

Senate Council Summer Activity

Background

It is anticipated that there will be many decisions that need to be made during Summer 2020 that fall within the Senate's responsibilities. These decisions will have consequences for Fall 2020 and beyond. If the Senate is unable to participate in these decisions, it could lead to a significant erosion of the Senate's authority.

Proposal

The Senate Council Chair (with assistance from the Senate Council Office) can communicate with the members of the Senate Council via email to keep them apprised of issues that arise during the summer and actions being taken on their behalf. Senate Council members may provide input to the chair throughout the summer as well. The Senate Council Chair will use this input and his or her judgment and understanding of the Senate Council's views to inform decisions that must be made quickly.

The Senate Council Chair would benefit from Senate Council deciding to meet occasionally over the summer. Specifically, it is proposed to hold a few meetings during the summer on Mondays 3:00-5:00 pm (June 1, June 22, July 13, and August 3). These meetings will provide formal opportunities for the Senate Council to act and to provide input to the Senate Council Chair on emerging issues. It may also be necessary to call emergency meetings as necessary if particularly urgent and difficult questions arise.