

UNIVERSITY SENATE AGENDA

<http://www.kutztown.edu/about-ku/administration/university-senate.htm>

October 1, 2020 4:00-6:00 P.M.

ZOOM

Present: Martha Anderson, Collen Bolger, Ryan Bowers, Mario Cardozo, John Carelli, Janice Chernekoff, John Conahan, Cara Cotellese, Richard Courtney, Agostino D’Ancona, Anne DeLong, Summer Doll-Myers, Francis Cortez Funk Mike Gabriel, Jason Garcia, Jen Gehringer, Chris Habeck, Kenneth Hawkinson, Daniel Immel, Loriann Irving, Joseph Jedwab, Mauricia John, Deryl Johnson, Joni Klopp, Lisa Kowalski, Erin Kraal, Steve Lem, Pdraig McLoughlin, Amy Pfeiler-Wunder, Robert Portada, Christine Price, Paul Quinn, Angelo Rodriguez, Wendy Rogers, Rick Salafia, Jennifer Schlegel, Douglas Scott, Michelle Sims, George Sirrakos, Jill Sober-White, Daniel Stafford, Ceyhun Sunsay, Michelle Vaughn, Veronique Vlaun, Andrew Vogel, Jenny Wallace, Tony Wong, Gwendolyn Yoppolo, Lindsey Yurchak, Anne Zayaitz

Absent: Kate Clair (excused), Shawn Riley, Marci Scheuing

Guests: Anne Carroll, Matt Delaney, Jacklyn Downing, Lisa Kowalski, Melinda Quinones, Karen Rauch, Daniel Spiegel, Carole Wells, Ted Witryk,

I. Call to order 4:00 P.M.

II. Announcements

1. Volunteers for Senate Exec vacancies for spring 2021- Thanks to Deryl Johnson and Cara Cotellese for volunteering to fill the positions of Vice President and Secretary in the spring.
2. Nominations and Elections Committee: Senators Chernekoff, Price and Bolger will serve on the nomination and election committee for the vacancies of the President and Secretary positions starting fall 2021.
3. EMT Course Design Principles and Models (pending approval, not ready for release)

III. Guest Speakers

1. Melinda Quiñones – Multicultural Center:

- a. Started in April, tasked to provide services to a center during the pandemic, dealt with social unrest, systematic oppression and racism that filters into our education system
- b. Multicultural Center is open Monday to Friday from 8AM to 9 PM, all students are welcome, the center provides a safe space and services for marginalized students, and for all of our students.
- c. Activities: revitalize the center, hired three new Graduate Assistants (GAs), all women, one oversees the GAP program which is a bridge mentorship program for Reading High School, the Leadership GA works with the team to provide leadership and development opportunities for the students from freshman year

until graduation and, the Social Media GA works to continuously make students aware of services.

- d. MCC implemented Let's Talk sessions with the community; provides alumni, faculty and staff an opportunity to discuss their feelings surrounding the murder of George Floyd. MCC focuses on diversity and inclusion, micro-aggressions versus compassion.
- e. Fun events: virtual sessions, collaborative work with other inclusion centers, movie screening, virtual cooking session for Latin Heritage month.
- f. Focus is on diversity, safe space; this should help with persistence and retention.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from September 3, 2020 E. Kraal moves to approve, G. Sirrakos seconds; all in favor.

V. Reports

1. Senate President – S. Lem

- The bookstore is accepting winter and spring orders. Target date is October 15th in order for students to benefit from savings.
- Constitutional revision taskforce is very busy. Senator M. Vaughn is leading the taskforce and will have something to report to the Senate body soon.

2. Senate Vice President – T. Wong

1. The Committee on Committees made the following recommendations in filling the vacant positions of the governance committees.

Academic Standards & Policies Committee

- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Representative (Sabbatical replacement for Spring 2021)
 - FangHsun Wei (Social Work)

Academic Technology Committee

- College of Visual & Performing Arts Representative – 2 years (term ends 8/1/2022)
 - Elizabeth Schneider (Art)

Campus Beautification & Preservation Committee

- Graduate Faculty Representative (Sabbatical replacement for Spring 2021)
 - Richard Heineman (Biology)

Cultural & Performing Arts Advisory Committee

- Theatre Faculty Representative – 1 year (term ends 8/1/2021)
 - Deryl Johnson (Communication Studies)

Institutional Climate Committee

- At-Large Faculty Representative (Leave replacement for Fall 2020)

- Mathias Le Bosse (Geography)
- Faculty Member from the College of Business Representative – 1 year (term ends 8/1/2021) August 2021 when the original term ends
 - Feisal Murshed (Business Administration)

