

Senate Council  
October 29, 2018

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, October 29, 2018 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 3:02 pm.

1. Minutes from October 22, 2018 and Announcements

The Chair said that no comments had been received for the minutes from October 22. There being **no objections**, the minutes from October 15, 2018 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair asked SC members to remove the agenda item "Honorary Degree Recipient(s)" from the agenda, as it was mistakenly added; the honorary degrees have not yet been finalized by the University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees (UJCHD). Grossman **moved** to remove the item and Hamilton **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair offered some announcements.

At the request of the chair of the Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC), Herman Farrell (FA/Theatre and Dance), Provost's Liaison will begin providing "on call" reference information for the SAASC.

The Chair shared that the SC's faculty nominees for various search committees had been named: Gerald Smith (AS/History) and Monica Visona (FA/Art History) for the Libraries Dean Search Committee; Alexandre Martin (ME/Mechanical Engineering) for the Communication and Information Dean Search Committee; and Tony Hardin (FA/Theatre and Dance) for the Education Dean Search Committee.

Grossman asked Provost's Liaison Turner about the composition of the Education Dean Search Committee and Turner confirmed that the membership did indeed include faculty members from the College of Education. Turner added that the chairs of the committees were not from the college, but members could be. In response to a follow-up question from Grossman, Turner acknowledged that it was a difference in practice from the former provost, but that she did not know what the reasoning behind it was. Turner also said she would check about when the search committee's compositions would be posted online. McCormick said that it was her understanding that there was a perception of an uneven playing field if the search committee was chaired by a member of the college and a member of the college was also a candidate for the position.

The Chair referred to the *Our Path Forward* implementation teams and noted that Kathi Kern (AS/History, associate provost for teaching, learning, and academic innovation) chaired one such committee, focused on online offerings. Roger Brown (AG/Agricultural Economics), chair of the Senate Committee on Distance Learning and eLearning (SCDLLeL) was asked to serve on this Committee to be a good representative of SC's thoughts and will also share updates as appropriate. She added that she had asked Osterhage (AS/Biology), chair of the Senate's Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (SAPPC), to work with Brown to develop a reasoned and contemplative plan for distance learning education. She said such a proposal might be ready for SC review within a few weeks.

In an effort to address the urgent expectation that there will be a significant number of proposals submitted as a result of the RFP from the Provost's office for online programs, the Chair explained that she was beginning an effort to ask Senate's academic councils to share their proposal review

procedures, as well as provide a checklist of what they look for when reviewing proposals. She said that when all the information is in, the processes and standards will be merged into “best practice” standards for councils to follow. She opined that such standards might result in more uniformity of the proposals coming out of the councils, resulting in better proposals for the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) and Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) to review.

## 2. Old Business

### a. Nominees for Confucius Institute External Review Committee

The Chair reminded SC members that Associate Provost for Internationalization Sue Roberts (AS/Geography) had requested nominees to serve on the Confucius Institute External Review Committee. SC members discussed the nominees presented to them, as well as suggested additional names. During discussion, the Chair suggested that future emails to senators to solicit nominees could include a request that nominators confirm with their nomination that the nominee is willing to serve.

Cross **moved** to send forward the nominees, except for the nominees from ED, LI, and AG. Blonder **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

## 3. Degree Recipient

### a. Late Addition to December 2015 Degree List (per Senate Rules 5.4.1.1.D.1-2)

#### i. College of Arts and Sciences Student TM-98

The Chair explained that the student in question graduated with a BA in Art History in 2011, but was told she did not meet the requirements for her BA in Anthropology. The College of Arts and Sciences explained that the student's advisor assessed the student's coursework with a prior version of the Anthropology curriculum (2011) and the student was told she did not meet the requirements. After an additional review, the College asserts that the advisor assessed the student's coursework against an outdated set of requirements, not the major's requirements at the relevant time. The Chair said that a recommended motion might for the elected faculty members of SC to amend the December 2015 degree by adding the BA in Anthropology for student TM-98 and recommend through the President to the Board of Trustees that the degree be awarded effective December 2015.

