Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee University of Kentucky Friday, February 21, 2020

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC) of the University of Kentucky (UK) met on Friday, February 21, in the J. David Rosenberg College of Law.

A. <u>Meeting Opened</u>

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

B. <u>Roll Call</u>

The following members of the ASAC answered the call of the roll: Cathy A. Black, Lee X. Blonder, Joe R. Bowen, Robert Grossman, Michael Hamilton, Derrick K. Ramsey, Sandra R. Shuffett, Bryan Sunderland, and Rachel Watts Webb. Carol Martin "Bill" Gatton was not in attendance.

C. <u>Approval of Minutes</u>

Chair Webb reported that the minutes of the December 10, 2019, ASAC meeting had been distributed. Trustee Ramsey moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Bowen seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

D. ASACR 1: Candidate for Degree: In Memoriam

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

E. ASACR 2: Candidate for Degree: December 2019

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 completed the work leading toward the degree for which application was made at the close of the 2019 Fall Semester. Due to administrative error, the name was not previously submitted. Trustee Grossman moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Blonder. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

F. ASACR 3: Candidates for Degrees: May 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 University Senate and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. By way of background, in 2016, the University of Kentucky established a partnership with the Department of Defense (DoD) to develop well-qualified clinical social workers to fill positions across the military service branches. A satellite site was established within the Army Medical Department Center and School at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, and implements the College of Social Work's full-time, 60-hour Master of Social Work program. The curriculum is delivered in a condensed format over 14 continuous months of study with graduation occurring in April each year. The approval of these candidates for degrees in February will allow the graduates to receive physical diplomas at their April graduation, a requirement which was instituted by the DoD. Trustee Shuffett moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Black. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb called for a vote and the motion passed without dissent.

G. ASACR 4: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Design

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Product Design, in the College of Design, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, product design is a strategic problem-solving process that drives innovation, builds business success, and leads to a better quality of life. This program would be the first of its kind in Kentucky, addressing a significant need for graduates in this field. Product designers are employed wherever products are made. Creating a pool of local design talent will contribute to business development. The proposed 120-hour program involves sequences of design studios, supportive coursework, technical classes, and specialized courses with advancing complexity in thematic areas such as ergonomics, history and theory, and design visualization. An initial enrollment of 18 students growing to 93 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 Mitzi Vernon, Dean. There were no questions or comments.

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

H. ASACR 5: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Engineering

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Biomedical Engineering, in the F. Joseph Halcomb III, M.D. Department of Biomedical Engineering, within the College of Engineering, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, biomedical engineering is a multidisciplinary field that applies engineering principles and design methods to improve the interaction and integration of engineering with medicine and biological sciences for improving human health and solving health care challenges. The proposed program addresses institutional needs for growth in the number and diversity of engineering students and societal needs for excellent, affordable, and available health care technology. Among existing biomedical engineering programs, this program is unique because of a close collaboration with the College of Design and a pervasive emphasis on design thinking. The program uses a shared first-year engineering curriculum and shared foundational engineering with upper-level discipline-specific courses. The program culminates in a two-year interdisciplinary capstone design project. Pending Board approval, accreditation will be sought from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). Enrollment of 30 to 40 students per cohort 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 Rudy Buchheit, Dean; and Guigen Zhang, Chair and Professor, F. Joseph Halcomb III, M.D. Department of Biomedical Engineering. Trustee Grossman commented that this degree will be a great addition to the University's academic offerings and will attract prospective students. Trustee Blonder commented that it will also help retain current students interested in the field. Trustee Bowen indicated Dr. Halcomb would celebrate the creation of this degree program. Dean Buchheit indicated Dr. Halcomb played a seminal role in the creation of the degree program.

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.

I. ASACR 6: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Education

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Arts degree with a major in Orientation and Mobility, in the Department of Early

Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education, within the College of Education, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, orientation and mobility describe the ways by which individuals with visual impairments know their position in space and move within the environment. The proposed program will prepare instructors to address the orientation and mobility needs of children with blindness and visual impairments; individuals with complex needs; and adults with vision loss. The program includes courses offered synchronously online, face-to-face weekends, and intensive summer classes held on the University of Kentucky campus as well as at the Kentucky School for the Blind. At the end of the program, students will complete an internship in educational and rehabilitation settings as needed for national certification as Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists. There is national demand to increase the number of specialists in this area by up to more than 8,000, while existing programs are only preparing approximately 250 professionals per year. An initial enrollment of eight students growing to 12 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 three representatives from the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education: Ralph Crystal, Chair and Professor; Justin Kaiser, Clinical Assistant Professor; and Donna Lee, Clinical Associate Professor and Visual Impairment Program Faculty Chair. There were no questions or comments.

