

University Senate  
March 20, 2017

The University Senate met in regular session at 3 pm on Monday, March 20, 2017 in the Athletics Auditorium of W. T. Young Library. Below is a record of what transpired. All votes were taken via electronic voting devices unless indicated otherwise. Specific voting information can be requested from the Office of the Senate Council.

Senate Council Chair Katherine McCormick (ED) called the University Senate (Senate) meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

The Chair welcomed senators to the meeting. She noted that there were empty seats in the middle of the room and asked senators to move towards the middle, if possible, so that senators who arrived later or needed to leave early could do so easily. She reminded senators that Senate follows Robert's Rules of Order [newly revised] and encouraged senators to be civil with each other, be a good citizen, participate in discussions, and return voting clickers to the table in the back prior to leaving.

The Chair called for an attendance vote and 67 senators registered their presence.

1. Minutes from February 13, 2017 and Announcements

The Chair reported that no edits or comments had been received. There being **no objection**, the minutes from February 13, 2017 were **approved** as distributed by **unanimous consent**. There were a number of announcements for senators.

- The April Senate meeting will be on April 17 from 3 – 5 pm in the same location. The date was changed to accommodate Passover Seder.
- The April or May Senate meeting will include an Honors-related proposal from Interim Honors Dean Phil Harling. The proposal recommends allowing primary appointment of lecturers in Lewis Honors College.
- There is a UK inclusivity graduation requirement moving through the curricular process. It will come to Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee and then will need to be reviewed by SC and Senate, hopefully before semester's end.
- Candidates for position of associate provost for student and academic life were here recently for campus visits. Things are on schedule for July 1 start for the person who will fill that position.

The Chair invited Provost Tim Tracy to give senators updates on current state and federal legislation and he did so. Provost Tracy answered a variety of questions from senators. Senators thanked him with a round of applause.

- The Chair welcomed Dr. Sonja Feist-Price (ED/Early Childhood, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling) to the role of Vice President for Institutional Diversity. Senators offered Feist-Price a round of applause.
- The SC's ad hoc Committee on Title Series Committee has begun its work. The Chair invited Sharon Lock (NU) to come to the podium and share some information about the committee's activities thus far. Guest Lock, the chair of the ad hoc Committee, noted that the Committee was comprised of area committee chairs and members of the Senate's Advisory Committee on

Privilege and Tenure. Lock explained that the charge, developed by SC in consultation with Provost Tracy, was to review UK's current title series system to determine the feasibility of changing to a system such as a system with two title series (tenure-eligible and non-tenure-eligible), with ranks in both series at assistant professor, associate professor, and (full) professor, with the inclusion of multi-year contracts (rolling or not) for faculty in the non-tenure-eligible title series. In response to a query from a senator, Provost Tracy stated that it was his hope that the ad hoc committee will also comment on the matter of voting rights for non-tenure-track faculty. In closing, Lock explained that the ad hoc Committee generally meets weekly from 9:30 – 10:30 on Tuesday mornings. She encouraged senators to email her with comments, etc.

- The Blue-Ribbon Committee on Graduate Education (chaired by Carl Mattacola and Brett Spear (ME/Microbiology and Immunology)) has also begun its work. Guest Carl Mattacola (HS/Rehabilitation Sciences, associate dean of academic and faculty affairs) came to the podium and said that while the co-chairs had met several times, the committee had met once. A UKNow article about the Committee's charge will be forthcoming in the near future. The Committee has divided itself into four subcommittees: "Growth and Innovation"; "Graduate Student Experience" (including student funding); "Infrastructure" (including funding considerations); and "Evaluation/Assessment/Quality."
- The Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leaders (COSFL) is holding a meeting at the Council on Postsecondary Education Building in Frankfort, April 7, 1 – 4 pm. The Chair asked Kennedy, senator emeritus (AS), to comment. Kennedy explained that the group had been fairly inactive over the past three to four years, but had been active prior to that time. All of Kentucky's public universities have representatives on COSFL – the voting members tend to be a university's AAUP member, faculty trustee(s), and senate chair. Anyone is welcome to attend the April 4 meeting, but there will be only four voting representatives.

