Minutes
UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING
November 3, 2016 – 3:30 p.m. – 203 Green Hall

Approved December 1, 2016


ABSENT: Faculty, Mary Banwart, Tom Beisecker (excused), Pam Fine (excused), Lisa Friis, Jane Gibson, Megan Greene (excused), Lynn Hancock (excused), Elizabeth Mac Gonagle (excused), Jason Matejkowski (excused), Amalia Monroe-Gulick (excused), Roberta Freund Schwartz, Dean Stetler, Students, Chancellor Adams, Alexandra Erwin (excused), Zoya Khan, Jacob Murray, Loic Njiakan, Brittney Oleniacz, Victoria Snitsar, Sophia Templin, Staff, Liz Phillips (excused), Emily Gullickson,

ALSO PRESENT: Maureen Altman and Kathy Reed, University Governance; Mary Lee Hummert, Vice Provost for Faculty Development; