

## Senate Council Minutes

October 25, 2004

The Senate Council met on Monday, October 25, 2004 at 4:00 pm in the Gallery of the Young Library and took the following actions.

The Chair announced that due to the dedication of the Main Building and the subsequent delay in the beginning of the meeting, the maternity leave issue will be delayed until the next meeting. The Chair welcomed Saunier, LCC Liaison. Joshua Odoi, student representative to the Senate Council, introduced himself and the Chair made him welcome.

### 1. Approval of the Minutes from [September 27, 2004](#) and [October 18, 2004](#)

The Chair asked for changes or corrections to the September 27 minutes. Bailey made a motion to drop the arrival times of the Senate Council members from the minutes. Tagavi seconded the motion. Eight members voted in favor of the motion, which passed without dissent. The minutes were approved as amended.

The Chair asked for changes or corrections to the October 18 minutes. Bailey suggested changing the word "Provost-ize" to reflect Jones' intent. Jones suggested including the explanation that the Rules Committee had been charged to make the rules reflect the change to the Provost system. Ms. Scott will make the change. Otherwise, the minutes were approved.

### 2. Items from the Academic Organization and Structure Committee

Bailey drew the Council members' attention to the proposal to [change the name of American Culture to American Studies](#). He explained the rationale for the change, as outlined in the proposal, and noted that the program faculty had voted in favor of the proposal. Bailey made a **motion** to forward the proposal to the University Senate with a positive recommendation, effective immediately. Kaalund **seconded** the motion, which passed without dissent.

Bailey outlined the proposal to [change the name of the Department of Administration and Supervision to the Department of Educational Leadership Studies](#). Bailey noted the committee had requested additional information from the College of Education to ensure the faculty had voted in favor of the proposal. He added that the information was provided and the committee's questions were answered satisfactorily. Bailey made a **motion** to forward the proposal to the University Senate with a positive recommendation, effective immediately. Kaalund **seconded** the motion, which **passed** without dissent.

The next proposal discussed by Bailey was the [name change of the Department of Agronomy to the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences](#). Jones expressed concern that the information on the routing sheet did not exhibit what sort of conversation had occurred about the proposal at the level of the department among the faculty. Bailey said the faculty council was the appropriate venue in which to hear the proposal and noted that he was at the faculty council meeting at which the proposal was unanimously approved. Bailey made a **motion** to forward the proposal to the University Senate with a positive recommendation, effective immediately. Cibull **seconded** the motion, which **passed** without dissent.

Bailey presented the proposal to change the name of the [Department of Animal Science to the Department of Animal and Food Science](#). Bailey reported the committee's concern that the proposed name may cause confusion with the Department of Food Science. He said Bob Harmon explained that Food Science was more geared toward dietetics and nutrition. Bailey noted the proposal had been through the faculty council, that there were two members from Food Science on the council, and that neither of them raised objections.

Moore and Kennedy joined the meeting at this point.

Bailey added that a high percentage of the students in the program seek jobs in food sciences areas, and suggested a name change would benefit

them. Tagavi asked if the title was meant to reflect studies in zoology or if it involved the study of animals as food. Bailey responded that Tagavi's question was interesting in that they study horses, though horses are not food. Tagavi noted that the proposed name was a little confusing in that regard. Bailey suggested allowing the full Senate to discuss the issue.

Bailey made a motion to forward the proposal to the University Senate with a positive recommendation, effective immediately. Debski seconded the motion, which passed without dissent.

Bailey presented the proposal to [change the name of the interdepartmental BS degree in Plant and Soil Sciences to Horticulture, Plant and Soil Sciences](#). Bailey noted that the Dean's cover letter erroneously mentioned the MS degree when only a name change in the BS program was under consideration.

Cibull and Staben asked for clarification about related degree programs. Bailey explained that the program was interdepartmental and the courses are shared by the departments. He said they also have a graduate degree program that may or may not change its name in the future.

