



College of Education

Science, Technology, Engineering, &
Mathematics Education
105 Taylor Education Building
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April 1, 2016

RE: Professional Degree Charge to Senate Academic Programs Committee [SAPC]
From: SAPC – Margaret Mohr-Schroeder, Chair

To: Andrew Hippisley, Chair, Senate Council
Senate Council

The charge to the Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) was given as follows:

1. Propose a definition for “professional degree” that could be applicable to any college at UK;

SAPC did not feel comfortable with proposing a definition for a professional degree. After reviewing our committee charge per the senate rules in depth, SAPC felt this was more suited for Senate Council to propose the definition of a professional degree.

2. Propose generally the information that must be included in a proposal for a professional degree; and

Based on the information given in the charge, the background information from Mia Alexander-Snow, and CPE’s current “definition” regarding professional degrees, the SAPC would recommend using the equivalent of the Master’s Degree form for proposals of new professional degrees.

3. Propose (in track changes) the modifications to Senate Rules that are necessary to describe the approval process for a professional degree program.

Snippet from SR 1.4.2.6 (“Senate Academic Programs (SAPC)”)

The SAPC is charged with recommending action to the Senate on all new academic [degree](#) programs ~~approved by the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council, or the Health Care Colleges Council~~. Specifically, the SAPC shall review the academic excellence, the need, and the impact, desirability, and priority of the new academic program in relation to other programs. In approving a new program, the Committee shall recommend a priority to indicate its importance and the immediacy with which it should be implemented.

~~The Committee shall function mainly through three permanent subcommittees: Graduate Degree Programs, First Degree Programs (including undergraduate degree programs), and Professional and Pre-professional Degree programs. The appropriate subcommittee shall investigate the proposed new program and present its evaluation to the full committee, which shall decide on its recommendation to the Senate. In ascertaining the appropriate subcommittee, and in acting upon the recommendations of the SAPC, it is the policy of the University Senate to adopt and utilize the definitions of the Council on Postsecondary Education that distinguish these different types of degree programs.~~