

Senate Council Minutes

December 17, 2012

The Senate Council met on Monday, December 17, 2012 at 3:00 pm in 103 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired.

Vice Chair Robert Grossman called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. He explained that the Chair Blonder and Ms. Brothers were both out sick.

1. Minutes:
 - a. The minutes from Dec 3 were not available.
2. Election of Vice Chair
 - a. Connie Wood, by unanimous consent.
3. The Vice-Chair offered a re-ordered agenda to facilitate our visitors time frame.
4. Committee reports
 - a. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Andrew Hippisley, Chair and Linda Worley presented the proposed new University Scholars Program – BA/BS German and MA German (see pages 16-18 of 12/17/12 agenda).

ACTION: – **SC unanimously approved** forwarding the proposal to February's Senate meeting.

5. Old Business

a. Proposed changes to GR VII. VC Grossman described the changes and recommendations of the Senate Council Ad Hoc Committee on Multidisciplinary Centers and Programs (see pages 2-14 of 12/17/12 agenda). There was extensive discussion based on the explanations provided, particularly discussions of educational units, directors of MDRCs, primary appointments, certificate programs, what makes a center and what is a critical mass of faculty, consolidate v eliminate (or sunset a MDRC) v creation of centers. Before we can address many of the afore stated issues we need to first define a MDRC. There was a great deal of discussion and concern related to DOE assignments, or lack thereof. Additional discussion is needed with the yet-to-be-hired Provost. How does the new funding model work with GR VII and DOEs? Administrative responsibility (see p. 6 of proposal).

Richard suggested that it go to the regs committee and then to the Senate.

ACTION: Motion from SC: Gail moved that the SC accept the report and move it to the Regs committee. Katherine seconded. Friendly amendment from Greg that we thank and commend the committee and dissolve the ad hoc committee at this time. **Unanimous approval.**

Additional discussion in January, this gives the regs committee approval to address and then return for discussion prior to taking to full Senate.

- b. Revised language for draft policy on SACSCOC Standards for Increased Stringency (see Academic Rigor, p. 15 of 12/17/12 agenda).

ACTION: Motion from SACSCOC approved unanimously.

- 6. Proposal to establish Faculty Advisory Committee for Undergraduate Scholarships: Pat Whitlow, Director of External Scholarships (see p. 19 of 12/17/12 agenda).

Pat brought forward the need to recruit faculty members to serve on many committees and is requesting that UG faculty have a committee similar to the Graduate faculty committee (the Graduate Council Committee on Fellowships and Traineeships).

The SC is in support of having an UG committee but needs additional information prior to making a recommendation.

ACTION: The SC asks Sheila to discover the process of how the Graduate Council appoints faculty to the Graduate Council Committee on Fellowships and Traineeships in an effort to have a similar process for a Faculty Advisory Committee for Undergraduate Scholarships.

- 7. UAB Discussion – Joe Fink, Chair.
Discussion related to student academic rights and how the student labels his/her appeal. Cases of academic offenses are dealt with separately. Can the Senate establish boundaries/limitations? What is in the Senate rules? How can legal counsel help UAB? Can legal counsel develop a training program to help faculty understand? How can the GRs be made more clear for both students and faculty? UAB needs to know pitfalls that exist between the current GRs. The

Ombuds should be part of the discussion so that the Ombuds understands how to best help the student. Need frank discussion between SC Chair, legal counsel and the rules committee representative.

ACTION: MOTION by Connie and seconded by Greg to ask SC Chair Blonder to establish and appoint a committee (ad hoc) to include Chair of UAB, Chair of Rules Committee, legal counsel rep, and ombuds. Approved unanimously.

Mark Coyne, Katherine McCormick, and Robert Grossman were recognized for their service on SC.

Next Meeting: January 14, 2013

Members Present: Debski, Swanson, Brion, Pienkowski, Wood, Anderson, McCormick, Coyne, Wasilkowski, Grossman.

Liaison present: Greissman.

Guests: Andrew Hippisley, Linda Worley, Davy Jones, Pat Whitlow, and Marcy Deaton, Joe Fink (Appeals board)

Katherine Moved to adjourn Connie seconded and The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.