

Senate Council  
February 3, 2020

The Senate Council met in regular session on Monday, February 3, 2020 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 and suggested that everyone in the room introduce themselves.

1. Minutes from January 13, 2020 and Announcements

The Chair announced that the President's Office and Bill Swinford have given each SC member a book, "The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and the Horse". The books were then passed out.

The Chair reported that some edits were received and implemented for the set of minutes from December 2, 2019. There being **no objections**, the minutes were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Chair reported that there have been discussions with Vice Provost Larry Holloway about soliciting names for an ad-hoc committee to consider policies about self-authored textbooks. The Chair proposed that the Senate be solicited for names and then SC will consider the nominees. The ad-hoc committee should have both those who have and have not authored their own textbooks. The call for nominations will go out soon.

The Chair announced that the Chair of the UK Core Committee, Patrick Lee Lucas (DS, has been developing next steps for the committee and he will likely have a report to share with SC/Senate by the end of the school year. He continues to gather information and will likely be on the SC agenda soon to hear SC's thoughts.

The Chair announced that the Advising Network has named Bob Singleton, an Academic Advisor in the College of Education, as a replacement member to serve on the Senate Academic Advising Committee. Singleton is replacing a former Advising Network member who left their position.

Some Senate committees have had problems meeting quorum because of inactive and nonresponsive members. This issue will be added to a future SC agenda for discussion.

The Chair reminded SC members that the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) faculty representative is Bob Staat of the University of Louisville. He is also now Chair of CPE's Committee on Equal Opportunities.

The Chair reported that the SC Office has met with the Registrar's Office to discuss how Acalog will and will not integrate with Curriculog. The conversations are still ongoing.

The Chair reported that she and Aaron Cramer (EN) have joined a group put together by Assistant Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Annie Davis Weber. They will discuss whether and how to assess prior learning for academic credit and how to account for students' experiences before they come to UK. Anyone on campus with specific program requests will be invited to share those with the group. Any resulting proposals will be brought before SC.

The Chair reported that Ms. Brothers continues to receive feedback about Curriculog and asked SC to provide their feedback or any they hear from others to Ms. Brothers. She has created an email with next steps and guidance that will be sent out to proposers when they submit an early notice.

## 2. Old Business

### a. Senate Meeting Roundtable [December 2019 Meeting]

There were no comments about the December 2019 Senate meeting.

### b. Planning for 2019-20 Faculty Evaluation of the President

The Chair proposed that SC postpone this discussion until the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting because there currently is no Vice Chair and historically, the Vice Chair leads this activity. There were no objections.

### c. Date & Topics for Senate Council Retreat

The Chair reported that Stephanie Woolery will be sending out a poll with possible dates for the retreat. The retreat is usually one full to three fourths day in May after the last Senate meeting. Anyone with possible agenda items should send them to the Chair.

### d. Nominees for Committees

The Chair proposed that this be moved to later in the agenda to be mindful of visitors' time. There were no objections.

## 3. Election of Vice Chair (Term Ending May 31, 2020)

The Chair invited guest Davy Jones (ME/Toxicology and Cancer Biology) to the table to oversee the election process. Jones explained that he was filling in for Roger Brown (AG/Agricultural Economics, chair of the Elections Subcommittee of the Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC)) who normally oversees the election process.

Jones explained the process and listed the eligible nominees for the remaining term of Vice Chair. Jones opened the floor for nominations. Brion (EN) nominated Aaron Cramer (EN). Cramer nominated Collett (HS). Jones asked if any nominees wanted to remove themselves from consideration and Cramer removed his name. Since Collett was the only nominee, there was no vote. Jones announced that given the evidence, the election was finished and Collett will fill the remaining current term.

## 4. Degree Recipients

### a. May 2019 In Memoriam Degree Recipient

#### i. College of Education Student LK-11

The Chair invited Margaret Mohr-Schroeder (ED/Department of STEM Education and Associate Dean for Clinical Preparation and Partnerships) to the table to give SC information about an In Memoriam degree. Schroeder explained that they were contacted by the family of a student who died. The student was in good standing and had completed 56 credit hours. The Chair asked if there were any questions and there were none. Bob Grossman (AS/Trustee) moved that the elected faculty members of SC approve College of Education student LK-11 as the recipient of an In Memoriam honorary degree, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Brion **seconded**. There were some questions about the designation of the degree and when it would be awarded. Mohr-Schroeder responded that it is an In Memoriam posthumous degree and it will be awarded in May 2020. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