Undergraduate Admissions Exceptions Committee

- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Faculty Representative – 2 years (term ends 8/1/2022)
 - Ju Zhou (Mathematics)

Undergraduate Academic Honesty Committee

- At-Large Faculty Representative (Sabbatical replacement for Spring 2021)
 - Brooks Emerick (Mathematics)

University Conduct Board

- At-large Faculty Representative – 3 years (term ends 8/1/2023)
 - Bradley Congelio (Sport Management and Leadership Studies)

T. Wong: Approval is needed by the senate body, all in favor of having positions replaced as recommended, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

2. A survey was sent to Committee Chairs on September 23. We already received 2/3 responses.
 - meeting dates, time, and venue/Zoom link
 - recent accomplishments
 - goals for the year
 - areas open for collaboration
3. Bylaws of the
 - Center for the Enhancement of Teaching Advisory Board (working with Dr. Amy Lu, the director of the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching);
 - Graduate Exceptions Committee (working with Dr. Carole Wells, Dean of Graduate Studies, due to the merge of Counselor Education and Student Affairs);
 - International Affairs Committee (working with Dr. Lacey Wismer, Assistant Director of International Admissions and Services, due to an additional position).
4. Review the role of the former Space Allocation Committee / recently proposed to be renamed as University Facilities Advisory Committee.
5. Future work
 - Bylaws of the Cultural and Performing Arts Advisory Committee.

P. McLoughlin: When was the committee renamed?

T. Wong: It has been recommended to be renamed, but official change has not been made.

1. Senate Secretary – M. John

Elections coming up in December for the positions announced in September's meeting.

4. University President – K. Hawkinson

- Chancellor will host a virtual townhall on 10/30 at noon, it will be a 90-minute session about the state of the State System
- More than 100 action items were created to ensure justice, diversity and inclusion on campus, we recognize the need to expand this initiative and to provide an inclusive environment, and we rededicate commitment to these principles. Many groups will be working on this initiative and more information will be shared in the coming days about how this initiative will be structured.
- Katie Leonard from Johnson College, a private two-year non-profit institution in Scranton, PA and other guests were welcomed to KU on 9/30. We signed a dual enrollment program with our department of Computer Science and Information technology program. We continue to sign these agreements to ensure that transfer students can enter KU with many of the requirements met and graduate in two years.
- Virtual Unity Day was held on 9/10, we continue to support diversity, inclusion, social equity and equality. Numerous speakers were present and over 100 organizations participated in the event
- We continue to provide innovative opportunities for students to excel during the pandemic
- Music department will be hosting a series of outdoor concerts (Mondays at 7PM in front of Schaeffer Auditorium) this semester, as well as live virtual performances on YouTube.
- Daily pandemic updates are important, be sure to pay attention
- Thank you to everyone for their hard work which enabled us to reopen our residential program this fall.

T. Wong: Number of new cases is zero today, this is encouraging; can we encourage students to come back to campus next semester?

K. Hawkinson: Modalities were changed for many classes, due to changes students were allowed to move out of residence halls without penalty, we lost 30% of students, many ended up with five classes online, so they chose not to live on campus. Going into spring semester, things can change, hopefully this will give confidence to students to come back in spring to the classroom. Faculty should encourage students to return as well. Hopefully there will be more face to face classes in the spring.

E. Kraal: One challenge is that there is a lot of confusion amongst students about the expectations about modalities; what is our plan for clarifying those expectations in the spring? How can we address this so we are clear to students?

K. Hawkinson: Flexibility was given to faculty in terms of controlling and structuring their classrooms, part of this is still going to be up to the individual faculty, many faculty make provisions, modalities need to be defined with more details, we have a lot more time now that we know what the questions are.

E. Kraal: This is important in terms of advising, students have requested to go online but were not accommodated by the DSO. We are not aware of the number of students who need accommodations or how many students need different things

K. Hawkinson: DSO was in contact with students, shields were also provided.

A Zayaitz: Chairs and Deans are working on the spring schedule, FWA has not yet be approved, we can certainly get the definitions out there prior to advisement so that students are clear.

D. Johnson: Thank you for your leadership and taking the retrenchment letter off the table. Hearing about the loss of students in residence hall, do you anticipate that there will be reductions in staff during this school year?

K. Hawkinson: We have 2200 students in resident halls, we began with 3100, this is \$3.4 m of lost income for the rest of this semester, there is also some savings on the dining side, because we were able to reopen and maintain, we made a strong case to the Chancellor, can't say with certainty, but assuming we stay residential until Thanksgiving, I do not anticipate a need to layoff non-faculty employees. A few extra weeks will be spent deep cleaning residence halls and classrooms, we are talking about ways to entice students to come back in spring.

