

Senate Council
April 27, 2020

The Senate Council met in regular session on Monday, April 27, 2020 via video conference. 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 3:01 pm. The Chair welcomed those present.

1. Minutes from March 30, 2020 and Announcements

The Chair announced that this is the last SC meeting during the spring semester, but they are planning to have one more SC meeting on May 11th after the final Senate meeting. The Chair shared her appreciation to SC for their flexibility in reviewing items that came in late to the agenda. She also asked SC if there were any objections to changing the order of some items on the agenda but there were none.

The Chair reported that no edits were received for the set of minutes from March 30, 2020. There being **no objections**, the minutes were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair reported that she had notified the Associate Deans meeting that the SC approved giving the dean or the dean's designee discretion for the Spring 2020 semester regarding placing undergraduate, graduate, and professional students on probation or suspension.

The Chair and Aaron Cramer (EN) participated in a meeting to discuss badges and they will share more about it later in the agenda.

Cramer is in a group working on prior learning assessment. Anyone with comments or questions should let him know.

The Chair attended an Administrative Leadership meeting to answer questions about pass/fail. Provost Blackwell had much praise for the Senate and shared his appreciation.

The Chair shared that the video messages that many of SC participated in to reach out to students have been edited and she will share the links once they are posted.

2. Consent Agenda

The Chair asked for comments on Consent Agenda items. There was some discussion about the College of Medicine Faculty Council looking over the PhD Integrated Biomedical Sciences item. There were no other comments so the items on the Consent Agenda were approved. The Chair reported that they will be on the specially called SC agenda the following week for final approval, on behalf of Senate.

3. Old Business

a. Proposed Changes to *Senate Rules 4.2.8* ("Undergraduate Certificates") and *Senate Rules 4.2.9* ("Graduate Certificates")

Smith (EN) explained the changes to the proposal. The Chair asked if there were any questions. There were some and there was discussion specifically about the proposed changes contradicting *SR 3.2*, which states that letters of administrative feasibility for certificates are required.

Cramer (EN) made a **motion** to strike the statements about administrative feasibility in the proposed changes to *SR 4.2.8* and *SR 4.2.9*. Grossman (AS) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation to approve the proposed changes to *Senate Rules 4.2.8* ("Undergraduate Certificates") as amended and *Senate Rules 4.2.9* ("Graduate Certificates") as amended. Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstention.

4. Degree Recipients

a. May 2020 In Memoriam Degree Recipients

i. Request for Waiver of *Senate Rules 5.4.5.3.1* ("In Memoriam Degrees," "Conditions for Conferral of In Memoriam Degrees," "Eligibility")

ii. College of Arts and Sciences Student SW-66

The Chair welcomed the Associate Dean of Advising in Arts and Sciences Ruth Beattie to give SC information about an In-Memoriam degree. Beattie explained that the student had completed 96 credit hours and was in good standing. Beattie asked that the rule be waived about the student being registered during the semester they died. She explained that the student was registered during the semester that she went into a coma but never regained consciousness and died about a year later. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none. Bob Grossman (AS) **moved** that *SR 5.4.5.3.1* be waived and the elected faculty members of SC approve College of Arts and Sciences student SW-66 as the recipient of an In Memoriam honorary degree, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Charnigo (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

iii. Gatton College of Business and Economics Student JB-83

The Chair welcomed the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Jennifer Siebenthaler to give SC information about an In Memoriam degree. Siebenthaler explained that the student had recently passed away and was going to graduate in May 2020. Grossman suggested investigating to see if a posthumous earned degree is more appropriate and then coming back to Senate next week to discuss. Siebenthaler agreed.

b. May 2020 Degree List

Hamilton (SGA) **moved** that the elected faculty members of SC approve UK's May 2020 list of candidates for credentials, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Collett (HS) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

c. August 2020 Degree List

Hamilton (SGA) **moved** that the elected faculty members of SC approve UK's August 2020 list of candidates for credentials, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Collett (HS) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

d. Late Addition to May 2018 Degree List (per *Senate Rules 5.4.1.2.4* ("Late Addition to Degree List"))

i. College of Engineering Student WT-61

The Chair explained that the request from the College of Engineering is because of an administrative error. Brion (EN) **moved** that the elected faculty members of SC amend the May 2018 degree list by adding the BS in Computer Science for student WT-61 and recommend through the President to the Board of Trustees that the degree be awarded effective May 2018. Vincent (BE) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

7. Committee Reports

c. Senate's Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) – Zack Bray, Chair

i. Proposed New Department of Product Design and Move of BS Product Design from the College of Design to the Department of Product Design within the College of Design

Bray (LA) explained the proposal and commented that SAOSC voted with seven in favor of the proposal and one against. The member against the proposal was concerned about the University's financial situation due to COVID-19.

