

Senate Council  
March 4, 2019

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, March 4, 2019 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 Jennifer Bird-Pollan called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

1. Minutes from February 25, 2019 and Announcements

The Chair offered a few announcements.

Sheila Brothers is out of the office for several days, so Joanie Ett-Mims from the Senate Council office will be recording the minutes for today's meeting. The Chair indicated that she would call the name of each member during votes to ensure an accurate recording in the minutes. At the Chair's request, all those present then introduced themselves.

The Chair offered a reminder that there would be no SC meeting held on Monday, March 11, 2019. The members' previous responses regarding availability to meet indicated there would not be quorum on that day, due to spring break.

The Chair said that some editorial comments had been received for the minutes from February 25, 2019. There being **no objections**, the minutes from February 25, 2019 were **approved** as amended by **unanimous consent**.

2. August Degree List Approval Process - Provost David Blackwell

The Chair welcomed Provost David Blackwell. Provost Blackwell thanked the group for accommodating his schedule and explained his request regarding the August degree list approval process, with additional input from Guest Kim Taylor, registrar. Taylor explained that since the degree application deadline was recently changed to be no more than two months prior to the conferral dates in December, May, and August, the Registrar's office has encountered an issue with the August degree list. Since this list must be approved by the Senate Council, Senate, and Board of Trustees (BOT), any students whose degrees are conferred by the Registrar's office over the summer would not receive their diplomas or their official transcripts until after the September BOT meeting. The request is that the SC consider the degree list prior to the August conferral deadline (August 3, 2019). The Provost emphasized the importance of this change, as it may impact the ability of these students to sit for professional licensing, to start a job, or to be commissioned in the armed forces as an officer.

The Chair asked if there were any questions regarding the Provost's request. Grossman asked for clarification of the specific request being made of the SC, which Taylor provided. Specifically, Blackwell and Taylor are asking for the Senate Council to act on behalf of the Senate to approve the degree list either before the August graduation date, or as soon as possible after that date. Brion asked when the SC would be able to review the list of degree candidates, and Taylor responded with soon after the July 1 degree application deadline. Brion noted there would still be an issue with the BOT September meeting date, which Provost Blackwell and Taylor both acknowledged. The Provost offered the possibility of the BOT's Executive Committee approving the degree list on their behalf prior to the September meeting. Tagavi asked for the specific cause of the current issue, and Taylor explained that the problem already existed with the previous system of an early and late degree list for August candidates. SC members briefly discussed moving the degree application deadline again, but Taylor explained that the current deadline had been selected to give students as much time as possible to

apply for graduation. Brion asked if the SC could approve the list on behalf of the Senate and Jones confirmed that the SC can act with notification to the Senate, with five members to make quorum, since only elected faculty senators vote on the degree list, and there are only nine elected faculty senators on the Senate Council.

Based on the questions raised, Provost Blackwell recommended postponing further discussion of this request until the next SC meeting to give him time to confer with his team. He committed his office to providing an honorarium and travel expenses, if necessary, for any Senate Council members who would be able to attend a summer SC meeting. Tagavi noted that the provision mentioned by Jones is typically only invoked for unforeseen circumstances, but this issue will be a standing issue every year. The Chair asked members to submit any further questions to her within the next couple of days which will then be submitted to the Provost. Grossman noted that the July 1, 2019 deadline is not able to be changed for this year but perhaps could be in the future, which Provost Blackwell and Taylor both acknowledged to be true. Brion offered her sense that SC wants to ensure that students are certified in a timely manner and will do what they can to help. The Provost stated that his team would work to identify the issues driving this request, and he would discuss options for addressing the issue of the BOT meeting with the President before continuing this discussion with the SC at the March 25, 2019 meeting. Provost Blackwell thanked the SC for their support and left the meeting.