P. McLoughlin: Congratulations to Dr. Hawkinson, Dr. Zayaitz and the entire administration, I am impressed with leadership and flexibility; you have done an excellent job, KU should be proud of the leadership.

K. Hawkinson: It's been a very rough time, to hear you say that is very appreciated. Primary reason is that students learn better in real time with faculty and mentors, with on campus experience. Reason for reopening is because it was best for our students.

A. Pfeiler-Wunder: Note section in advising is very helpful, we can put expectations for the student in terms of technology. The more we can say with the modalities what the expectations are, this will be helpful for students when choosing courses. The challenge will be for students who are not coming back to campus; we should let students know what the expectations are.

J. Schlegel: Any update on how we are going to celebrate spring and fall 2020 graduates?

K. Hawkinson: Sad to cancel the activities for this Saturday, difficult decision was made to go virtual at 9 AM this Saturday, October 3rd.

Governors' restrictions were overturned, but are now reinstated, we are not allowed to have more than 250 people gathered. We currently cannot bring thousands of people to campus and take that risk. Hopeful for May, but very unlikely for December. If it requires additional events, we will do those extra ceremonies. AnnMarie and I purchase a brick on the alumni plaza to commemorate the class of 2024.

J. Schlegel: If the cabinet or anyone has suggestions for what we can do for students, that would be great.

A. Zayaitz: Please send ideas to me and put in the subject line 'graduation ideas', they will be sorted and forwarded to cabinet.

F. Cortez Funk: Gratitude and thanks to KU's community for opening, if we did not, the impact would have been very difficult for SCUPA. Thanks to everyone, particularly impressed with facilities. Thank you to Senate and those in the bargaining unit.

K. Hawkinson: We did not anticipate control outside the classroom, but students are wearing their masks. A major consideration was our affiliated employees like Aramark.

5. University Provost – A. Zayaitz

- Two upcoming Chambliss lectures will be held on October 7th at 4:30 PM (Dr. Wolfmeyer) and October 19th at 4:30 PM (Dr. Amy Pfeiler-Wunder.) If you have not been to one of these lectures, highly recommend that you make the effort to attend

- New program approved: Masters of Ed. in Multicultural Education beginning in fall 2021, we applaud faculty and College of Education for persistence with the help of Dr. Wells.
- KU is one of the leaders in OER, some sister schools are just now learning about this; thank you to those of you who continue to work with the bookstore; it makes a difference in cost of attendance for students
- Continue to think about assessment in terms of educational effectiveness in the world of COVID, it is important that we understand what works and what does not work.
- Helpdesk: Troy Vingom has rearranged the work of the helpdesk in IT. Requests are now being distributed across IT; this is very efficient. Requests are being monitored with quick responses
- Thanks to everyone for putting the students first and providing support to our students, thanks to SCUPA and AFSCME as well. It is very important what you do.

6. Student Government Board – A. D’Ancona

- SGB
 - SGB retreat went well; heard from administrators and college deans, set goals for the year and had some bonding activities for board members to get to know one another
 - Voter Education Panel w/election commissioners went well, and students received a \$10 gift card to the bookstore for their attendance
 - Voter registration for students
 - Pride Fest will be October 22nd @ 7pm
 - SGB Fall Fest October 31st
 - Testing at RA in town—will help students tremendously who don’t have cars or transportation to get to testing out of town—our COE students can get tested before student teaching or pro-sem if school requires
 - SGB Eboard and other student leaders will get to meet with Chancellor Greenstein Oct. 31st
- BSGP
 - BSGP met with Vice Chancellor Dr. Denise Pearson—nice round table discussion with the other 13 SBPs about how to improve diversity, equity and inclusion at the PASSHE the level
 - BOG meets October 14th and 15th—will be reviewing the financial review of university integration and BOG will determine if those identified universities w/in report will need to begin drafting integration plans—only developing plans not integrating universities yet
 - BSGP will be meeting with chancellor Greenstein directly after public session on Oct. 15th

7. Assessment Office – K. Rauch

- Academic Assessment day was held 9/18, panel of KU faculty discussed assessment in programs.

- Last group talked about small group work and how to move forward with assessment during a pandemic, a series of tutorials with screenshots were made; these tutorials will be up within the next week
- Willing to offer one on one sessions for those who could not make it to the training.
- The same week, academic program assessment reports were collected; they are currently being reviewed
- Make sure that all information is up to date on the website before Middle States visits.

