and measuring the effects of existing and proposed public policies. The program will prepare students for graduate study or for careers in law, education, public and nonprofit organizations, and federal/state/local government. Enrollment of 30 new students per year is anticipated. 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 was Dr. Genia Toma, Wendell H. Ford Professor of Public Policy and Director of Graduate Studies. Trustee Grossman indicated this program is exciting as it is the first bachelor's degree program offered by the Martin School. Trustee Hawpe agreed with Trustee Grossman's statement and recommended that this program could be named after an individual or individuals who were active in public policy in the Commonwealth.

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

## N. ASACR 11: Deletion of Degree: College of Health Sciences

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the deletion of the Master of Science in Clinical Sciences, within the College of Health Sciences, effective in the Fall 2019 semester. By way of background, admission for this degree program has been suspended for more than five years. Suspension of this program is the result of a programmatic audit, which indicated the formal deletion of this degree program will result in a more accurate depiction of programmatic offerings in the College of Health Sciences. 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 College of Health Sciences and the University Senate. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

In attendance to answer any questions was Dr. Karen Badger, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education. There were no questions or comments.

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

## O. Student Government Association (SGA) Update

SGA President and Trustee, Michael Hamilton, indicated it has been a great year for SGA with many accomplishments. The main goal of increased visibility of and access to SGA through innovation, events, and engagement was accomplished. Cited accomplishments:

- Funding: SGA allocated over $\$ 187,000$ to support students via organization funding, childcare, and other grants and scholarships.
- Student Fee Allocation Process: Two organizations applied for a fee. Their application materials were reviewed, but ultimately were not approved.
- Student Voice: SGA received a petition regarding food and housing insecurity on campus that met the criteria to call a meeting of the General Assembly. At the meeting, students discussed food and housing insecurity. There was not a quorum present, so no votes were held.
- Inclusivity: SGA pursued many inclusivity efforts throughout the year. Dine and Dialogue allowed representatives from different student communities to have lunch together and discuss various topics, with participation from 50 students. The Coalition for Diversity and Inclusion focused on several policy initiatives, including benchmarking for a potential Women's Center. The Minority Professionals Banquet was attended by 100 students and many Lexington-area professionals.
- Services: Wildcat Wardrobe had a grand opening for its new facility and expanded its hours of operation. Wildcab transitioned to a new app and has provided 10,000 rides to 21,000 students this year. The Swipe Ahead Initiative is a meal swipe bank that has allocated 4,000 meals based on a rolling referral program.
- Civic Engagement: The WilDCats at the Capitol Scholarship Award process was improved. A Higher Education Report Card was developed to monitor how legislators vote for bills related to higher education. SGA plans to host two gubernatorial debates: one for Democratic candidates prior to the primary election and another for all
candidates prior to the general election.
- Sustainability: SGA partnered with the Office of Sustainability and Green Thumb to host a Sustainability Fair to celebrate Earth Day. Additional water filling stations have been installed around campus.
- Leadership Development: Culture of Conversation, a service learning project, was created. Groups of students selected "invisible" issues (e.g., mental health) to research and gave final presentations regarding their research.
- Campus Safety: The annual Campus Safety Walk was recreated virtually. A ridesharing safety campaign was launched.
- Wellness: A "Self-Care Isn’t Selfish" resource fair was held. A proposal to put a QR code on each student ID was recently submitted. This QR code will link students to a comprehensive list of available campus services (e.g., Counseling Center).
- Marketing: Marketing efforts were revamped this year to appropriately demonstrate all of SGA's ongoing efforts.

Overall, SGA has dramatically increased the number of events held each year.
Trustee Hawpe commented that this year's SGA leadership team is diverse and inclusive. SGA President Hamilton referenced his election campaign's emphasis on belonging and indicated that building a diverse and inclusive leadership team came naturally based on overall involvement of diverse groups in SGA. Trustee Webb formally congratulated SGA President Hamilton on his reelection. Chair Edwards asked SGA President Hamilton to thank his team on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

## P. Provost Report

Provost David Blackwell provided an update regarding ongoing dean searches:

- College of Communication and Information: Four finalists visited campus in April. The Provost recently met with the Search Committee and will make an offer to a preferred finalist soon.
- College of Dentistry: Vice Provost Larry Holloway is serving as Interim Dean. After extensive consultation, the Provost will seek an external, longer-term Interim Dean. This will allow time to plan for an optimally timed national search for the permanent Deanship.
- College of Education: Three finalists visited campus in April. The Provost will meet with the Search Committee soon.
- College of Law: Dean David Brennen has been awarded an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellowship. This will require him to be off campus for one year. Nominations have been solicited from the College for an Acting Dean.
- College of Social Work: Initial plans for a national search were changed when the College expressed a preference for an internal search. Nominations have been solicited from the College.
- Libraries: Four finalists visited campus in March. The Provost is in negotiations with the preferred finalist.

Although the Graduate School still has an Interim Dean, there is not an ongoing search. An implementation team has been formed to create an implementation plan for the Blue Ribbon Report on Graduate Education. The Provost will take that plan into consideration when determining next steps for the Graduate School.

Provost Blackwell referenced discussion that occurred at the February Board of Trustees meeting regarding student mental health. As follow-up from this discussion, the President asked the Provost to form a task force to study and make recommendations regarding how UK should approach mental health for various groups on campus, with student mental health and related resources being analyzed first. The approach to creating this task force was unique in that the goal was to form a panel of experts in subject areas such as suicidology and lean systems who will make evidence-based recommendations. Co-Chairs of the task force are Donna Arnett, Dean of the College of Public Health, and Margaret Pisacano, UK HealthCare Director of Risk Management. The President and Provost charged the task force to assess the campus landscape regarding student mental health and identify concrete action steps to take before the start of the Fall 2019 semester. The work will continue until a comprehensive approach is established. In addition to the task force, groups of health care providers and students will be created and consulted.

Margaret Pisacano emphasized the depth of "in-house" expertise found in the membership of the task force. She recognized the importance and scope of the project and affirmed the task force's dedication and determination to accomplish their charge. Receiving input from providers and students will be critical to understand all perspectives.

Trustee Hamilton commented that although he is excited to see the results of the task force's work, he is disappointed that there is not student representation on the task force. Provost Blackwell committed to deep student involvement in the work via the student group that will be created and consulted.

## Q. Meeting Adjourned

Hearing no further business, Chair Edwards adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,


Angela Edwards
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
(ASACR 1, ASACR 2, ASACR 3, ASACR 4, ASACR 5, ASACR 6, ASACR 7, ASACR 8, ASACR 9, ASACR 10, and ASACR 11 are official parts of the Minutes of the meeting)

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