### 3. Legislative Update - President's Chief of Staff Bill Swinford

Bill Swinford, President's Chief of Staff, attended to update SC members on a variety of legislative issues, including the 30-day 2019 legislative session, which was currently 23 days underway. Swinford stated that this is a non-budget year and the university did not have any specific requests, but they are tracking approximately 350 pieces of legislation that could have some kind of impact across campus and have been pleased so far. Some examples include bills regarding sanctuary cities and universities, the ability to carry concealed weapons on campus, and the use of Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) money for use in dual credit purposes in high school.

Swinford invited questions or concerns regarding this work. Blonder mentioned an executive order to be signed by President Trump regarding free-speech on campuses. Swinford stated that UK has not seen an official document yet, but that UK's free speech regulations are configured well and have recently become much more expansive. Speculation surrounding this particular document indicates that it is focused more on independent institutions that receive federal funds, rather than public universities.

McCormick mentioned HB 387 regarding open records. Swinford explained that the bill relates to individuals who are not residents of KY requesting documents related to economic development. UK does not have any concerns about the bill in its current form, unless something were to change before the end of the session. Cross clarified that the prohibition on extraterritorial access would be on any record, not just economic development. McCormick noted this could then affect any UK students who are not KY residents, and Jones offered the specific example of a Kernel reporter.

There being no other questions or comments, the Chair thanked Swinford and he departed.

### 4. Old Business

#### a. Proposed New BA in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies (same proposal)

The Chair explained that this proposal was being brought back to the SC, with a recommendation from Doug Michael, parliamentarian, to make a motion to amend something previously adopted. Although

the SC voted at the February 25, 2019 meeting to approve this proposal, comments offered during the meeting had since been considered by the proposer. As a result of those comments, the proposer had produced a revised version of the proposal to present to SC. Grossman **moved** to amend something previously adopted and Cross **seconded**. The SC discussed the original proposal and whether the motion made at the February meeting had been to approve the proposal, pending the requested amendments. Tagavi raised a point of clarification, regarding what was supposed to happen if the proposer did not revise the proposal as discussed. The Chair indicated that this was not made clear in the motion, but the proposer had agreed to revise the proposal as discussed. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one opposed.

Cramer and Guest Kristin Maxwell explained the revised version of the proposal submitted to the SC earlier that afternoon. There were several questions and comments regarding the proposed revisions to the admission requirement. Grossman **moved** to recommend approval of the BA in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies as amended in the documents circulated at the meeting and Cramer **seconded**. There was additional discussion regarding the proposed revisions, and Maxwell, along with other guests from the College of Education, agreed that the proposal should require students to take and pass the courses listed for admission to upper division standing. Cross **moved** to amend the proposal to add the information that students must take and pass the courses listed for admission to upper division standing and Brion **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously. The Chair then called for discussion on the **motion** to recommend approval of the BA in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies as amended. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously.

b. Proposed Changes to BSN Suspension Policies (Senate Rules 5.3.2.6.C & D, "College of Nursing") (same proposal)

i. Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs

ii. Behavioral Standards in Patient Care: Commitments To Performance

iii. BSN Student Handbook 2018-19

iv. Kentucky Board of Nursing (320 regulation)

v. Kentucky Board of Nursing (360 regulation)

The Chair explained that the proposal itself had not changed since the SC reviewed it at the February 25, 2019 meeting but that additional information had been provided regarding the rationale for the proposed changes to the program. The motion had been tabled at the February 25 meeting, but by operation of Robert's Rules, was back on the floor at this time. Guest Darlene Welsh offered a further explanation of the rationale for dismissing a student from the program following two failed courses ("C" or better is passing).

The Chair said that the original **motion** from the SAASC was a recommendation to approve the proposal requesting a change to *SR 5.3.2.6.C.,D* with the proposed revision (including a reference to Section C.3 in Section D). Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair called for debate. SC members debated potential revisions to the language of the proposal to ensure fairness and clarity. Cross **moved** to amend the proposal in three ways: the requirement should state a "*C or higher*" in sections C.2 and C.3 on the document, should clarify "completed attempt" in sections C.3 and D, and the dismissal language under section C should include "subject to appeal." Brion **seconded**. Tagavi noted students in the program may not understand that the repeat option listed in the Senate Rules (SR) does not apply to them, and the SR should advise students to check with their program regarding eligibility for this rule. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously.

