

Senate Council  
January 10, 2011

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, January 10, 2011 in 103 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Chair Hollie I. Swanson called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:06 pm. Those present introduced themselves, including new members Yanarella and Wasilkowski. (Wermeling was out of town.)

1. Minutes from December 6 and Announcements

The Chair offered a variety of announcements. An open forum for faculty regarding the presidential search process will take place on January 28 at 8:30 am, put on by the Presidential Search Committee. SC members discussed the forum and the Chair's recent contact with Herald-Leader reporters. SC members suggested that the Chair send the faculty's comments from the University Senate-sponsored forums to the reporters, and she agreed **[AI]**.

Reporting on a recent meeting with Provost's Liaison Greissman and Provost Subbaswamy, the Chair opined that it could be helpful for the Provost to attend SC meetings after every University Senate (Senate) meeting. After some discussion, SC members agreed to offer a standing invitation to the Provost to attend the final portion of the SC meetings following Senate meetings.

The Chair read a brief passage from a book she was reading about managing a non-profit organization regarding dissent being essential for effective decision making. This moved into a discussion of whether or not there is a metric of square feet per funding used to determine how research space was allocated, and how the SC should be involved, if at all. It was determined that the SC should discuss the issue with the Provost after the February Senate meeting **[AI]**.

In response to the Chair, Kelly responded that the committee he chaired, the Senate's Research Committee (SRC), could have the issue presented to them, and the SRC could determine whether or not they should weigh in. Randall wondered if there was firm evidence that such decisions were being made, and there seemed to be a consensus among other SC members that there was such evidence available, in some form or another. SC members decided to invite Emery Wilson, dean of the College of Medicine (ME), to a meeting prior to the February Senate meeting, if possible **[AI]**.

Moving to other issues, the Chair commented that the ME Reorganization Committee had been scheduled to meet during SC meetings, so she had been unable to attend most of the reorganization meetings. The time and date had been changed to accommodate some other members of the committee, so the Chair will now be able to attend ME Reorganization Committee meetings on a regular basis. She noted that her intent was to remind committee members that her participation included ensuring that the faculty voice is heard in the decision-making process.

Regarding the minutes from December 6, Grossman asked that the section pertaining to the transfer of graduate credit via Employee Education Benefit be changed, and offered suggested language. The Chair asked Greissman about the Provost's timeline, and Greissman replied that the Provost was working on it, and he hoped to have a response to the suggestion in the next few months.

Grossman **moved** to approve the minutes from December 6, 2010 as amended, and Yanarella **seconded**. There being no objection, the minutes were **approved** as amended.

SC members then spent quite a bit of time identifying and approving various faculty as nominees for the following committees: Health Care Clinical Sciences Area Advisory Committee; Social Sciences Area Advisory Committee; Summative Evaluation of the Dean of the Graduate School; Summative Evaluation of the Dean of the College of Engineering; Periodic Program Review for the College of Communications and Information Studies; Periodic Program Review for the Graduate School; Periodic Program Review for the College of Medicine; Periodic Program Review for the College of Pharmacy; and Periodic Program Review for the College of Social Work.

During discussions, Randall commented that ME had recently completed an accreditation review (Liaison Committee on Medical Education, or (LCME), and wondered if the information gleaned from the LCME review could be used in lieu of a committee to conduct a periodic program review for ME. The Chair agreed to ask **[AI]**, and SC members chose to identify names in case the periodic program review still needed to be conducted.

## 2. Old Business

### a. Action Items

The Chair commented that action item number 28 ("Invite the Board of Trustees' chair to a SC meeting.") had been completed. She noted that, regarding, action item number 47 ("Invite Ruth Beattie to speak about DL courses.") and 48 ("Invite Dean Kornbluh to explain A&S's DL plans."), Dean Kornbluh had offered to attend a SC meeting. Yanarella commented that it would be helpful to have a discussion regarding distance learning with both Beattie and Kornbluh present. SC members agreed **[AI]**.

Peek expressed some concerns about transfer credit, and there were other comments offered. Greissman suggested that the SC learn more about Quality Matters, a faculty-driven consortia that trains and mentors faculty in mentoring and evaluating distance learning projects. SC members agreed **[AI]**.

### 3. August 2010 KCTCS List of Candidates for Credentials

Theilin **moved** that the elected faculty senators approve the KCTCS August 2010 list of candidates for credentials, for submission to the Senate and then through the President to the Board of Trustees, as the recommended degrees to be conferred by the Board. Steiner **seconded**. There being no discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

### 4. Provost Subbaswamy's Response to SC's Cost-Savings/Revenue-Generating Ideas

The Chair asked SC members to weigh in on Provost Subbaswamy's responses. SC members all quickly agreed that the response should be posted online **[AI]**. Some SC members were not satisfied with many of the responses in the document, and Steiner suggested that the insufficient response be highlighted to the Senate.

Yanarella and Wasilkowski commended the suggestions offered by the SC, and agreed with pushing further. Wasilkowski offered some additional comments, and the Chair asked if he would take the initiative and collect comments from SC members about the Provost's response, in preparation for sending a SC response to the Provost's response **[AI]**. She asked SC members to share thoughts with Wasilkowski via email if someone thought the Provost's response was insufficient.

Anderson opined that the comments should be made positively, so that ideas and suggestions are included along with complaints.

6. Roundtable Discussion on SC Progress Toward Summer Retreats' Goals

The Chair invited John Rawls, chair of the Senate's Academic Facilities Committee (SAFC), to share information on the progress of the SAFC, which he did. Towards the end of his report and SC comments, he noted that he would be bringing the SAFC's report/suggestions on the Provost's building priorities to the SC during the January 31 meeting.

SC members all commended Rawls and the SAFC on its efforts thus far this academic year, particularly in light of the fact that the SAFC had been dormant for some time prior to the 2010 – 2011 academic year.

5. SC Feedback on December Commencement

Those SC members who commented reported having heard only positive comments about the first December commencement. Randall suggested there be a reception after each of the undergraduate and graduate commencements. The Chair said that she suggested that a graduate student be chosen to offer the commencement address during graduate commencement, similar to the undergraduate student address.

The time being 4:56 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Hollie I. Swanson,  
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Anderson, Blonder, Grossman, Kelly, Nokes, Peek, Randall, Steiner, Swanson, Thelin, Wasilkowski and Yanarella.

Provost's Liaison present: Greissman.

Invited guests present: John Rawls.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Thursday, January 20, 2011.