

Senate Council
September 16, 2019

The Senate Council met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, September 16, 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 3:00 pm. The Chair welcomed those present.

1. Minutes from August 26, 2019 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits had been received for the set of minutes from August 26, 2019. There being **no objections**, the minutes from August 26, 2019 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair announced that President Eli Capilouto signed the Fair Trade Resolution. The SC had discussed this issue during the May retreat.

The Chair announced that Vice Provost Larry Holloway will be the new Provost's Office SC liaison in place of Associate Provost for Academic and Student Affairs Kirsten Turner. The Chair plans to have regular conversations with him. She is also having regular meetings with Associate Provost for Finance and Administration Lisa Wilson as well.

The Chair announced that the Board of Trustees (BOT) and others went to the groundbreaking of the Jim Beam Institute last Friday. Seth DeBolt, who is the director of that institute, announced the donation and formation to the Senate last year. He is currently working on a proposal to make the Institute a multidisciplinary research institute.

The Chair is still visiting Faculty Councils and has been to about half of the colleges now. The meetings have all been productive. She has received volunteers for committees and a suggestion from Gatton B&E to call an "All Faculty Councils" meeting for a conversation across groups. The SC Office has collected information on faculty council membership that can be shared with anyone who asked and possibly posted online.

The Chair explained that University Registrar Kim Taylor requested a change to the 2019-2020 University calendar last week after the SC agenda was set. She asked SC members to consider amending the day's agenda to include Taylor's request. Osterhage made a **motion** to amend the SC agenda to add the 2019-2020 University calendar request. Cross **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair announced that Brian Jackson (GS) will be joining the SC meeting at 3:30 to discuss the Plan A Masters. She suggested that the agenda be adjusted to allow for this discussion to begin when he arrives. There were no objections.

2. Old Business

a. Phased Retirement Survey for Members of the University Senate.

During the August 26, 2019 SC meeting, the phased retirement survey to senators was discussed. The Staff Senate was consulted about the possibility of phased retirement staff members serving as trustees. They were opposed. There were a number of questions on August 26th from the SC so the issue was tabled.

The floor was opened for conversation. There was discussion about the current *Administrative Regulation (AR) 3.2* regarding phased retirement. At the request of SC, the Chair had a conversation with President Capilouto last year about changing the AR. The President requested feedback from a wider group of faculty and staff before moving forward.

Blonder made a **motion** to send the phased retirement survey out to the Senators. Cross **seconded**. The Chair reminded SC that they had previously discussed asking Senators at a Senate meeting to informally survey their constituents before sending out the phased retirement survey. Cross suggested a friendly amendment to send out the survey again to SC for review before bringing it before the Senate. The Chair reminded the SC that any suggestions they wanted to make regarding the survey would be welcomed.

A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

3. Request to Waive Senate Rules 5.2.4.8.1 ("Common Examinations") for MA 137

The Chair introduced Alberto Corso (AS), who is the instructor for MA 137. 150 students in the course have another class at the same time during finals week so their exam will have to be rescheduled. Corso suggests moving the exam from Wednesday to Monday of the same week. 12 students will still have conflicts, but rescheduling will be more manageable for this number. Grossman made a **motion** to waive *SR 5.2.4.8.1* for MA 137 for the fall 2019 semester. **Cramer seconded**. After discussion a **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

4. Nominee for Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Institute for the Study of Free Enterprise

The Chair explained that Jenny Minier (BE) is on sabbatical this year and has requested to be removed from the ad hoc committee to review the Institute for the Study of Free Enterprise. The SC recommended replacing Minier and suggested nominees. Vincent made a **motion** to nominate a specific faculty member from Gatton B&E. Cross **seconded**. Grossman made a friendly amendment to include a second faculty member as an additional choice. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Plan A Master's Update

Dean Brian Jackson joined the SC meeting and introductions were made. The Chair also welcomed the participation of Assistant Provost for Strategic Planning & Institutional Effectiveness Annie Davis Weber.