The floor was opened for questions and Grossman (AS) asked for clarification of the faculty of record and the proposed new department's faculty membership. College of Design Dean Mitzi Vernon explained the faculty of record and the members of the proposed new department. She also explained that one person has been hired for the proposed new department and that more faculty will be hired over the next four years. Blonder (ME) asked whether the proposed department will have a director or a chair and it was clarified that it would be a chair.

The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation to endorse the proposed new Department of Product Design within the College of Design. Because the **motion** came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal.

There was discussion about who would make up the faculty voting body of the proposed new department if there was only one faculty member appointed there. There was a brief discussion about the motion and Bray explained that the SAOSC also discussed the move of the BS Product Design to the new department and was willing to include more specific language in the motion. After additional discussion with Dean Vernon, Grossman (AS) asked for the record to show that Dean Vernon committed to providing joint appointments with voting privileges for members of the program's faculty of record in the proposed new department, at least until additional faculty are hired into the proposed new department. Dean Vernon asked how many departmental faculty were required and Jones stated that three people were necessary to make a governing body.

The Chair suggested that the motion on the floor from the SAOSC was a recommendation to endorse the proposed new Department of Product Design within the College of Design and move of the BS Product Design from the College of Design to the Department of Product Design. Bray concurred. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and three abstentions.

9. Proposed Change to College of Dentistry Calendar

The Chair welcomed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Reny De Leeuw (DE). She explained the proposal for an additional graduation date of June 26, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 closure of clinics, several students were not able to complete all the requirements for graduation in May. Clinics should soon be opening under very strict guidelines so students should be able to complete their requirements. The University Registrar agreed to make an exception for the additional graduation date.

Cramer (EN) **moved** to approve, on behalf of the Senate, the proposed change for an additional graduation date of June 26, 2020 to the College of Dentistry Calendar. Charnigo (AS) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Gatton College of Business and Economics Undergraduate Appeals and Probation Changes (Including Changes to *Senate Rules 4.2.2.9.2.5* ("Gatton College of Business and Economics," "Appeal Process") and

Senate Rules 5.3.3.6.2 ("Undergraduate Colleges Probation and Suspension Policies," "Gatton College of Business and Economics," "Other Programs")

The Chair reminded SC members that they had previously indicated a willingness to allow some proposals to skip the requirement for review by the Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC), because of the late date and backlog of items on their agenda. This was one such proposal. The Chair welcomed Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Jennifer Siebenthaler (BE).

Associate Dean Siebenthaler explained the proposal for Gatton College of Business and Economics to edit language in *SR 4.2.2.9.2.5* and *SR 5.3.3.6.2* for clarification purposes. The edits do not change operating procedures. It was clarified that the use of the term "dropped" is the same as "suspended." There was also clarification that if the student on probation is not attempting summer coursework, it does not count against them.

Hamilton (SGA) **moved** to approve the proposed Gatton College of Business and Economics Undergraduate Appeals and Probation Changes (including changes to *Senate Rules 4.2.2.9.2.5* ("Gatton College of Business and Economics," "Appeal Process") and *Senate Rules 5.3.3.6.2* ("Undergraduate Colleges Probation and Suspension Policies," "Gatton College of Business and Economics," "Other Programs"). Collett (HS) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

6. Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 5.3.1.1 ("Repeat Option") Regarding Pass/Fail Grading

The Chair welcomed Associate Dean of Advising Ruth Beattie (AS). Associate Dean Beattie informed SC that the need for more clarity regarding the use of the repeat option when a course is taken as pass/fail was discussed at a recent Associate Deans meeting. She explained the proposal to add language to *SR 5.3.1.1* to clarify that a student may use a repeat option when repeating a course for a letter grade if the course was originally taken pass/fail. There were questions and discussion of why this proposed change is needed. Those offering opinions acknowledged that the change would be beneficial to certain students in specific situations.