The Chair then called for discussion on the **motion** from the SAASC to recommend approval of the proposed changes to the BSN suspension policies as amended. Brion stated her appreciation of the balance needed to protect patients and offered her support of the proposal. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously. Welsh agreed to revise the proposal as suggested.

## 5. Committee Reports

### a. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Aaron Cramer, Chair

#### i. Proposed New BA in Public Policy

Cramer explained the proposal. He stated that the SAPC had considered the potential impact of the proposed new degree on the enrollment in the Political Science program, but it was clear no curricular overlap between the majors existed. The Chair introduced Guests Genia Toma and Ron Zimmer from the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, who answered several questions of fact from SC members. The Chair explained that a discussion between representatives from the Martin School and Political Science, along with herself and the Undergraduate Council chair, had resulted in the department of Political Science writing a letter offering Political Science courses to be used in the proposed BA. In response to a concern regarding the number of new faculty needed for this program, Toma assured SC members that enrollment in the program would initially be limited, as only one new faculty member will be hired to help with the launch of the program.

The Chair said that the **motion** from the SAPC was a recommendation that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new BA degree: Public Policy, in the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration within the Graduate School. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. Brion requested that the Chair add a letter to the proposal describing the meeting that took place between the Martin School and Political Science, and the Chair agreed. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously.

## 6. Tentative Senate Agenda for March 18, 2019

SC members reviewed the tentative Senate agenda for March 18, 2019, and the Chair asked Provost's Liaison Turner to explain the Student Wellness Initiative (item #4 on the tentative agenda). There was discussion regarding the timing of Provost Blackwell's presentation about this initiative, and consideration was given to the Provost attending SC prior to presenting at a Senate meeting. Brion expressed concern for the length of Senate agendas and the possibility of the Provost not having the time he requires for the presentation. The Chair noted that Senate agendas will most likely become longer as the semester progresses but agreed to a recommendation that the presentation slides be posted online for anyone who may need to leave if the Senate meeting runs late.

Tagavi noted that item #9 on the SC agenda (Presentation by Student Campaign UK Divest) was a potential agenda item for the Senate meeting. The Chair noted that there are no more action items on the rest of the SC agenda, unless a member makes a motion to add an item to the agenda.

Cross **moved** to approve the Senate agenda for March 18, 2019 and Cramer **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with one abstained.

## 7. Course Registration Windows and Non-Degree-Seeking Students

Christine Harper, associate provost for enrollment management, attended to continue the discussion regarding early course registration for non-degree seeking students. Harper explained that since non-degree seeking students are typically not located locally, marketing online courses to these students in

advance is critical. Opening course registration for these students will allow them to complete a stream-lined process earlier. However, the intent is not to disadvantage degree-seeking students who want to enroll in these same courses. For summer 2019, each college has been asked to identify courses for which there are no enrollment issues. Registration will be held and capped at a certain number for non-degree seeking students and the remaining seats will be held for degree-seeking students. The intention is to have this process much more structured for the fall 2019 semester. If any enrollment issues are encountered with these courses, more options will be opened for degree-seeking students.

The Chair explained the request is for a change to the calendar to open registration for non-degree seeking students on March 18, 2019 and asked for questions of fact. There were no questions. Grossman **moved** to approve the change to the calendar, with the assurance that degree-seeking students will not be denied a seat in these courses due to the enrollment of non-degree seeking students. Cramer **seconded**. Brion questioned how degree-seeking students who are denied seats in these courses will be identified, if by chance the plan to hold seats for these students fails. Harper explained these students will be identifiable via course wait-lists, and the colleges and Registrar's office are prepared to be flexible. Brion noted that as courses fill up, degree-seeking students might not opt be placed on wait-lists, and these students would not be identifiable. Brion recommended students be advised to request to be added to wait-lists. Grossman requested a report from the Registrar's office in the fall regarding the outcome of this approach.

