

Senate Council
November 4, 2013

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, November 4, 2013 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 3:05 pm.

1. Minutes from October 21, 2013 and Announcements

The Chair said that no corrections had been received for the minutes. There being no objections, the minutes from October 21, 2013 were **approved by unanimous consent**.

The Chair reported that Provost Christine Riordan had hosted a lunch meeting the prior week for current and past SC chairs. The Chair attended, along with past chairs Ernie Yanarella, Kaveh Tagavi, David Randall and Hollie Swanson. The possibility of an outside firm with expertise in reviewing academic senate processes could be hired by the Chair, in consultation with the SC. The idea came up during discussion on the volume of work performed by the Senate body and the Senate Council office. The SC will be consulted prior to any action; the Chair said she would want any consulting firm to have sufficient experience with faculty bodies to render it capable of providing a valuable opinion.

Due to the presence of invited guests, the Chair suggested those present introduce themselves, as well as that the agenda be reordered. There were no objections.

3. Committee Reports

a. Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) – Andrew Hippisley, Chair

i. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Appalachian Studies

Hippisley, chair of the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC), said that the motion from the SAPC was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new undergraduate certificate in Appalachian Studies, in the Appalachian Center, within the College of Arts and Sciences. Hippisley explained the proposal. There were a few questions from SC members. At the end of discussion, it was agreed that Guest Ann Kingsolver (director, Appalachian Studies Program) would make the two changes below to the proposal and resubmit it the following day, for approval by the Senate on November 11.

- Clarify the number of hours of coursework a student must take and state that at least one hour of practicum or experiential education, which must be approved by the director.
- Reword the description of the capstone to clarify that a variety of types of project types are acceptable.

Wood **moved** that the SC send the revised version of the proposed new undergraduate certificate: Appalachian Studies, in the Appalachian Center, within the College of Arts and Sciences. Wasilkowski **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ii. Proposed New BA/BS in Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies

Hippisley said 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/BS program in Writing, Rhetoric and

Digital Studies, in the College of Arts & Sciences. He described the proposal. Wasilkowski asked about the difference between the BA and the BS in Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies (WRD). Hippisley replied that the BA has more humanities requirements and the BS has more science requirements; the BS is designed for student from the sciences who may be inclined earn the BS major and who will have already fulfilled the science requirements.

Wood expressed concern that the unit home will be the College of Arts and Sciences as opposed to the Department of English. She thought that all them program faculty were already in the Department of English. Although a multidisciplinary program or certificate could reside at the college level, the proposed new BA/BS in WRD should be homed in the Department of English; after the new Department in Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies was established, the BA/BS in WRD could be transferred to the new department. Guests Adam Banks (AS/English) and Roxanne Mountford (AS/English) explained the history of the Division of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Media and the Department of English, as well as the submission of a proposal for a new Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies. Other SC members expressed the same concern.

There were two suggestions offered as solutions: locate the proposed new BA/BS in WRD in the Department of English until the proposed new Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies is created; or hold the proposal in the Senate Council office until the proposal for a new Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies is reviewed, and the two proposals can be reviewed by the SC and Senate in tandem.

Debski **moved** to table the proposal for a new BA/BS in Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies until such time that the chair of the Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee can report on the proposal to create a new Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies. Brion **seconded**. After brief discussion, a Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Debski commented that when the proposal returns to the SC, she will want to discuss if the degree offers sufficient expertise about a content area, in addition to the writing skills.

iii. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Clinical Healthcare Management

The motion from the SAPC recommended that the Senate approve the establishment of a new undergraduate certificate in Management Healthcare, in the Division of Clinical Leadership and Management within the Department of Clinical Studies, within the College of Health Sciences. Hippisley explained the proposal. There was brief discussion. Guests Ray Hill (HS/Clinical Science) and Geza Bruckner (HS/Clinical Science) answered questions from SC members. Hill clarified that the current name ("Clinical Healthcare Management") of the proposed new certificate was suggested by College of Public Health Dean Steve Wyatt. (The certificate was originally proposed as "Management in Healthcare.")

