

Brothers, Sheila C.

From: UK University Senate <UK-UNIV-SENATE@LSV.UKY.EDU> on behalf of Cramer, Aaron M. <aaron.cramer@UKY.EDU>
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 11:28 AM
To: UK-UNIV-SENATE@LSV.UKY.EDU
Subject: University Senate August Newsletter



Dear Colleagues,

The semester is well underway at this point, and the pandemic continues to disrupt nearly every aspect of our lives, exacting an exhausting price. How much of our energy is consumed in struggling with the difficult questions it poses while navigating our ordinary responsibilities in teaching, research, and service? Though fatigued by the weight of COVID-19, it remains critically important that we participate in shared governance spiritedly. Questions about keeping our campus and our community safe are intermingled with questions about the future, identity, and decision making of our institution. These are complex questions, but the worst response to such questions is to avoid them as if their complexity is fundamentally intractable or to insulate ourselves and try to solve them without true regard for each other. We solve complex problems collectively with sincere partnership. We listen to understand one another's challenges, embrace empathy to broaden our perspective, and exhibit integrity by remaining open to recognizing the gaps in our understanding. This is the very definition of sharing UK's governance.

This week, the President described progress on the institution's strategic plan. He expressed how this plan should detail our shared principles and values, but this can only happen if we actively participate both generously and vigorously and if this participation is impactful. Our accreditor, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), requires that the institution place "primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty." The voice of the faculty in our institution, *your* voice, is always important. That voice carries a particular value as we approach our SACSCOC reaffirmation. Our University has a system of shared governance, and we play a vital role in shaping our shared values. The impact of and the fatigue from the pandemic are substantial, but we must not surrender this essential responsibility. Our common identity and future as an institution of higher education depend on our efforts.

The first Senate meeting of the academic year is Monday, September 13, at 3:00 pm. The agenda and information about joining the meeting via Zoom can be found at <https://www.uky.edu/universitysenate/senate/2021-09-13>. Below are the highlights of the meeting.

- Address from the President
- Memorial Resolution for Professor David C. Randall, Past Senate Council Chair
- Changes to Senate Rules about an academic holiday, a new course prefix/number for students in consortia agreements, and codifying the Senate Council's interpretation that quarantining is an excused absence.
- Reports from the Senate Academic Facilities Committee and from the Past Ombud

- Consideration of a resolution on a vaccine mandate
- I hope you can join us if your schedule allows.

Aaron



Aaron Cramer

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UK@Work Survey

The [UK@Work \(Work-Life\) survey of faculty and staff](#) begins Monday, September 13. This survey seeks to better understand employee perceptions and experiences about working at UK. There are approximately 60 items on the survey related to communication, leadership, diversity and inclusion, stress and well-being, pay and benefits, and university culture.

Regular faculty and campus staff (.50 FTE and above) who joined the University on or before August 16, 2021 will receive an email from UKatWork@willistowerswatson.com on Monday, September 13 with a link to take the survey. The email may show 'Caution: External Sender.' We encourage eligible employees to check their 'Other' and Junk/Spam folders if they do not see an email. (This link is unique to the employee (it helps the vendor aggregate responses by college or unit) and should not be shared/forwarded.)

The survey will be open from Monday, September 13 to Friday, September 24. (UK HealthCare administers an annual survey focused on clinical operations; some College of Medicine faculty and campus staff who work in the hospitals participate in both the UK@Work and the UK HealthCare Press Ganey survey.)

Faculty Conversations with President Capilouto

President Capilouto hosts small groups of faculty for informal discussions throughout the school year. If you are interested in attending one of these discussions, email katie.silver@uky.edu to be added to the list.

2021 Curiosity Fair

Applications to host “curiosity stations” for the 2021 Curiosity Fair are now being accepted. The Curiosity Fair enables participants to engage in interactive demos, also known as “curiosity stations,” designed to highlight a presenter’s area of interest and research. Students, staff, and faculty are invited to submit their curiosity station proposals; visit the fair’s [website](#) to learn more. See the [UKNow article](#) for additional details.

Deadlines for Curricular Proposals

These deadlines are for proposals to be considered for a Fall 2022 effective date.

December 1, 2021

New degree programs

March 1, 2022

Other proposals requiring committee review

April 12, 2022

Courses, all other program changes, and minors

Visit Senate’s webpage for [Curricular Deadlines](#) for additional details.

University Senate Meeting Dates – Fall Semester

September 13, 2021

October 11, 2021

November 8, 2021

December 13, 2021

The modality for University Senate meetings will be determined by the Senate Council approximately one week prior to the upcoming Senate meeting. The September Senate meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

[View Senate Minutes and Agendas](#)

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