### b. Spring 2020 Social Work Graduates at Ft. Sam Houston

The Chair explained that the program was created a couple of years ago with the Army and the College of Social Work. The students at Ft. Sam Houston in Texas finish their coursework in early April and there is a graduation ceremony at that time in Texas. These students are awarded May degrees, but if the

names are approved now, when Provost Blackwell travels to Texas for their graduation ceremony he can use the same language that the President uses during commencement in May, which will make the ceremony more meaningful for the Ft. Sam Houston students. The approval would be contingent upon the students completing all requirements. Grossman made a **motion** that the elected faculty members of SC approve UK's Ft. Sam Houston April 2020 list of candidates for credentials, for submission through the President to the Board of Trustees. Allison Soult (AS) **seconded**. Grossman commented that approval of the list seemed a rather minor task, so the SC could continue to approve it in February if the Board of Trustees could do so, too. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

c. Late Addition to December 2019 Degree List (per SR 5.4.1.2.4 ("Late Addition to Degree List"))

i. College of Arts and Sciences Student GA-69

The Chair reported that a student was not on the December 2019 degree list due to a clerical error. Brion made a **motion** that the elected faculty members of SC amend the December 2019 degree list by adding the MA in Hispanic Studies for student GA-69 and recommend through the President to the Board of Trustees that the degree be awarded effective December 2019. Franciso Andrade (ME) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

5. Committee Reports

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

i. Proposed New MA in Orientation and Mobility

Cramer described 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 that the University Senate approve for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MA degree: Orientation and Mobility, in the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education within the College of Education. 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. MS in Teacher Preparation Program in Visual Impairments

Cramer described 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 that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MS degree: Teacher Preparation Program in Visual Impairments, in the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education within the College of Education. 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.

iii. Proposed New MS in Supply Chain Management

Cramer described 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 that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new MS degree: Supply Chain Management, in the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain within 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.

iv. Proposed New BS in Product Design

Cramer described 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 that the University Senate approve, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new BS degree: Product Design, in 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 none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and one abstained.

Item b. was postponed until the committee chair was available later in the meeting.

c. Senate's Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (SACDI) – Beth Guiton (AS), Chair

i. Recommendations from University's Taskforce on Religious Holidays

Guiton reported that the request to look at the accommodation of religious holidays came from the University Senate floor. Associate Vice President for Student Engagement Victor Hazard and Senior Assistant Provost for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development Katie Cardarelli headed a task force to make recommendations for the accommodation of religious holidays. They found that UK has many good policies in place, but there is concern that they are not widely communicated. The Task Force's recommendation is to ask President Capilouto to release a statement to communicate these policies and remind the general community that they exist and to use them. SACDI prepared a memo to send to the President and requested SC to endorse it before sending.

There was discussion about editing the recommendations. Grossman commented that the issue of faculty being asked to perform duties that were prohibited due to a religious holiday was different from a student who might be too shy or reluctant to ask for an accommodation. Grossman suggested adding examples of ways to accommodate students in particular, such as allowing a Muslim student to take an exam after sunset during Ramadan. Grossman supported having separate messages for employees versus students. Not all religious holidays of every religion can be accommodated, but the President could specifically address accommodations that could be offered to accommodate religions that are more prevalent on UK's campus. Soult commented that some aspects of the student experience could be addressed by the changes involved with the Syllabus Initiative, which was later on the agenda. Guiton indicated that she was willing to revise the proposal.

SC members discussed the best way to move forward, understanding that the proposal was going to be edited. It was acknowledged that SACDI's charge formally charges them with working with senior leadership. Vincent (BE) **moved** that SC endorse the edited version of the memo. Collett **seconded**. There was some debate, including whether or not SC endorsement was appropriate and if Senate endorsement was necessary. Grossman opined that asking the President to draw attention to existing policies was not something that required Senate action. It was agreed that SC would not review the memo after edits are made. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and two abstained.

SC members did not think it was necessary to review the edited memo before SACDI communicates with the President about it. The Chair will mention the memo in the announcements to Senate but will not be asking the Senate to endorse.

ii. Proposal for Diversity and Inclusion Advocate for Search

Guiton described the proposal from SACDI that all search committees include a diversity and inclusion (D&I) advocate. She explained some of SACDI's concerns about not having search committees with diverse membership. She emphasized that D&I advocates would help raise awareness if a committee

discussion was using discriminatory language, among other roles. There was little detail about how a D&I advocate would be chosen, to make that aspect more flexible. Guiton added that the D&I advocate should be a tenured faculty member with experience on search committees.

SC members discussed policies that have already been implemented to make search committees more diverse and provided a variety of comments, including those below.

- The College of Medicine has a similar program that does training by department.
- The College of Arts & Sciences requires all job candidates to submit a D&I statement and there is D&I training for hiring committees.
- The College of Health Sciences uses D&I officers on their hiring committees.
- The College of Health Sciences hiring committees have unconscious bias training.
- All UK faculty search committees are required to have unconscious bias training and to include underrepresented minority members.

The Chair requested that SACDI do more research about existing policies and how these policies are being communicated to search committees. The Chair thanked Guiton for her hard work.