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

J. ASACR 7: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Education

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Teacher Preparation Program in Visual Impairments, in the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education, within the College of Education, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, the proposed program is designed to train Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVIs) to work with children from preschool through graduation. The program, which would be supported by the Kentucky Department of Education, consists of 10 core courses followed by a final course for student teaching or field experience. The program will be offered with synchronous classes; in-person, experiential exercises; and intensive summer courses at the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky School for the Blind. Since the current teacher certification program in this area began in 2013, 61 TVIs have been certified. The current certificate program has been in high demand with severe TVI shortages in Kentucky and nationally. The proposed graduate degree program will replace the certificate program, a transition which recognizes the need for more advanced, higher-level instruction and increases student access to financial assistance. Students currently enrolled in the certificate program will have the option to continue toward a certificate or transfer to the graduate degree program. Cohorts of approximately

15 students are expected. 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 three representatives from the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education: Ralph Crystal, Chair and Professor; Justin Kaiser, Clinical Assistant Professor; and Donna Lee, Clinical Associate Professor and Visual Impairment Program Faculty Chair. There were no questions or comments.

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

K. <u>ASACR 8: Academic Degree Recommendation: Gatton College of</u> <u>Business and Economics</u>

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Supply Chain Management, in the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain, within the Gatton College of Business and Economics, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, Kentucky is one of the country's logistical hubs due to its central location. There are nearly 500 logistics/distribution operations throughout the state, employing more than 60,000 workers. The projected job growth rate in this area in the next five years is more than 13 percent. Via learning outcomes of critical thinking, identification of ethical issues, competence in multidisciplinary interactions, technological skills, and communication skills, students will develop the expertise to work effectively in a supply chain context. Career possibilities include roles in analytics, logistics, and management in the areas of general business operations, purchasing, and transportation. The proposed one-year program has been developed in cooperation with the College of Engineering. The program features nine hours of common core courses (shared with the Master of Science in Supply Chain Engineering), 15 hours of business-specific core courses, three elective hours, and three hours of capstone industry project. Initial enrollment of 20 students growing to 40 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 Simon Sheather, Dean; and David Hardesty, Chair and Professor, Department of Marketing and Supply Chain. There were no questions or comments.

Trustee Sunderland moved approval, which was seconded by Trustee Hamilton. Finding no further discussion, Chair Webb 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 Supply Chain Engineering, in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, there is a national skills gap and demand for professionals in supply chain-related careers. Demand in this area is reported to exceed supply by six-to-one. In Kentucky alone, there were more than 6,000 job postings for supply chain-related positions in the previous year. There are very few similar programs, and the most comparable in the country is not oriented toward working professionals. Via learning outcomes of understanding of supply chain fundamentals, competence in multidisciplinary interactions, and ability to use advanced mathematical modeling and simulation tools as well as contemporary programming languages, students will develop the expertise to design, install, and improve complex supply chains to operate in environments such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and digitalization. This two-year, nonthesis program, to be offered in an online format, has been developed in collaboration with the Gatton College of Business and Economics. The program features nine hours of common core courses (shared with the Master of Science in Supply Chain Management), 15 hours of engineering-specific core courses, three elective hours, and three hours of capstone industry project. An initial cohort of 10 students followed by steady-state enrollment of 15 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 Rudy Buchheit, Dean (College of Engineering); Simon Sheather, Dean (Gatton College of Business and Economics); and Fazleena Badurdeen, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Trustee Grossman inquired what distinguished each of the supply chain degree programs. Dean Sheather indicated the degree in Supply Chain Management focuses on the business aspect of supply chain processes. Dean Buchheit indicated the degree in Supply Chain Engineering focuses on the problem solving and systems-level thinking aspects of supply chain processes. It is likely that the same company would recruit graduates from both programs.

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

M. ASACR 10: 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 Computer Engineering, in the Department of Computer Science, within the College of Engineering, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, the proposed program will provide an advanced degree in the area of computer engineering, an area in which the University of Kentucky already

has a successful undergraduate program as well as successful faculty research. The field of computer engineering integrates expertise from both electrical engineering and computer science, emphasizing an understanding of computer architecture, hardware/software interface, and the integration of computers into products and systems at a larger scale. While the program will be housed in the Department of Computer Science, the program would include collaborative work between faculty from the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science. The proposed program will support the College of Engineering's mission and will further enhance the College's ability to pursue its vision of international recognition and recognition as a top college of engineering in the country. Demand and salaries in computer engineering continue to be strong. Enrollment of 10 to 20 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 were Rudy Buchheit, Dean; Raphael Finkel, Professor, Department of Computer Science; and Hank Dietz, Professor, Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering. There were no questions or comments.

