

Senate Council

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

The Senate Council met in special session at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, in 009F Main Building, although a video conference link was also available. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via a show of hands unless indicated otherwise.

Senate Council Chair Aaron Cramer (EN) called the Senate Council (SC) meeting to order at 4:00 PM. The Chair welcomed those present. He informed everyone that the session was being recorded for notetaking purposes and noted that it was an open meeting. He asked that the SC members participating via Zoom to type their name and affiliation into the chat box and added that the chat function is generally only used for attendance and not monitored. He asked that all attendees, online and in person, state their name and affiliation prior to speaking, to ensure everyone knew who was speaking.

1. Minutes from September 20, 2021 and Announcements

The Chair reported that there were no changes to the minutes from September 20. There being **no** objections, the minutes from September were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**.

The Provost indicated the President intends to have another meeting with the SC next week, unrelated to specific upcoming action, outside of regular SC meetings. The meeting is next week with an invitation to come shortly.

2. Discussion on the Strategic Plan

The Chair explained the purpose of the meeting was to provide and discuss feedback on the second revision of the draft plan. The Chair indicated he would be conveying a message to the President, reflecting the feedback provided and discussed by SC members. A robust discussion took place.

Best practices for strategic plan drafting were discussed. SC members discussed the appropriate alignment between objectives, tactics, and metrics, noting the necessity for objectives that are measurable, specific, and timeframe oriented. Effective implementation of the plan was discussed. SC members noted it would be critical for senior leaders including leaders of the Staff Senate, Student Government Association (SGA), and University Senate (Senate) to evaluate how to best leverage available resources to promote and sustain the plan. SC members also discussed the critical contributions made by faculty to the plan, noting that faculty-led committees should be defined as requiring participation of a plurality of faculty members. SC members noted the importance of diverse types of faculty involved in implementation of the plan.

SC members expressed concerns about specific items including the following:

- Organization of the draft plan
- Curricular and academic-related issues
- Inconsistent application of developed faculty-driven processes
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and belonging
- Student success
- Metrics conflating the plan of the University with UK HealthCare
- Sustainability
- Mental health resources
- Lack of justification for assertions that UK Core needed revision
- Ambiguous language in the draft plan

- Focus on linking revenues to productivity and quality but no similar focus on value
- Lack of justification for assertions of changing governance structure

The Chair requested SC members provide any additional feedback by morning on Thursday, September 30, 2021. The Provost remarked that suggested language would help expedite the process. Some SC members agreed individually to provide to the Provost with new proposed language for the plan, as it related to some of their concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 PM with no objections.

Respectfully submitted by Aaron Cramer,
Senate Council Chair

SC members present: Michael Hawse, Sophie DeCorte, Bob Grossman, DeShana Collett, Marilyn Duncan, Lee Blonder, Shannon Oltmann, Aaron Cramer, Gregory Hall

Invited guests present: Bob DiPaola and Sheila Brothers.

Prepared by Katie Silver on Friday, October 1, 2021