

Senate Council
February 17, 2014

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, February 17, 2014 in 103 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Senate Council Chair Lee X. Blonder called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

1. Minutes from January 27 and February 3 and Announcements

The Chair said that no corrections were received for either set of minutes. There being no changes, the minutes from January 27, 2014 and the minutes from February 3, 2014 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

There was one announcement. SC members will meet with President Eli Capilouto on Tuesday, February 25 at 10:30 am in the Lexmark Public Room, 209 Main Building. SC members agreed that it was unnecessary to put together a specific list of questions to ask of the President.

The Chair asked SC members to go around the room, one at a time, and offer their impressions of the February 10 University Senate (Senate) meeting. Below is a sample of the opinions expressed.

- It was good that the Senate objected to the posthumous degree language regarding heinous acts – the revised language was sufficient and much better.
- The trustee report was interesting, but the open-ended questions that were asked at the end of the report may not have been addressed in sufficient detail.
- The meeting was routine.
- It was disappointing that the Senate spent so much time focused on the “heinous act” language and not on the concept that the posthumous degree would be a comfort to grieving parents. Furthermore, the original language was fully vetted by Legal Counsel, whereas the editing done on the Senate floor was not.
- It is sometimes surprising what the topic of conversation in Senate meetings becomes.
- It is dangerous to edit language on the floor of the Senate – it should be returned to committee if there was a problem with the wording.
- It was very unfortunate that the undergraduate certificate proposal had not been vetted sufficiently with other colleges. There needs to be a better mechanism to carefully monitor proposals as they move through the approval process.

2. Old Business

a. Expedited Program Changes for Graduation Communication and Composition Requirement

The Chair invited guests Matthew Giancarlo (AS/English) and Deanna Sellnow (CI/Communication), the co-chairs of the Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement Advisory Committee, to go

over the form that will be used to facilitate the addition of the graduation composition and communication requirement (GCCR) which will be incorporated into all undergraduate programs. Giancarlo and Sellnow explained the form to SC members and answered a few questions. The questions were primarily concerned with how an SC member's individual department was able to comply with the new requirement. Giancarlo and Sellnow reiterated that they were happy to meet with individuals or with groups of faculty to offer focused advice on how to incorporate the GCCR requirement.

Hippisley **moved** that the SC require the use of the expedited program change form, presented by Giancarlo and Sellnow, for the Graduation Composition and Communication requirement. Day **seconded**. There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. Giancarlo commented that there were a few minor issues that the GCCR Advisory Committee was deliberating upon, which may be brought to SC.

3. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure (SACPT) - Stephen Testa, Chair

i. SACPT 2012 - 2013 Final Report

The Chair suggested that SC members go around the room and introduce themselves, which they did. Guest Stephen Testa, chair of the Senate's Advisory Committee on Privilege and Tenure (SACPT), explained the sections of the SACPT's 2012-2013 annual report. There were a number of questions from SC members throughout Testa's explanation of the report.

Christ **moved** that the SC accept the SACPT's 2012-2013 annual report and Day **seconded**. There being no further discussion or question, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. The Chair said she would send the report to senators. After brief discussion, it was confirmed that Testa would give the same report to the Senate in March.

b. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) - Greg Wasilkowski, Chair

Debski, a member of the Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC), presented the revised SAOSC guidelines and revised SAOSC routing form to the SC. She expressed frustration that although the forms were posted in two places on the Senate's website, proposals were still submitted to the SAOSC without the incorporation of either form. There was a brief discussion about asking Ms. Brothers to take the form submitted by the SAOSC and incorporate the changes into the existing, "fillable" form. Watt asked if Debski and the entire SAOSC simply wanted a directive from SC that prevented the SAOSC from reviewing any proposal that did not use the posted guidelines and routing form.

After looking more closely at the guidelines, Christ suggested that as opposed to the current organization, the individual items to be addressed in a proposal be reorganized so that all the questions that every proposal must answer were at the beginning of the list, followed by a list of the questions that were not applicable to every proposal. There were additional suggestions on how to improve use of the guidelines and routing form. Debski agreed to take the form back to the SAOSC to work on reordering the questions.

Watt **moved** that the SAOSC not review a proposal until such time as the questions posted on the Senate site have been addressed. Hippisley **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. It was clarified that the intent of the motion is to provide the SAOSC with the authority to not review a proposal until the questions (guidelines and the routing form) are submitted.

4. Proposed Change to 2013-2014 Academic Calendar (Summer Advising Conference Dates)

The Chair directed SC members to the change regarding summer advising conference dates. Harling **moved** to approve the proposed changes to the 2013 – 2014 academic calendar as presented and Pienkowski **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Preliminary Discussion on Faculty Evaluation of President Capilouto

After beginning discussion, SC members agreed to postpone the agenda item until the following week.

6. Nominees for Ombud Search Committee

The Chair solicited nominees for the Ombud Search Committee. In addition to one SC member volunteering, SC members identified two additional faculty members to serve.

7. Other Business

There was no additional business to discuss.

Because there was time remaining prior to the Provost's arrival, there was a brief discussion on the agenda item number five, regarding the evaluation of President Capilouto by faculty. There were a few comments. Pienkowski **moved** to defer the discussion until Wood was present to provide input into the discussion. Christ **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

8. Provost Christine Riordan

The Chair thanked Provost Christine Riordan for attending. Provost Riordan spoke about the topics below with SC members and took questions during her comments. Due to the interest in the college distribution of endowed chairs, Provost Riordan suggested that she share the report on faculty hiring with SC members.

- 2014 – 202 Strategic Plan update
- Value-Based Financial Model
- Budget Update
- Faculty Development Series
- Enrollment Updates

There being no further discussion, Harling **moved** to adjourn and Anderson **seconded**. There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned via **unanimous** consent at 5:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lee X. Blonder,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Anderson, Blonder, Brown, Christ, Day, Debski, Harling, Hippisley, McCamy, McCormick, Pienkowski, Watt, Wood and Wilson.

Invited guests present: Matthew Giancarlo, Deanna Sellnow and Stephen Testa.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, February 21, 2014.