

Senate Council  
March 30, 2020

The Senate Council met in regular session on Monday, March 30, 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. Announcements

The Chair announced that Bill Swinford is on administrative leave and that Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Eric Monday is the Interim Chief of Staff.

The Chair informed SC that an email has been sent out from Vice Chair DeShana Collett asking for Outstanding Senator nominations.

The Chair informed SC that the SC Office is working to get information out to colleges about college elections for senators.

2. Old Business

a. Proposed Changes to SR 1.4.3.4 ("Senate Retroactive Withdrawal Appeals Committee (SRWAC)")

The Chair reminded SC that the request came from Assistant Provost for Student and Academic Support Adrienne McMahan and was discussed at the previous SC meeting. The Chair explained that the proposed change was to add a representative from the UK Provost Committee on Advising to SRWAC. SRWAC Chair James Donovan shared that SRWAC is not in opposition to the additional member, but there is concern that the additional member should be aware of confidentiality. University Director for Academic and Career Advising Marianne Young explained the difference in the Advising Network, which already has a representative on SRWAC, and the Provost Committee on Advising that does not currently have a member on SRWAC.

Grossman (AS) made a **motion** to change the language in SR 1.4.3.4 as described in the proposal . Andrade (ME) **seconded**. There was no debate. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed and three abstentions.

3. Committee Reports

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

i. Proposed changes to MSEP Epidemiology

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and there was none. The Chair stated that the **motion** on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed changes to MSEP Epidemiology. 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.

ii. Proposed Changes to PhD Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Smith explained the proposal. The Chair solicited questions of fact from SC and the requirement for entry was clarified. The Chair stated that the motion on the floor was a recommendation that the University Senate approve the proposed changes to the PhD Epidemiology and Biostatistics. 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. Faculty Evaluation of the President

Vice Chair Collett shared two questions the ad-hoc committee recommended adding to the faculty evaluation of the President. SC supported adding the new questions.

#### 5. Proposed Change to *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2.3.1* (“Excused Absences”) Regarding Short-Term Absences and KY National Guard

The Chair welcomed Lecturer in Electrical and Computer Engineering Laura Letellier to describe the proposal. Letellier explained that the proposal would, among other things, shift the validation of orders for KY National Guard recall from instructors to the Veterans Resource Center (VRC). She also explained that the timeline for the proposal was moved up in light of the COVID-19 response and is meant to be temporary until a more robust version can be drafted. SC discussed making the change permanent and updating the *SR* when the new version is ready. SC also discussed how to best communicate this information and incorporate it into syllabi.

Grossman (AS) made a **motion** to accept the proposed change to *SR 5.2.4.2.3.1* effective immediately. Hamilton (SGA) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate on the proposal and there was some discussion about how the proposed change differs from current *SRs*. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

There was discussion about approving the proposed change on behalf of the Senate. Grossman (AS) made a **motion** to accept the proposal on behalf of the Senate. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and there was discussion about making an announcement if a call up from the KY National Guard happens. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 6. Proposed One-Time Change to PharmD

The Chair welcomed Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences Penni Black and Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science Holly Divine.

Divine explained the proposed one-time change to alter hours required for the PharmD graduation class of 2021 who will begin 4th year experiential rotations on May 11, 2020. The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) requires pharmacy students to complete 1440 Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) hours prior to graduation to demonstrate practice-readiness. The University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy’s (UKCOP) current APPE curriculum requires seven, six-week APPE rotations or 1680 hours, which exceeds the minimum required by ACPE. Due to the COVID-19 crisis resulting in health systems and pharmacies limiting student/learner access and the possibility that all students may be required to suspend clinical activities by government or University-order, the UKCOP Class of 2021 may be unable to finish seven total experiences to meet the UKCOP credit hour requirements for graduation. This one-time request is to reduce the UKCOP APPE curricular requirement from seven APPE rotations to six APPE rotations by eliminating one elective APPE rotation (6 credit hours) for students in the UKCOP Class of 2021. The result would be a total of 1440 hours of completed APPEs, which still meets ACPE minimum requirements and provides the requisite number of hours required for licensure.

Vincent (BE) made a **motion** to accept the proposed one-time change to alter the hours required for graduation from 162 credit hours to 156 credit hours for the PharmD graduating class of 2021. Brion (EN) **seconded**. There was discussion about making the proposal effective immediately and on behalf of the Senate.

Vincent (BE) **amended** the original **motion** to include making the proposal effective immediately and on behalf of the Senate. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was debate and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with none opposed.

#### 7. Proposed One-Time Change to JD

The Chair welcomed College of Law Dean Mary Davis to discuss the proposal. Dean Davis informed SC that the UK Rosenberg College of Law faculty voted on Thursday, March 26, 2020 to adopt a mandatory pass/fail grading policy for spring 2020 courses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She went over each section of the policy and explained that the majority of faculty and students were in favor of adopting pass/fail grading policy.

The reasons for adopting the rule included:

1. The grave impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Law students' abilities to perform to their best given the wide variety of difficulties presented to them in the current environment.
2. Making the pass/fail change mandatory responds to the widespread concern that poor grades during this time will impact student rank, which has a dramatic effect on career opportunities.
3. Across the country law schools are choosing mandatory pass/fail grading over optional pass/fail grading.