Wood asked that the proposal be modified to reflect that the certificate was not available to post-baccalaureate students, but was open to undergraduate non-degree seeking students. In response to Bruckner, Wood opined that there was an error on the form that needed to be corrected. The Chair asked that the revised proposal be submitted the following day, and include the correct, current name. Bruckner responded that he could provide an updated version by that time.

Wasilkowski **moved** to recommend (with a positive recommendation) that the Senate approve the establishment of a new undergraduate certificate in Clinical Healthcare Management, in the Division of

Clinical Leadership and Management within the Department of Clinical Studies, within the College of Health Sciences. Watt **seconded**. Brion **offered a friendly amendment** to add that a revised proposal will be submitted with the correct name noted throughout and more definition on the target audience. There being no further discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

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

i. Proposed Merger of the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Pharmacology and the Graduate Center for Nutritional Sciences into a New, Single Department of Pharmacology and Nutritional Sciences

Wasilkowski, chair of the Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC), explained the proposal. There were a few questions from SC members. Guest Lisa Cassis (chair, Department of Molecular and Biomedical Pharmacology) stated that there would be no change to the curriculum of any of the degrees offered. Wood asked about the graduate faculty; Cassis replied that the graduate faculty for each program would remain as is, with no changes. Cassis asked if a revised proposal was necessary, but Wood thought that orally clarifying that each program will maintain a director of graduate studies and its own graduate faculty, during the Senate meeting, would be sufficient.

After additional, brief discussion, Palli **moved** to send (with a positive recommendation from the SC) to the Senate for endorsement the proposed merger of the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Pharmacology and the Graduate Center for Nutritional Sciences into a new, single Department of Pharmacology and Nutritional Sciences. Day **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

2. Old Business

a. Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 5.4.1.10 ("Late Addition to Degree List")

The Chair reminded SC members that the body decided to create a hardship rule after discussions at the June retreat. Students currently can be added to a degree list if there is an administrative error, but this past spring there were two instances in which a student who did not submit an application to graduate prior to the deadline claimed they would suffer hardship if they were not added to the degree list. The SC's language was sent to the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC), which had now sent final draft language back to the SC. There was extensive discussion about the language among SC members, particularly about requiring participation of the dean in the process, as well as whom to hold responsible for submitting a hardship petition by the deadline.

Debski **moved** to remove a dean from the hardship petition process and Watt **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **failed** with three in favor and seven opposed.

Palli **moved** to remove the sentence beginning with "The dean shall also add." Brion **seconded**. Wood **offered a friendly amendment** to add language about the dean's office submitting the petition to the Senate Council office, with the dean's approval. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

b. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Non-Faculty Membership

SC members discussed the parliamentary procedure to reconsider motion from the June 13, 2103 SC retreat, which would have required the SC to put the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Non-Faculty Membership on a Senate agenda prior to January 2014.

[Snippet from June 13, 2013 SC minutes: "A vote was taken on the motion that the SC accept the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Membership and Voting Status (with the removal of "elected")

when modifying “student” in the recommendations), and place it (as amended) on an agenda for Senate discussion at a later date. The motion passed with none opposed. Hippisley moved that what has just been recommended be presented to the Senate for discussion as a first reading in the Senate prior to January 2014. Brion seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed with none opposed.”]

Christ **moved** to reconsider the motion from June 13, 2013 that decreed the report would be recommended and presented to the Senate for discussion as a first reading in the Senate prior to January 2014. Wasilkowski **seconded**. After brief discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Christ **moved** to table discussion on the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Membership and Voting Status. Brion **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

There being no further business to attend to, Wood **moved** to adjourn and Brion **seconded**. There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lee X. Blonder,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Blonder, Brion, Christ, Day, Debski, Hippisley, McCamy, Pienkowski, Watt, Wasilkowski and Wood.

Invited guests present:, Adam Banks, Geza Bruckner, J. S. Butler, Lisa Cassis, Ray Hill, Ann Kingsolver, Roxanne Mountford, Shuxia Wang and Ben Withers.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Wednesday, November 13, 2013.