## 2. Officer and Other Reports

### a. Chair

The Chair explained that one of the priorities in the Senate Council office is moving curriculum proposals along approval paths. She said that in conversations with faculty councils and bodies external to the Senate, a challenge typically cited is the slowness of the curriculum approval process. She stated that she was very happy to report that as of that afternoon, there were no curricular proposals sitting in the SC office – all items that had been received thus far had been sent to committee or put on web transmittals. She thanked Ms. Brothers and Guest Joanie Ett-Mims, the coordinator for the Undergraduate Council (UC), and stated that it was due to their work and others on their team – Jim Lindsay at the Health Care Colleges Council (HCCC) and Roshan Nikou at the Graduate Council (GC) – that the curricular approval process was functioning so well. She also thanked the chairs of the Senate's academic councils – Carl Mattacola (HCCC), Amy Spriggs (UC), and Brian Jackson (GC) – for their hard work. The Chair asked senators to inform the SC office if they experienced any problems moving proposals forward.

Ms. Brothers offered senators an overview of the Curriculog system and answered a few questions from senators.

There were a variety of actions the SC took on behalf of Senate and these were reported by the Chair.

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- The Chair reported that the SC heard a proposal very recently about an additional date for May Commencement (one ceremony on Friday plus one on either Saturday or Sunday). The SC voted to not oppose the addition of a second Commencement date for May 2017, but requested a formal proposal to review for a permanent change.
- On behalf of Senate, the SC approved a change to the calendar for ODM 830; the intent was to better balance course load for second year and third year dental students.
- On behalf of Senate, on February 20 the SC approved a change to *SR 6.1.3.A.1* (“Academic Evaluation”) for spring 2017. This was a proposal to make midterm grades due on midnight of the Monday after the ninth week, instead of midnight of the Friday of the ninth week. The change gave faculty an extra 72 hours to enter grades. Students had one fewer business days to decide about dropping, but the last day to withdraw was still over a month away (March 30). The Chair explained that a proposal for permanent change was included later on the day’s agenda.
- On behalf of Senate, SC waived on a one-time basis the relevant SRs, such as *SR 4.2.1* and *SR 4.2.4*, to allow the Interim Academic Officer of Undergraduate Education and the Interim Assistant Provost for Student and Academic Support to administratively move University-admitted but college-unregistered students (who have not registered in a college and are currently registered in an undeclared status (UNUS) prior to registration in a college) to colleges in which the students are admissible and to which the students are otherwise best academically aligned.
- On behalf of Senate, SC waived the academic calendar restriction so that if a case arises where a decision cannot be made by February 26 (last day to change majors) for transferring a college-unregistered student (who has not registered in a college and is currently registered in an undeclared status (UNUS)) into a college, either of the two empowered administrators (interim academic officer of undergraduate education and the interim assistant provost for student and academic support) may help a student during the period of February 27 through April 19.
- On behalf of Senate, SC approved a calendar change for the dates of spring break for first-year medical students (from March 4-12 to March 27-April 2).

The Chair reported that the search committee for an associate provost for student and academic life was ongoing, as was the search for the executive vice president for health affairs. The search for the new vice president for institutional diversity was complete and was a successful search.

b. Vice Chair

Vice Chair Bailey (AG) asked senators to start thinking about fellow senators to nominate for the Senate’s annual awarding of the Outstanding Senator Award. He shared the current criteria (below) with senators.

- Nominee has contributed to the University Senate by showing active and exemplary service on one or more Senate committees during his/her tenure; or
- Nominee has provided exemplary service critical for success of faculty governance at the University of Kentucky; or

- Nominee has made notable substantive contributions in communicating with the Senate and administration on important issues that impact the faculty mission at UK.

c. Parliamentarian

Parliamentarian Seago (LI) said she did not have a report.

d. Trustee

Faculty trustees Grossman (AS) and Blonder (ME) offered brief reports.

3. University Appeals Board (UAB) Report for 2015-16 – Joe Fink, Chair

Guest Joe Fink (PH), chair of the University Appeals Board, presented the prior year's statistics to senators. There were some comments and questions from senators.

4. Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 6.1.3.A.1 ("Academic Evaluation") (Change to Midterm Grading Deadline)

The Chair explained the proposal. Guest David Timoney, associate registrar, said that the change was relatively easy for the Registrar's office to implement. The Chair said that the **motion** from the SC was that the Senate approve a change to *Senate Rules 6.1.3.A.1* so that instead of midterm grades being due on the Friday of the end of the ninth week for fall and spring semesters, midterm grades would be due at the end of the Monday following the end of the ninth week. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. Farrell spoke in favor of the proposed change. There were no other comments. A **vote** was taken and the motion **passed** with 72 in favor and one opposed.

5. Student Government Association's Proposed Changes to Senate Rules 5.2.4.2 ("Excused Absences")

The Chair explained that the proposal came through the Senate's Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (SAASC) – that committee's chair, Yost, was present and could weigh in on the discussion. The **motion** from SC was that the Senate approve the SGA's proposed new language to *SR 5.2.4.2.E* ("Excused Absences") and move the current language in E to a new subsection F. Because the motion came from committee, no **second** was required. The Chair asked Rowan Reid, president of the Student Government Association (SGA), to explain the proposal, which Reid did.

There was extensive discussion among senators, including participation by Yost, Reid, student senators, and faculty senators. Some senators spoke in favor of the proposed change and others spoke against it. The senators who spoke against the proposed change expressed concerns that the new type of excused absence might be inappropriately used by students, for example, failing to seek interview times that do not conflict with class times or examinations. Another comment was that it was not clear what would be included in "full-time job opportunities." McGillis **moved** to amend the first sentence of the proposed new language to include graduate and professional school interviews, and ask the SAASC to look more closely at the language surrounding "full-time job opportunities" to be more explicit. Cross **seconded**. There was additional discussion. A **vote** was taken and the amendment to the motion **failed** with 15 in favor and 56 opposed. A **vote** was taken on the original motion and that motion **passed** with 57 in favor and 13 opposed.

Schroeder **moved** to move to agenda item number seven and move the agenda items in number six to the April Senate meeting. Mills **seconded**. A **vote** was taken via a show of hands and the motion **passed** with one opposed.

7. Update on Parking and Transportation Initiatives - Director of Parking and Transportation Services Lance Broeking and Executive Director for Strategic Analysis and Policy Melody Flowers

The Chair introduced the two invited guests who were present to share information with senators - Director of Parking and Transportation Services Lance Broeking and Executive Director for Strategic Analysis and Policy Melody Flowers. There were many questions from senators. When discussion wound down, the Chair reminded senators that the information shared during the meeting about parking locations was available on the Senate's website with the day's meeting agenda.

Given the time, McGillis **moved** to adjourn and Yost **seconded**. Given the swiftness of departures, there were no objections to adjourning and the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ernie Bailey,  
University Senate Secretary

Invited guests present: Lance Broeking, Jason Dovel, Melody Flowers, Joe Fink, David Mannino, and David Timoney.

Absences: Allday\*; Allen; Arnett; Atwood; Bada; Birdwhistell; M;; Birdwhistell, T.; Blackwell; Brennen; Browning; Butler\*; Capilouto; Cassis; Cheng; Clark; Cofield; Cox; Danner; de Beer; DiPaola; Escobar; Flaherty ; Folmar; Ford; Forren\*; Geneve\*; Guy; Hazard\*; Healy\*; Heath; Hippisley; Holloway; Iocono; Jackson; Jones, W.; Kearney; Kilgore; Knott; Kornbluh; Kurczaba; Kyrkanides; Lephart; Martin, A.; Martin, T.; McCormick; McMahan; Mitchell; Murray\*; Peffer; Rice; Richey; Rohr; Royster; Sachs; ; Sogin; Sokan; Stekardis; Sudharshan\*; Symeonidis; Thamann; Thompson; Tracy; Troutman; Truszczynski\*; Valdez; Vosevich; Wilson, K.; Wilson, M.; Witt; Wood; Woods; Xenos\*; and Yeager\*.

Prepared by Sheila Brothers on Friday, March 31, 2017.

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\* Denotes an absence explained prior to the meeting.