Dean Davis informed SC of background information for the proposed change and there was much discussion about the academic rights of students. The SC had several questions and discussed the proposal at length. Professor Michael Healy explained some additional details regarding the proposal.

Grossman (AS) made a **motion** to accept the proposal to adopt a mandatory pass/fail grading policy for spring 2020 courses in the UK Rosenberg College of Law. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate. Various SC members spoke in favor of, and against, the proposal.

Grossman (AS) **amended** his original **motion** to include making the proposal effective immediately and on behalf of the Senate. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate. There was debate about allowing some of the guests speak.

Grossman (AS) made a **motion** to call the question. Andrade (ME) **seconded**. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with ten in favor and two opposed.

A **vote** was taken on the amended motion and the motion **passed** with ten in favor and two opposed.

#### 8. Other Items from the Floor

The Chair noted that the meeting was running over the scheduled time and asked SC members if they were willing to stay. SC unanimously voted to continue the meeting.

The Chair reported that minor changes have come in that the Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) has not had the capacity to review. The Chair asked SC if they would be willing to vote on the proposals without SAASC review, so that the proposals can be approved during this school year. The SC agreed that they would be willing to review the minor changes without sending them to SAASC. The use of a consent agenda was suggested. The Chair agreed to move forward.

#### 9. COVID-19 Ongoing Policy Discussion

The Chair reminded SC that undergraduate programs have the authority to decide to make their courses

Senate Council  
March 30, 2020

pass/fail and are not required to bring their proposals to the SC. During the upcoming Associate Deans meeting, she will be letting them know they will need to fill out a spreadsheet documenting any changes regarding accepting courses with pass/fail grading for program requirements. The information they provide will be listed on the LearnAnywhere website. There was discussion about making sure students understand how choosing the pass/fail option may affect them in the future.

The Chair reported that the Graduate Council plans to meet this week and vote on pass/fail grading for the Graduate School. Grossman (AS) made a **motion** that SC accept without further consideration the Graduate Council's decision on pass/fail grading for graduate programs for the spring 2020 semester. Cramer (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate. There was some discussion about the grading scale at the graduate level, in which a D is considered a failing grade. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with ten in favor and two abstaining.

The Chair informed SC that there have been questions from colleges about accessing underlying grades of students who opt for pass/fail during the spring 2020 semester. The purpose of programs checking on the underlying grade pertains to courses that require a minimum grade for progression. University of Kentucky Registrar Kim Taylor said that they will figure out a way to access underlying grades if needed. There was discussion about the reasoning behind allowing programs to check students' underlying grades.

Vincent (BE) made a **motion** that if a program wants to use the underlying grades for certain courses as prerequisites, they must submit a proposal to SC to review. Hamilton **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate. There was discussion about possible grade inflation for the spring 2020 semester. There was also concern about the delayed ability to communicate with students if SC must first review individual proposals to access underlying grades. Vincent (BE) **amended** her motion so that programs with existing prerequisites can enforce them based on underlying grades, without submitting a proposal to SC. There was **no second**. There was more discussion about the need for some programs to check underlying scores.

Grossman (AS) made a **substitute motion** to delegate to program faculty the ability to require certain letter grades for progression requirements, without submitting a proposal to SC. Brion (EN) **seconded**. The Chair asked if there was any debate about replacing Vincent's (BE) motion with Grossman's substitute motion and there was none. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with nine in favor and three opposed.

The Chair asked if there was any debate on the substitute motion. There was discussion about the process to appeal. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with 12 in favor.

The Chair informed SC that the College of Pharmacy is considering optional pass/fail. She also asked SC to let her know how they feel about transfer credit taken as pass/fail.

The Chair expressed her gratitude to SC for staying late.

Vincent (BE) made a **motion** to adjourn. Soult (AS) **seconded**. The motion **passed** with none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Bird-Pollan,  
Senate Council Chair

Senate Council  
March 30, 2020

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

Guests present: Scott Abney, Carter Anderson, Kim Anderson, Lyndsey Antos, Summer Bablitz, Drew Baldwin, Megan Barker, Cameron Baskett, Jonas Bastien, Lauren Beeman, Penni Black, Justin Blankenship, Zack Bray, Sheila Brothers, Roger Brown, Steve Browning, Jeff Buckles, Patrick Chambers, Myles Chaney, Layne Cohen, Brenton Craggs, Laura Disney, Holly Divine, Blake Donithan, Tony Dotson, Satchel Fowler, Ameena Gross, Elizabeth Goss, Zac Hamill, Ellen Hancock, Alexis Hardesty, Austin Hatfield, Michael Healy, Chynna Hibbitts, Larry Holloway, Robert Hudson, Martell Johnson, Davy Jones, Amanda Krugler, Laura Marie Letellier, Noah Lewis, Maddie Loeffler, Audrey Lovell, Fletcher Lyon, , Adrienne McMahan, Kristen Meers, Brandon Miles, Sarah-James Miles, Caroline Mitchell, Olivia Morton, Cameron Myers, Lakara Pryor, Rowan Reid, Miranda Roberts, Kreg Romney, Corey Samples, Kyle Schroader, Michael Simon, Bill Smith, Kaveh Tagavi, Laureen Tatman, Kim Taylor, Annie Davis Weber, Tori Wells, Alexander Wheeler, Courtney Wheeler, Mitch Whitaker, Seth Woods, Marianne Young.

Prepared by Stephanie Woolery on April 22, 2020.