

Senate Council  
March 24, 2014

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, March 24, 2014 at 3 pm 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 3:03 pm.

1. Minutes from March 3, 2014 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no one requested any changes to the minutes. There being no changes to the minutes from March 17, 2014, the Chair declared them **approved by unanimous consent**. There were a few announcements. The Chair said that she received a request for faculty to serve on the search committee for a new dean of the college of dentistry. She received a few nominations from SC members and said that other suggestions should be sent to her via email.

The Chair reported that the Graduate School changed the wording for the policy on parameters for participation of committee members remotely and added explicit reference to master's committees. She also offered speaker, time and date information about the next two guest for the strategic planning speaker series. The Chair informed SC members that she and others received information in the past couple of days that post-doctoral students were receiving notices that they would be evicted as of late June. A couple of SC members have sent email inquiries to Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Eric Monday; the Chair said she would share information when it arrives.

Those present introduced themselves.

2. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) – Greg Wasilkowski, Chair  
i. Proposed Transfer of the MS in Manufacturing Systems Engineering from the College of Engineering to the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering  
Guest Greg Wasilkowski explained the proposal to transfer the MS in Manufacturing Systems Engineering from the College of Engineering to the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering. There were a couple of comments by SC members. The Chair reported the motion from the SAOSC and solicited a motion from SC members to endorse the transfer the MS in Manufacturing Systems Engineering from the College of Engineering to the Department of Mechanical Engineering, within the College of Engineering. Harling **moved** thusly and Pienkowski **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair suggested moving to agenda item number three because Jones and Hippiisley had not yet arrived to present the items coming from their respective committees. There were no objections.

3. UK's Non-Discrimination Policy - Proposed Change

Guests Brandy Reeves (Public Health Admissions), Seth Riker (International Center) and Kristen Mark (ED/Kinesiology and Health Promotion) shared information about the initiative to change UK's non-discrimination policy to add "gender identity" and "gender expression." Anderson **moved** to endorse adding "gender identity" and "gender expression" to UK's non-discrimination policy, as well as to applicable *Administrative Regulations* and *Governing Regulations*. Christ **seconded**. There were questions from SC members; no one spoke against the proposal and there were a number of comments

about the appropriate way to move forward. Discussion clarified that the motion meant the SC endorsed the change, but would wait until revised language was developed by the Regulations Review Committee prior to placing the issue on a University Senate meeting agenda.

There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with seven in favor and one opposed.

b. Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) - Davy Jones, Chair

i. Proposed Change to Senate Rules 5.2.4.2 ("Excused Absences")

Guest Davy Jones, chair of the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC), explained that the SREC has determined that the intent of the language in *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2* is that when a student is missing so many classes even though they are excused, the student will not get the education from the class that is needed and the absence may be harming the class, particularly if cumulative information from one lesson to the next is required to stay on track. If a student has more than 25% excused absences, the instructor of record can cause the instructor to remove the student from the course; a paraphrase of the language, however, implied that it was up to the student to withdraw. The SREC modified the language to make the intent clear that the instructor of record can direct a dean to impose a W for a course. The previous language was somewhat ambiguous. Jones said the revised language further made clear that a student can always petition for a W in any course for any reason already, not just in cases of excused absences. Jones added that the SREC identified a problem in that the language did not address situations where a student has a mixture of excused and unexcused absences and said the SREC was looking to the SC to offer a suggestion on how to resolve, such as the SC deciding that if 25% of classes were missed for any reason, withdrawal could be triggered by the instructor.

There were a lot of questions and comments about the proposed change. Concerns were raised about an automatic trigger affecting a student's status with regard to financial aid and situations in which a student is able to remain in good standing despite missing 25% of class meetings. Jones reiterated that the language as proposed did not require an instructor to give a W for the course, only that it now explicitly permitted it. He added that the rule only applied to classes where attendance is required and part of the final grade. SC members spoke for and against the proposed change. Day stated that the language was very clear that a W could be imposed but there was no follow up acknowledgement that a student could use the appeals process to object to such an action.

Pienkowski **moved** the SC recommend that the Senate approve the modified language of *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2* as presented. Watt **seconded**. Anderson **moved** to amend the motion so that that the language in *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2* is revised to include a clear reference to the University Appeals Board (UAB), by adding "or appeal to the UAB" at the end of the last sentence, regarding a student's options. After a couple of comments, Wilson **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with six in favor and two opposed. The Chair noted the amendment would be added to the main motion.