Tagavi asked if the name change was approved by the Undergraduate Council. Dembo noted that it doesn't necessarily have to be approved by the Undergraduate Council. Jones asked if this sort of name change is considered a minor change and can be submitted directly to the Senate Council by the colleges.

Bailey made a **motion** to forward the proposal to the University Senate with a positive recommendation, effective immediately. Duke **seconded** the motion, which **passed** without dissent.

Bailey said his committee is also investigating two other proposals, but that he was not ready to present them yet due to the need to gather additional information.

### 3. Proposed changes to Senate Rules regarding electronic Senate Council elections

Tagavi reported the impetus for the proposal—specifically, the request by the Senate to make allowances for electronic Senate Council elections in the future. He said the proposed system builds upon the present rules and allows for an instantaneous run-off while eliminating additional rounds of voting in case of ties.

Debski said she found the present draft difficult to read and understand, and Staben agreed. Debski suggested Tagavi include a statement in the draft that the six Senators receiving the largest number of votes during the nominating round will be placed on the voting ballot. She felt the current language may lead people to believe that the voting ballot could be whittled down due to various disqualifications.

Debski also felt that the draft language regarding the voting round was confusing. Kaalund said it sounded like Tagavi proposed the Irish system. Tagavi explained the voting round process to the Senate Council members, who indicated that they understood the process when Tagavi described it verbally but did not feel it was clearly written. Bailey suggested the proposal be rewritten with more directive and less explanatory language. Jones said the Rules and Elections Committee was scheduled to meet the next day and could revise the language at that time. Greissman suggested the committee include an example to aid the discussion.

The proposal was returned to the committee and will be revisited at the next Senate Council meeting.

### Other Business

Jones inquired if the Chair had any news regarding the functionality of the Academic Council of the Medical Center. The Chair reported having received no response. Cibull indicated the existence of a web page that lists the various colleges of the medical center. Debski said the ACMC met the previous Tuesday and was chaired by Watt.

In other business, Kaalund expressed interest in serving as the student representative to the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Offenses. Jones made a **motion** to appoint Kaalund to that committee. Cibull **seconded** the motion.

Debski wondered if the Chair should make such a motion instead. Tagavi noted the Council members had already discussed and decided the membership of the committee. After further brief discussion, the motion **passed** without dissent.

Kaalund also expressed interest in serving as the student representative to the Rules and Elections Committee. Staben asked if the purpose for having student representatives on the Senate committees was to provide broad student representation of the study body. The Chair replied that there were currently no students serving on any of the committees. Kaalund responded that the student Senators from the colleges were not interested in serving on the committees, adding that many of them don't even attend the University Senate meetings.

Cibull made a **motion** to nominate Kaalund to the Rules and Elections Committee. Bailey **seconded** the motion. Dembo noted that appointing Kaalund to the committee would provide a short-term solution but wondered how student participation in the governance process might be increased.

Kaalund said many of the at-large Senators are interested in serving on committees, but that they aren't eligible to serve since they aren't members of the University Senate. Staben questioned the validity of that statement. Tagavi said that they could serve as non-Senators on the

committees, but that at least half of the committee members must be Senators. Dembo noted the only other regulation was that the committees must be chaired by Senators. Staben suggested that at-large Senators should be allowed to serve, assuming the correct ratio was maintained on each committee.

Kaalund agreed to provide Ms. Scott with a list of names of the interested at-large Senators. After further brief discussion, the motion **passed** without dissent.

The hour being late, the meeting was adjourned. The remainder of the items will be considered at the next Senate Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted by

[Ernie Yanarella](#), Chair

Members present: Bailey, Cibull, Debski, Dembo, Duke, Jones, Kaalund, Kennedy, Moore, Odoi, Tagavi, Yanarella.

Liaisons present: Greissman, Saunier.

Prepared by [Rebecca Scott](#) on October 27, 2004.