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

i. Proposed Name Change from the Department of Statistics to the Dr. Bing Zhang Department of Statistics

Bray described the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC; most pertained to “no” votes from two department members and consistency of naming at the university. In both cases, the two faculty members did not object to Dr. Zhang, per se, but rather the two faculty opposed the renaming on other grounds. Mark Kornbluh (Dean, College of Arts and Sciences) described the background behind Dr. Zhang’s recent and past donations. There were some additional comments from SC members about the value of having parameters to describe UK’s naming opportunities as they relate to specific dollar amounts

The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation from the SAOSC that the University Senate endorse the proposed name change from the Department of Statistics to the Dr. Bing Zhang Department of Statistics. 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 abstained.

Announcements from the Provost

Provost Blackwell shared updates about UK’s response to coronavirus. He answered a variety of questions from SC members.

d. Senate's Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) – DeShana Collett (HS), Chair

i. Excused/Unexcused Absences and W & I Grades

Collett explained that the SREC was asked to discuss the meaning of *SR 5.2.4.2 Excused Absences*, in regard to what options are available to students, and what discretion is afforded to Instructors of Record, in relation to students with excused absences that exceed 20% of class contact hours, particularly related to the SR language including both “may” and “shall,” as well as what exactly constituted a “penalty.” The SREC decided it could not resolve these concerns without getting into substantive new educational policy, which is beyond SREC jurisdiction, and asked for SC to send the issue to an appropriate committee. In response to the Chair, Collett indicated that there was no specific case about this issue pending. The Chair noted that the committee to which this proposal would usually

be sent was working through a backlog and it was unlikely the committee would be able to review it this semester; she suggested sending it to the committee next year, or discussing the issue at the SC's summer retreat. Collett commented that the issue comes up several times annually, so it would be worthwhile to have a discussion much sooner.

There were comments about whether or not a student's financial aid situation could be affected by an I grade, and if any negative ramification regarding financial aid could be considered a "penalty." Soult mentioned that this issue came up regularly in her area – students miss too much work to be able to complete the class and an I grade is not acceptable, so the student can end up failing the class. SC members also discussed the best way to move forward. Vice Provost Larry Holloway suggested that someone from the Financial Aid office be invited to explain their processes in these situations.

There were no objections to the Chair's suggestion that two SC members look into the issue and report back, SC agreed that forming a small group would be the most effective and timely way to address the issue. Brion and Soult volunteered to investigate and return to SC with proposed changes.

#### 6. Proposed Change to 2019-20 University Calendar (Deadline to Apply to Graduate and Registration Windows)

The Chair invited guest Mike Shanks (Registrar's Office) to the table. Shanks explained the changes. Shanks answered a variety of questions from SC members about the proposed registration windows and the changes to the deadline to graduate for graduate and undergraduate students.

Cramer suggested that the Senate's Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (SAPPC) continue monitoring of the registration windows would be helpful, in part because non-degree seeking students would be able to register six weeks before degree-seeking students. Soult **moved** that SC approve the proposed change to the 2019-20 University Calendar. Andrade **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 7. Proposed Change to 2020-21 University Calendar (Deadline to Apply to Graduate and Registration Windows)

The Chair and Richard Charnigo (PbH) identified some inconsistencies with the 2020-21 calendar entries and Shanks indicated that those edits would be applied, including the changes made to the 2019-2020 calendar. Brion **moved** that SC approve the proposed change to the 2020-21 University Calendar with edits. Leslie Vincent (BE) **seconded**. There was no debate. The Chair said that when Shanks had an updated version ready, she would send it around to SC members for review; it would not need to be reviewed at another SC meeting. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 8. Proposed Change to Senate Rules 5.4.1.2.1 ("Application for Degrees," "Undergraduate Degrees") and Senate Rules 5.4.1.2.2 ("Application for Degrees," "Graduate Degrees")

Shanks explained the proposed changes. Vincent **moved** that SC approve the proposed changes. Collett **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 9. Syllabus Initiative

Was not discussed due to time constraints.

#### 10. Proposal Regarding Phased Retirement and Senate Membership

Was not discussed due to time constraints.

Senate Council  
February 3, 2020

11. Tentative Senate Agenda for February 10, 2020

The Chair went over the tentative Senate agenda for February 10, 2020, including removing agenda item SAOSC “Proposed Move of BA and Minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies from College to Department of Geography”. SC members were amenable to leaving the Syllabus Initiative on the agenda, but as a discussion item, to get feedback from senators. Brion made a **motion** to approve the revised agenda and Cramer **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

The Chair said that Ms. Brothers would send around the files associated with committee compositions. SC members can review the existing nominees and come prepared to the next SC meeting with nominees for committees that do not have enough nominees.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,  
Senate Council Chair

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

Invited guests present: Obaidullah Amarkhil, Sheila Brothers, David Blackwell, Ralph Crystal, Beth Guiton, Larry Holloway, Samir Jan, Davy Jones, Justin Kaiser, Donna Lee, David Pienkowski, Bill Rayens, Margaret Schroeder, Mike Shanks, Haoying Sun, Mitzi Vernon, Annie Davis-Weber.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on February 7, 2020.