A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously.

#### 8. Composition of Planned Review Committee on Gatton College of Business and Economics' Institute for the Study of Free Enterprise

SC members had been asked to provide nominees for members of the committee, the creation of which was approved at the February 25, 2019 SC meeting. SC members nominated six potential members for the committee. SC members discussed the minimum number of members for the committee and decided on five members, including a committee chair, but agreed that seven members is acceptable if all six nominees agree to serve.

Cross **moved** to create the committee with a minimum of five members, including the chair, from the list of nominees, with the possibility of seven members if all accept. Cramer **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** unanimously.

Jones questioned the exact charge of the committee, and the Chair noted the committee members will be invited to meet with the SC to have this discussion.

#### 9. Presentation by Student Campaign UK Divest

Students Cameron Baller and Lidya Azad introduced themselves, and the Chair requested another round of introductions from those present. The students gave a presentation to SC members, explaining the process of and rationale for divestment from all major fossil fuel corporations and re-investment in sustainable investments. The presentation included information on institutions, states, and countries that have already divested from fossil fuels, along with the impact and consequences of this type of divestment.

The students outlined the approach they have taken to marketing their campaign so far and explained that they are seeking support for their petition. They requested the opportunity to speak to the Senate to educate more faculty regarding the campaign and seek their support.

SC members had several questions and comments for the students, including concerns that a presentation to the Senate would not achieve the outcome the students are hoping for. Brion felt that a petition being passed around the room during a Senate meeting would be disruptive, and Hall added that there are more effective ways of engaging faculty.

Grossman **moved** to add the student presentation on divestment to the end of the Senate agenda for March 18, 2019, and Blonder **seconded**. During discussion, Tagavi proposed limiting the time of the presentation, but McCormick noted that if time is assigned to one agenda item, time must be assigned to all agenda items. Cramer added that Governing Regulations would allow the students to attend the Senate meeting and request the privilege of the floor without being formally added to the agenda. Jones and Blonder noted that a process exists through which the students could obtain signatures from ten senators to have their presentation officially added to a Senate agenda. SC members discussed the precedent that might be set by adding a student group presentation to the Senate agenda and how student group requests would be handled by the SC in the future.

A **vote** was taken and two were in favor, two were opposed, and two abstained. To break the tie, the Chair was obligated to vote and the motion ultimately **failed**. The Chair recommended that the SC establish a policy regarding what items the SC will advance to the Senate agendas and asked the students to come back to the SC after that time. The Chair also offered to announce the students at the Senate meeting, giving Senators the opportunity to speak to the students following the meeting.

#### 10. Faculty Evaluation of the President

The Chair notified SC members that Osterhage, SC vice chair, will lead the evaluation of the President for 2018-2019. The Chair noted that the questions have not changed and asked if there were any proposed changes to the questions. No changes were proposed. The Chair requested two additional people to support Osterhage in administering the survey, and two SC members were nominated. Jones asked about the public access to the statistical results and comments, and the Chair responded that the results of the questions will be public but only the President will have access to the comments.

Grossman **moved** to nominate the two SC members mentioned to help Osterhage administer the survey, and Hall **seconded**. The motion **passed** unanimously.

There being no additional business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,  
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Cramer, Cross, Grossman, Hall, McCormick, Osterhage, Spear, Tagavi, and Walker.

Provost's Liaison present: Turner.

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Invited guests present: Lidya Azad, Cameron Baller, David Blackwell, Karen Butler, Ralph Crystal, Herman Farrell, Christine Harper, Larry Holloway, Davy Jones, Kristin Maxwell, Jackie Rogers, Margaret Schroeder, Bill, Swinford, Kim Taylor, Genia Toma, Annie Davis Weber, Darlene Welsh, and Ron Zimmer.

Prepared by Joanie Ett-Mims on Wednesday, March 6, 2019.