Hamilton (SGA) **moved** to accept the proposed Changes to *Senate Rules 5.3.1.1* ("Repeat Option") regarding Pass/Fail Grading to include the language, "A student MAY use a repeat option when repeating a course for a letter grade if the course was originally taken pass/fail." Richardson (SGA) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

7. Committee Reports

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

i. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Filmmaking: Production and Dramatic Writing

Cramer (EN) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC. The need for the certificate to be housed in only one department was identified and both proposers, Herman Farrell (FA) and Doreen Maloney (FA), agreed to house it in the School of Art and Visual Studies. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Filmmaking: Production and Dramatic Writing housed in the School of Art and Visual Studies. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ii. Proposed New PhD in Health Services Research

Cramer (EN) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC. The number of expected graduates was discussed. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new PhD Health Services Research, in the Department of Health Management and Policy within the College of Public Health. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

i. Proposed New Undergraduate Certificate in Filmmaking: Production and Dramatic Writing (Continued)
Associate Professor Herman Farrell (FA) explained that he and Maloney had discussed the issue further and asked the SC to change the home unit of the Undergraduate Certificate in Filmmaking: Production and Dramatic Writing from the School of Art and Visual Studies to the Department of Theatre and Dance.

Grossman (AS) **moved** to rescind the approval of the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Filmmaking: Production and Dramatic Writing housed in the Department of Art and Visual Studies, based on the desire of the proposers to change the department it is housed in. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

Vincent (BE) **moved** to approve the proposed new Undergraduate Certificate in Filmmaking: Production and Dramatic Writing housed in the Department of Theatre and Dance. Collett (HS) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

iii. Proposed Changes to BSN

Cramer (EN) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAPC to approve the proposed changes to BSN. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

b. Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) – Bill Smith, Chair

i. Proposed Changes to Graduate School Bulletin (pg. 29 of 2018-19 version) to Match SC-Approved Revisions to *Senate Rules 4.2.5.2* ("Postbaccalaureate Student")

The Chair explained that the SC had previously approved the proposed changes to the *Senate Rules*, but had not sent them on to the Senate because similar changes had not yet been recommended for the Graduate School Bulletin. Smith (EN) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAASC to approve the proposed changes to Graduate School educational policy, as articulated in the Graduate School Bulletin to match SC-approved revisions to *Senate Rules 4.2.5.2*. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was some. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

ii. Proposed Change to Senate Rules 4.2.2.12 ("Admission Requirements," "Undergraduate Programs," "Admission to the College of Communication and Information Degree Programs")

Smith (EN) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were some. Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Shari Veil (CI) clarified the proposed changes. The Chair stated

that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAASC to approve proposed change to *Senate Rules 4.2.2.12*. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. Grossman expressed general concerns about letting GPA levels control enrollment and there were additional comments. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and two abstaining.

iii. Proposed Policy to Limit Undergraduate Transfer Credit Hours for Undergraduate Degrees and Minors in Gatton College of Business and Economics

Smith (EN) explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAASC to approve the proposed policy to limit undergraduate transfer credit hours for undergraduate degrees and minors in the Gatton College of Business and Economics. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was needed. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

10. Proposed One-Time Change to Doctor of Physical Therapy

The Chair welcomed Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Education Karen Badger (HS). Associate Dean Badger explained the proposal. The proposed one-time request is to reduce the Doctor of Physical Therapy curricular requirement from 39 weeks of full-time clinical experience to a minimum of 28 weeks by eliminating one full time clinical experience (9 credit hours) if necessary. The Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) has reduced the minimum number of required clinicals from 30 to 28 weeks for this year only due to the COVID-19 crisis so this reduction will not impact students' ability to obtain licensure. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there were none.

Cramer (EN) made a **motion** to approve on behalf of the Senate the proposed one-time change to the Doctor of Physical Therapy in the College of Health Sciences. Grossman **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal. There was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

d. Ad Hoc Committee on Calendars - Jennifer Osterhage, Chair

i. Proposed Changes to Academic Calendars

The Chair welcomed Assistant Professor Jennifer Osterhage (AS), who chaired the ad hoc Committee on Calendars. Osterhage explained that the Committee was created by SC in October 2019 to look at the possibility of beginning the spring semester on a Monday rather than a Wednesday. Based on feedback, the Committee also made other recommendations.