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

N. ASACR 11: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Engineering

The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Computer Engineering, in the Department of Computer Science, within the College of Engineering, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester. By way of background, the proposed program will provide an advanced degree in the area of computer engineering, an area in which the University of Kentucky already has a successful undergraduate program as well as successful faculty research. The field of computer engineering integrates expertise from both electrical engineering and computer science, emphasizing an understanding of computer architecture, hardware/software interface, and the integration of computers into products and systems at a larger scale. While the program will be housed in the Department of Computer Science, the program would include collaborative work between faculty from the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science. The proposed program will support the College of Engineering's mission and will further enhance the College's ability to pursue its vision of international recognition and recognition as a top college of engineering in the country. Demand and salaries in computer engineering continue to be strong. Enrollment of 10 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.

Provost Blackwell indicated that in most cases, the master's degree program will serve as a pipeline into the doctoral degree program. Therefore, the two Computer Science programs reviewed today are complimentary rather than competitive.

In attendance to answer any questions were Rudy Buchheit, Dean; Raphael Finkel, Professor, Department of Computer Science; and Hank Dietz, Professor, Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering. There were no questions or comments.

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

O. <u>Student Government Association (SGA) Update</u>

SGA President and Trustee, Michael Hamilton, provided an update regarding DanceBlue, a year-long, student-led fundraising effort that culminates in a 24-hour dance marathon. Funds raised support the DanceBlue Kentucky Children's Hospital Hematology/Oncology Clinic. All Trustees were invited to attend.

P. <u>Provost Report</u>

Provost David Blackwell provided an update regarding the Next Generation Scholars (Next Gen) dual credit program, a collaborative effort between Enrollment Management and the College of Education. The program launched this academic year as a pilot in four high schools. In the next academic year, the number of participating high schools will increase based on an application process. Juniors and seniors at these high schools can take core courses led by UK faculty. The program will serve to recruit prospective students.

Trustee Hamilton inquired how many courses a student is permitted to take. The Provost indicated there are 10 courses available, and a student could take all of these during a two-year period. Trustee Grossman asked for clarification regarding who instructs the courses. Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Christine Harper indicated UK faculty lead the courses synchronously via video conference, which is a unique component of Next Gen. High school teachers partner with them for instruction delivery that cannot occur virtually. Trustee Grant inquired who is responsible for assessment in the course. Associate Provost Harper indicated assessment is performed by the UK faculty member. Trustee Hamilton inquired if there are admission requirements for participation in Next Gen. Associate Provost Harper indicated students must meet UK's undergraduate admission requirements. The program also seeks equity in instruction opportunities in order to allow students from all backgrounds to participate. Trustee Brockman commented that a student matriculating with 30 credit hours from this program could, upon full-time enrollment at UK, graduate in three years. Trustee Grant inquired about Next Gen's curricular focus. Provost Blackwell indicated in addition to mathematics, writing, and rhetoric; courses in other subjects such as design and education are also offered.

Provost Blackwell provided an update regarding mental health efforts at UK. In February 2019, the Mental Health Task Force was formed. Based on interviews, site visits, and other activities, the group issued an interim report in January 2020 and expects to issue a final report in May 2020. Included in the reports are future recommendations, including a marketing campaign and increased training opportunities. In addition to the Mental Health Task Force, Student and Academic Life (SAL) has issued recommendations for immediate action, including pilot programs for extended student service hours and a staff stress reduction initiative. During the Fall 2019 semester, the number of students seeking services, such as counseling, increased dramatically. UK made an investment to increase staffing in these areas to more appropriately manage volume.

Chair Vance inquired if the increase in students seeking services is due to greater awareness of services. Associate Provost Turner indicated there is evidence that increased student self-advocacy combined with increased intentionality in communicating availability of resources has contributed to the increased utilization of services. Trustee Grant inquired how long residence life training in this area has been available. Associate Provost Turner indicated these opportunities have increased over the last several years.

Provost Blackwell provided an update regarding the Strategic Plan. The process thus far has included the Board of Trustees and Provost's Council Retreats in October 2019. A Strategic Plan Executive Committee was recently formed and includes University leadership who will be responsible for implementation of the Strategic Plan as well as faculty and staff experts. This committee will assess the current state of and possible future directions for UK in order to create ideas for campus-wide bold initiatives. In subsequent workshops, this information will be shared with a broader advisory group comprised of faculty, staff, and students who will discuss and evaluate the proposed bold initiatives. Three to five of the bold initiatives will comprise the basic structure of the Strategic Plan, which will be shared broadly early in the Fall 2020 semester for campus input. Based on this input, the plan will be revised and prepared for consideration at the Board of Trustees October 2020 Retreat.

Trustee Hamilton inquired if a student should be included on the Strategic Plan Executive Committee to represent the student experience. Provost Blackwell indicated the Committee's initial work is just a starting point for the work that will occur throughout the process, which will be guided by the advisory group. In addition, the Committee will work from data gathered previously in the process, which includes student input. Trustee Melanson inquired if the Committee membership had been announced. Provost Blackwell indicated this information is forthcoming.

Q. <u>Meeting Adjourned</u>

Hearing no further business, Chair Webb adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lachel Vebb

Rachel Watts Webb 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)

RW/afc