V. Unfinished Business

S. Lem: All policies are in motion and not ready to come back to the Senate floor items 1-5

1. Undergraduate Academic Forgiveness (ACA-055) @ ASPC
2. Course Grading – Undergraduate Students (ACA-048) @ ASPC [Tabled until Fall 2021]:
3. Early Warning (ACA-XXX) Still @ APSCUF
4. Final Examinations (ACA-025) Still with Senate President
5. Transfer Credits (ACA-019, ACA-023) @ ASPC
6. Extension of spring 2020 emergency grading policy:

S. Lem: Motion on the floor is to extend the policy until the end of the semester. Move to take it off the table, E. Kraal seconds, all in favor.

Flowchart was sent out about what we would give to students, it is open for feedback, once finalized it will be passed on to students.

A. D’Aconna: SGB can assist with circulation. Policy looks like it is helping the students that it was intended to help. Students should not be punished for a global pandemic, students are being pragmatic, they are thinking through options, the flowchart will be helpful.

C. Cotellese: Why was there so much clicking back and forth, is the GPA calculator available where those clicks were being recorded?

A. Zayaitz: Yes, the GPA calculator was available so students could see what grades were going to look like.

C. Cotellese: Concerned about why students made the change. I like the flowchart, it’s really helpful, but a few students did the NC and did not know what they were doing.

S. Lem: We added this feature to the flowchart

R. Courtney: If the student failed the class twice then took a NC, this erases the original F; this could be a potential loophole.

E. Kraal: Clarification, does this only affect the second F or does it go back to the first?

R. Courtney: The last grade takes precedence

T. Witryk: An F will always remain on the transcript; the first F will not count towards GPA due to the NC

A. Zayaitz: Students would not take a class a second time to earn an NC

R. Courtney: You can blow off the class

T. Wong: This is happening half semester so this cannot be planned ahead, this cannot be intentional

A. D’Aconna: This is not the mindset of the student, if the student chooses NC, they still have to retake the course, students are not trying to blow off the course, it is more of a safety net.

P. McLoughlin: This time around we know the modalities, some students will have a lack of motivation, so this is a concern.

E. Kraal: Modalities changed for many students three days before classes started, if a student or two took advantage of this loophole, this is a small percentage of the students we are helping. Data could be collected so it can be analyzed. Nervous about removing the option due to one or two students.

J. Schlegel: What does it look like to have consecutive semesters with NC or PA, how is this read by businesses and graduate schools? What does grit look like? What is the impact outside of the institution?

S. Lem: Flowchart will be more program specific. No universal answer, but valid question.

J. Chernekoff: Grit looks like showing up for class this semester, any first year student has grit and hopefully employers will recognize this. Students should be given flexibility and choices

T. Wong: Do we know other universities' policies; this can be used as a reference. You can add a comment in the flowchart that says if your grade is higher than your current GPA, then you should not change your grade.

A. D'Ancona: Mansfield is currently working with their university Senate to advocate for this, at West Chester, if students receive an F it won't be counted towards GPA, Clarion and Millersville are also working on this.

A. Pfeiler-Wunder: Knowing what sister schools are doing is helpful, giving choice is important, the flowchart will be helpful to students. It is program specific; this is a good move for our students.

J. Carelli: Can we treat NC as a non-attempt, this way it does not override anything that happened before.

T. Witryk: If you received financial aid for registering for the course and you remove it, that would be problematic. You are basically not counting a course that you have already received financial aid for.

D. Johnson: Generally, there is consensus that the motion will be passed, it is important that this is passed and approved so that we can work on this information for faculty before they start advisement.

S. Lem: Motion to close debate, E. Kraal seconds; all in favor. Motion passes to close.

All in favor of extending the emergency grading policy, 36 yes votes, 1 no, 6 abstentions, motion passes.

7. COVID-19 Fall 2020 Survey

S. Lem: Senators Kraal, Schlegel and D'Ancona have been working on this survey, a draft was circulated for review by the body, questions were intentionally kept open-ended with the intent of figuring out what is plaguing our faculty and students during the pandemic. If you have thoughts and feedback on the survey, please let us know over the next few days so it can be taken to Dr. Rauch for approval.

VI. New Business

VII. Good of the Order

D. Johnson: Can the signed withdrawal policy be circulated so that everyone is informed.

A. Zayaitz: Yes, this can be done.

VIII. Adjournment

P. McLoughlin moves to adjourn, E. Kraal seconds; all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mauricia John

Secretary, University Senate

Please note: University Senate meetings are recorded to facilitate the documentation of University Senate proceedings (minutes). Audio recordings are only shared with members of the University Senate Executive board and support staff. Records will not be uploaded to the internet, shared or transmitted.