1. Begin the Spring semester on a Monday.
2. Move the Fall Break from Monday and Tuesday of the NINTH to the Monday and Tuesday of the TENTH week of the Fall semester, to begin with the Fall 2021 semester.
3. Add two 'Reading Days' to both the fall and spring semesters to occur on Thursday and Friday of "Dead Week" (SR 5.2.4.6).
4. Adjust the final examination schedule from a 5 day schedule to a "4+1" final examination schedule. The Registrar will schedule all Final Examinations during the first four days (Monday through Thursday) of Final Exam week. The fifth day (Friday) would be reserved for scheduling of exams for students with conflicts.

There were several comments and questions, described below.

- Many SC members were in favor of adding the two reading days.
- There needs to be enough time between the end of one semester and the beginning of the next for advisors to do their work.
- Moving the fall break will make it closer to Thanksgiving and will be less of a “breather” for students. Osterhage explained that the change would mean fewer students would have exams immediately upon returning from fall break.
- Concern about an earlier spring start date interfering with winter intersession and students returning from study abroad. Taylor confirmed that the last day of the winter intersession would always be before the first day of the spring semester.
- Concern that three advising conference days in spring are condensed from to one day. Taylor said she would add the two days back in.

There was discussion about SC voting on behalf of the Senate. There was also discussion about breaking up the proposal into different parts so that SC could approve some items and Senate could review others in the fall. The Chair said that the motion from the Committee was a recommendation to approve all the changes as described in the proposal, including changes to the 2020-2021 academic calendar. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

8. Tentative Agenda for Specially Called SC Meeting for May 4, 2020

The Chair asked if there were any comments or suggestions to change the agenda. After brief discussion, SC members agreed to put the report from the ad hoc Calendar Committee immediately after the reports from the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC). Grossman **moved** to approve the tentative agenda for May 4 as amended and Andrade **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

11. Proposed Provisional Pilot for Badges

The Chair welcomed back Associate Dean Siebenthaler (BE) and introduced Associate Provost for Teaching, Learning, and Academic Innovation Kathi Kern. She invited Kern and Siebenthaler to describe the proposal for a provisional pilot for badges and they did so.

There was discussion about the proposal, including some questions about the specific definition of a badge. Some SC members were satisfied with the simple description of a badge being comprised of two specific courses that faculty think can be linked together. Any unit could offer a badge using credit-bearing courses, although the badge earned would not be documented on a student's transcript. Badges would be verified by a national clearinghouse agency, which would also be contracted to create the digital “badge” that a student could add to their social media platforms.

The Chair clarified that she had asked Kern and Siebenthaler to come and present the idea to SC, in part to allay any concerns that might have arisen if SC members heard about the badge pilot without knowing what it entailed. Grossman **moved** to endorse the piloting of a badge program in summer 2020 and Vincent **seconded**.

SC members continued to discuss and debate the proposal and the motion. The Chair clarified for Cantrell that the proposal was not specific to the particular badge within the proposal, but rather the particular badge was a representative example. Faculty in any unit would be able to develop their own badges if the pilot were to move forward. Brion and Hall were concerned about moving forward without

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specific definitions and how badges would be differentiated from minors and certificates. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with eight in favor and two abstained.

The Chair asked SC members to think about starting the specially called SC meeting on May 4 at 2 pm and there were no objections to that. In response to additional comments, the Chair agreed to highlight for senators the report from the Calendar Committee.

Regarding the In Memoriam degree requested by BE, Associate Dean Siebenthaler indicated that the student was not eligible for an earned degree so the college wished to proceed with the honorary In Memoriam degree. The Chair confirmed that that request would be on the agenda for the following week.

Grossman (AS) made a **motion** to adjourn. Sout (AS) **seconded**. The motion **passed** with none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Andrade, Bird-Pollan, Blonder, Brion, Cantrell, Charnigo, Collett, Cramer, Grossman, Hall, Hamilton, Richardson, Sout, and Vincent.

Guests present: Karen Badger, Ruth Beattie, Zack Bray, Sheila Brothers, Roger Brown, Ty Borders, Reny De Leeuw, Herman Farrell, Brian Jackson, Davy Jones, Kathi Kern, Charlotte Leedy, Doreen Maloney, Jennifer Osterhage, David Pienkowski, Jennifer Siebenthaler, Bill Smith, Kim Taylor, Shari Veil, Mitzi Vernon, Annie Davis Weber, Darlene Welsh.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on May 6, 2020.