The Chair gave a recap of the exception voted on during the May SC retreat to allow an expedited process for Plan A Master's programs to add six hours for courses with the 768 number. The reason for doing this is because the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools - Commission on Colleges (SACS) mid-term review found that some Plan A Master's degree programs were being awarded for less than the 30 transcripted hours that SACS require. She noted that there were other larger policy-related issues, such as whether or not the thesis should appear on a student's transcript. When the Chair met with directors of graduate studies (DGSS), concerns were raised that the 768 courses were not showing up as attempted and earned credit on the transcript. After some sleuthing, it was determined that unclear language in the *Senate Rules* (that will be fixed soon) prevented the 768 courses from being reported as attempted and earned credit.

Ms. Brothers passed around the exception form she developed for the expedited process. There was discussion about the six hour requirement being met in other ways than course 768 and how that might be reflected on the form or processed through the existing program change form. There was extensive

discussion regarding the pros and cons of allowing use of an expedited form that theoretically allowed any course to be used, not only a 768 course. Some SC members commented that those who did not want to use a 768 course could go through the Senate's regular program change process; there was a sense that some objections from DGSs were attempts to bypass the Senate's regular program approval process. Weber commented that there would be far less academic oversight of the curriculum if any course could be used than is currently the case, generally. As discussion continued, the Chair reiterated the need for a final decision because people across campus were waiting on the SC's final determination. On behalf of other DGSs in Engineering, Cramer asked if the deadline could be extended

Grossman **moved** to add language to the form: In addition to use of 768, if you prefer to not use 768, how will you satisfy the requirement for 30 credit hours; note that this may not be automatically approved by the SC office. Cramer **seconded**. After discussion, a **vote** was taken and the motion **failed** with four in favor, five opposed, and one abstained.

The Chair asked SC if they would like to extend the deadline for turning in the current exception form. Weber commented that if the deadline were to be extended, consideration should be given to timing so that incoming fall 2020 students would be aware of the addition of requirements for 768 courses. There was discussion and Grossman **moved** to extend the deadline to December 1, 2019. Soult **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair asked the SC if there were any objections to moving to the calendar issue on the agenda since Kim Taylor was present. There were no objections.

8. Item Requested by Registrar to be Added to Agenda: Proposed change to 2019-20 University Calendar (Prohibition on Changing Majors)

An email was circulated last week to SC explaining a request from the Registrar's office to shorten the window for not changing majors from eight to six weeks in the 2019-20 University calendar.

Taylor explained there was a request approved last spring to shorten the window and she requested this change again for fall 2019 and spring 2020. Previously, advisors processed major changes and the eight week window gave them the time they needed to focus on advising students. The Registrar's Office has a new process that reduces the burden on the colleges to process major changes, so the window does not need to be as long.

There were many questions and comments from SC members. After discussion, Hamilton made a **motion** to accept the shorted window on the calendar as described in the proposal on the agenda. **Vincent** seconded. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

6. Director of Smart Campus Initiatives Abbie Loynachan

The Chair introduced Abbie Loynachan who has recently been appointed as the Director of the Smart Campus Initiative. Loynachan explained that university leadership feel that UK is in a prime position to be a national leader with the Smart Campus Initiative. The initiative has three parts: iPads, application development, and Esports.

Loynachan described the three parts of the initiative and took questions from SC members.

8. Curriculum-Based Revised Methods and Formats for Program Approval Process

Senate Council
September 16, 2019

The Chair will be recording another video for the revised program approval process in Curriculog. Digarc, the company that provides Curriculog services, has had some delays in finishing the project so it is not ready to roll out to the University yet. The Chair asked SC to think about what they want to see before voting to change the approval process to Curriculog.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Collett, Cramer, Cross, Eastham, Grossman, Hamilton, Osterhage, Shaikh, Sault, and Vincent.

Invited guests present: Sheila Brothers, Roger Brown, Alberto Corso, Brian Jackson, Abbie Loynachan, Kim Taylor, Annie Davis Weber.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on Thursday, September 19, 2019.