There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken on the motion that the SC recommend the Senate approve the modified language of *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2* with a revision to include a clear reference to the University Appeals Board (UAB), by adding "or appeal to the UAB" at the end of the last sentence, regarding a student's options. The motion **passed** with one opposed and one abstaining.

Jones noted that the issue of a mix of excused and unexcused absences was still unresolved. After brief discussion, the Chair tasked the SREC with developing language for a proposed new rule.

ii. Disagreement between Home Department and Cross-listing Department about Keeping or Removing a Cross-listing

Jones explained that when department that homes a course (unit A) agrees to cross-list the course with that of another department (unit B), the faculty in unit B may not have an opportunity to receive all the approvals necessary from faculty and faculty bodies for a new course proposal, although it meets the standard for approving a cross-listing. If unit A drops the cross-listing or drops the course altogether, unit B is then in a position where unit B's faculty and associated college faculty may not have had an opportunity to review the course. If it is a really controversial course, the problem could be exacerbated. Jones added that the SREC also wanted the SC to direct the SREC in how to clarify or create language to allow a mechanism for unit A, so that once unit A has given permission for unit B to cross-list a course and unit B does something to the course that unit A does not approve of, unit A has a mechanism to drop the cross-listing with unit B.

After brief discussion, it was agreed by those offering an opinion that the SREC should reconsider the language, so that it clarifies the difference between dropping cross-listing so that two courses are no longer linked, and dropping a course so that only one course of a cross-listed pair remains in existence.

c. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) - Andrew Hippisley, Chair

i. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking

Hippisley, chair of the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC), explained the proposal and said the **motion** from the SAPC was to approve the establishment of a new Undergraduate Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking, in the College of Communication and Information. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was necessary.

Christ commented that A-H 503 did not exist and suggested that Guest Derek Lane (Communication and Information/Communication) contact the School of Art and Visual Studies to identify a course that fits the rubric. Lane agreed to do so. Brown commented that there were courses in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment that seemed to be a good fit, but were not included. After a comment by Pienkowski, Lane also agreed to update the effective date in the proposal and send in a revised version with those two changes.

When there were no further comments, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ii. Proposed New Graduate Certificate in Advanced Horticulture

Hippisley explained the proposal for a new Graduate Certificate in Advanced Horticulture. Guest Robert Geneve (Agriculture/Horticulture) assisted in answering questions from SC members.

Wood expressed concern that the proposal allowed a student already enrolled in the existing Master's in Science in Integrated Plant and Soil Sciences to earn the proposed new graduate certificate by virtue of completing the master's degree requirements. Wood clarified that earning a graduate certificate and then being admitted into a related graduate degree program and transferring in nine credit hours from the certificate was far different from earning the certificate while already admitted as a master's degree or PhD student. That was never the intent of the Senate's creation of graduate certificates.

There was extensive discussion regarding possible wording changes to the section on the target student population. The intent was to restrict participation to post-baccalaureate students while still satisfying the requirements of the GREAT PLAINS AG\*IDEA consortium, in which students from member institutions across the country can also enroll in the certificate. There was then a lot of discussion

regarding the as-yet-unapproved courses for the certificate, which will be shell courses through which faculty from other institutions can teach and UK students who will receive UK credit for the course. Geneve explained that a variety of UK administrators signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) at the behest of the Midwestern Consortium. Wood suggested that it would be very helpful to see the language in the MOU.

Watt **moved** to send the proposal for a new Graduate Certificate in Advanced Horticulture back to the Senate's Academic Programs Committee. Day **seconded**. Wood clarified that the two issues to address are as follows: clarify the relationship of the proposed new certificate to those students currently enrolled in the Masters of Science in Integrated Plant and Soil Sciences; and address the issue of offering a certificate by faculty who do not have joint graduate faculty status at UK. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 4. Provost Christine Riordan

The Chair reported that the Senate Council office sent the SC agenda to the Provost's office the previous week. The Chair learned a few hours prior to the day's meeting, though, that Provost Christine Riordan was travelling and would not be in attendance.

Wood **moved** to adjourn and Day **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lee X. Blonder,  
Senate Council Chair

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

Invited guests present: Fazleena Badurdeen, Robert Geneve, Davy Jones, Derek Lane, Kristen Mark, Brandy Reeves, Seth Riker and Greg Wasilkowski.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, March 28, 2014.