

Senate Council

Monday, October 18, 2021

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3:00 PM on Monday, October 18, 2021, in 103 Main Building, although a video conference link was also available. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Senate Council Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:00 PM. The Chair welcomed those present. He informed everyone that the session was being recorded for notetaking purposes and noted that it was an open meeting. He asked that the SC members participating via Zoom to type their name and affiliation into the chat box and added that the chat function is generally only used for attendance and not monitored. He asked that all attendees, online and in person, state their name and affiliation prior to speaking, to ensure everyone knew who was speaking.

1. Minutes from October 4 and Announcements

The Chair reported that there were no changes to the minutes from October 4. There being **no objections**, the minutes from October 4 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair announced the Board of Trustees meeting on April 29, 2022 would occur before the Senate meeting on May 2, 2022. The Chair explained he may ask the SC to approve the degree list on behalf of the Senate.

The Chair reminded SC members of the update provided to them on the Chair's interactions with the President. The Chair explained there was a concern expressed after the last SC meeting about how the last update was characterized and invited SC members to ask the Chair if there were any concerns.

The Chair announced an issue that arose during the previous Senate meeting pertaining to the approval of temporary modality changes for courses. The Chair informed SC members a discussion would take place later this week; regarding the focus of the meeting, the Chair was been told that the discussion will focus on how modality requests will be considered, rather than whether or not it is reasonable for the Provost's office to continue to exercise the current level of control over this activity.

There were no questions from SC members regarding announcements.

2. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) – DeShana Collett, Chair

i. Post-Midterm ("Permissive") Withdrawals and Compressed Courses

The Chair informed SC members this agenda was added to the agenda in error and that no action was required by the SC today. There were no objections from SC members.

3. University Calendars

- a. 2022 - 2023 Dentistry
- b. 2024 - 2025 Dentistry, Tentative
- c. 2022 - 2023 Law
- d. 2024 - 2025 Law, Tentative
- e. 2022 - 2023 Medicine
- f. 2024 - 2025 Medicine, Tentative
- g. 2022 - 2023 Pharmacy
- h. 2024 - 2025 Pharmacy, Tentative

The Chair introduced the professional program University calendars ready for approval to SC members. The Chair asked if there were any questions about the calendars. Some concerns were discussed by SC members and the Registrar pertaining to the Law school calendars, regarding the lack of a fall break. Collett **moved** to separate the Law calendars and approve the six non-Law professional calendars. Hawse **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with twelve in favor, none opposed, and one abstained.

The Chair introduced Jennifer Bird-Pollan (LA, associate dean of academic affairs). Bird-Pollan explained there had been conflicting requests from Law students in the past regarding a fall break, noting that the results of a 2019 Law student survey revealed a preference for additional reading days rather than a fall break. She explained the situation remains unresolved and further discussion needed to take place. She described some historical rationales for the Law calendar having the dates it does and added that the matter was discussed at Law's most recent faculty meeting. Bird-Pollan indicated her intent to seek more systematic student input. She asked that the SC approve the calendars as presented, noting that Law would probably come to SC with amendments after conversation with Law faculty. Hawse moved to **approve** both Law calendars. Vincent **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken, and the motion **passed** with twelve in favor, none opposed, and one abstained.

4. Nominees for Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement Search Committee

The Chair asked SC members for nominees for the Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement Search Committee. SC members discussed potential nominees. Cantrell asked the Provost if only one would be selected. The Provost explained the initial intention was for one name to be chosen but agreed that two names would be acceptable. SC members provided four nominees. The Chair recommended to the Provost that two names be selected, but that there be no more than one representative from a specific college.

5. Senate Meeting Roundtable (Time Permitting)

SC members participated in a Senate meeting roundtable. The following items include sentiments expressed by SC members about the previous Senate meeting:

- Appreciation for Zoom modality
- Importance of establishing and ensuring due diligence in reviewing background information on recommendations from the University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees (UJCHD)
- Positive discussion about modality for Senate meeting and resulting straw poll

- Pros and cons regarding use of the chat function in Zoom and the possibility of not using it Voting modality and potential use of a new polling technology
 - The Chair noted that according to Provost DiPaola, UK's Legal Counsel stood by its assertion about the Senate not needing to record detailed vote information. The Chair added that he had spoken with a few individuals about a possible type of polling software to use instead of the voting clickers.
- Attendance methods for Senate meetings taking place via Zoom

SC members spent the most time discussing voting matters and whether to continue use of Zoom's chat function in the webinar for Senate meetings. At the Chair's request for a description of how Ms. Silver documented attendance, Ms. Silver explained that she did not use the chat function for that activity, but rather used a reporting feature.

6. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

The Chair asked SC members if there were any objections to cancelling the SC meeting on Monday, October 25 and there were none. There being **no objections**, the cancellation of the Monday, October 25 SC meeting was **approved by unanimous consent**.

The Chair asked if there were any items from the floor.

Hawse mentioned the increase in demand for available child-care grants for students provided by Student Government Association (SGA). Hawse also informed SC members that the SGA supported a proposal for a syllabus bank (via course registration in myUK) that was approved by the Senate. Due to a variety of circumstances, it had not been administratively implemented Hawse indicated that he would be following up on the matter.

The Provost commented on the strategic plan, thanking SC members for the time taken for extra meetings. The Chair noted the Board of Trustees acknowledged SC's contributions as well and asked very thoughtful questions.

Grossman mentioned the SGA vaccine resolution that was previously passed and asked Hawse about the administrative response. Hawse noted the response was similar to the response received by the Senate. Hawse commented on communications with student governments at other universities inquiring about how to increase their schools' vaccination rates, contrasting the University's high student vaccination rates with that of other schools.

Duncan inquired about reported data for people fully vaccinated and the differentiation between having one dose and both doses, as well as having received a booster. The Provost noted the data was being reported consistently with other institutions.

Hall commented on testing accommodations for nonnative English-speaking students, as discussed in the most recent Senate meeting. He noted he looked forward to more formal guidance.

The meeting adjourned at 4:11 PM with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Cramer,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Leslie Vincent, Susan Cantrell, DeShana Collett, Richard Charnigo, Lee Blonder, Michael Hawse, Megan Van Gilder, Marilyn Duncan, Gregg Hall, Hollie Swanson, Bob Grossman, Shannon Oltmann, Sophie DeCorte, Aaron Cramer

Invited guests present: Jennifer Bird-Pollan, Sheila Brothers, Bob DiPaola, Kim Taylor

Prepared by Katie Silver on Wednesday, October 27, 2021