The SC met in special session at 3 pm on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 in 107 Main Building. Below is a record of what transpired. No votes were taken.

The Chair welcomed Provost Tim Tracy. [The meeting was called as a response to the announcement earlier in the day that the Provost would be leaving the University at the end of December.] The Chair explained that the purpose for the brief meeting was to give SC members and Provost Tracy a chance to talk about ongoing joint Provost-SC initiatives.

Guest Tracy began by thanking SC members for all the work done for students, and by extension the work done for the Commonwealth. He noted his appreciation for the Chair’s willingness to call a special meeting so he could have an opportunity to share his thoughts about the initiatives that he/his office and the SC have worked on together.

Provost Tracy went over the current joint projects, including the Blue-Ribbon Committee on Graduate Education, the work on simplifying faculty title series, and the review of UK Core. He talked about the need to create pathways and assessments for students who approach UK with a lengthy history of experience outside the University. He also mentioned his belief that UK must be able to train students for continuous learning and for a career that would likely span multiple, different jobs.

SC members asked a few questions, which the Provost answered to the best of his ability. Noting the time and that he needed to walk across campus for another meeting, the Provost said he would still be on campus for a little while and he valued being able to continue working with SC. He said he was blessed to have a great relationship with the Chair and commented that it was his assumption that SC members knew that the Chair has been doing an incredible job. He asserted that faculty would continue to accomplish great things and that he hoped that in a few years he would be able to look back and be able to see all the great things that were accomplished collaboratively with SC.

After the Provost departed, the Chair noted that she also had a meeting that started at 3:30 pm for which she needed to leave. Those present introduced themselves for the benefit of a Kernel reporter who was present. There were a handful of comments from SC members, including positive comments about having been able to partner with Provost Tracy in meaningful ways.

At 3:40 pm, the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted by Katherine M. McCormick,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Bailey, Bird-Pollan, Childress, Cross, McCormick, Mazur, Tagavi, and Wood.

Invited guest present: Tim Tracy.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Wednesday, November 1, 2017.