Wood **moved** that the elected faculty members of SC amend the December 2015 degree by adding the BA in Anthropology for student TM-98 and recommend through the President to the Board of Trustees that the degree be awarded effective December 2015 and Brion **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Noting that the invited guest for the next item had not yet arrived, the Chair suggested that SC move on to the next agenda item and there were no objections from SC members.

## 5. Solicitation of Faculty Nominees for Work Group on Policies Regarding Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment

The Chair reminded SC members that the purpose of the discussion was to identify nominees. The last time SC discussed the Work Group, SC approved a process whereby the SC would nominate seven faculty, at least three of whom must be appointed to the work group. She added that SC had regularly requested that the members of the [now discharged] Ad Hoc Committee on AR 6:2 be reappointed to the Work Group. She drew SC members' attention to the handout, which divided nominees into two categories – those who had served on the Ad Hoc Committee and those who were newly nominated.

The subsequent discussion among SC members primarily focused on nominees, but also touched on various aspects of the Work Group and its functioning.

Grossman **moved** to send forward the following nominees: AC, TL, BK, DJ, JBP, SB, and MC. Osterhage **seconded**. SC members discussed the motion. Tagavi **moved** to amend the motion by removing SB and adding KT. Blonder **seconded**. SC members discussed the amended motion. After additional discussion, Tagavi expressed a desire to amend his amendment. It was quickly determined that such an action would not be appropriate, so Grossman suggested that Tagavi speak against his motion, so that it could fail, allowing Tagavi another opportunity to make a motion. Tagavi encouraged SC members to vote against his motion. A **vote** was taken on the amendment to the motion and the motion **failed** with none in favor.

Tagavi **moved** to amend the original motion ["send forward the following nominees: AC, TL, BK, DJ, JBP, SB, and MC"] to remove BK and add KT. Blonder **seconded**. After additional discussion, a **vote** was taken on the amendment and the motion **passed** with seven in favor and three opposed. A **vote** was taken on the amended motion and the motion **passed** with eight in favor and two opposed.

#### 4. Committee Reports

##### a. Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) – Herman Farrell, Chair

##### i. Proposed Change to Senate Rules 4.2.5 ("Graduate School")

At the Chair's request, Guest Herman Farrell (FA/Theatre and Dance, chair of Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC)) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC members and requested that Farrell, Guest Sue Roberts (AS/Geography, associate provost for internationalization) and Tim Barnes (executive director of international partnerships and research) respond to questions of fact from SC members and they did. When there were no further factual questions, the Chair stated that the motion on the floor was a **motion** from the SAASC to approve the proposed changes to *Senate Rules 4.2.5* ("Graduate School") called for debate, which lasted approximately an hour. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required.

During discussion, the Chair noted that an additional outcome of the motion, if passed, was that that the Registrar's office would also be asked to update the Graduate School Bulletin accordingly. Later, Wood suggested that the proposed language for *SR 4.2.5* ("Graduate School") be improved by adding the phrase "for up to 12 months per the cooperative agreement") immediately following "...baccalaureate degree may be temporarily waived." Wood also suggested adding "No graduate degree will be awarded until a bachelor's degree from a fully accredited institution of higher learning has been awarded." Farrell accepted both suggestions as friendly amendments. When discussion ceased, the Chair called for a **vote** and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

After the vote, there was discussion about ensuring that the faculty of record (for each graduate program choosing to participate in a cooperative agreement) is consulted prior to the agreement being established. Farrell, with Roberts' agreement, stated that he could add "including endorsement by the faculty of the affected degree program." After a brief parliamentary discussion, Wood suggested that the proposal be returned to SC as "Old Business" for the following week, to approve the newly added sentence.

#### 7. Items from the Floor (Time Permitting)

There was no time left for items from the floor.

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Hamilton **moved** to adjourn and Walker **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,  
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Cross, Firey, Grossman, Hamilton, McCormick, Osterhage, Spear, Tagavi, Walker, and Wood.

Invited guests present: Tim Barnes, Herman Farrell, Sue Roberts, and Annie Davis Weber.

Provost's Liaison present: Turner.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, November 2, 2018.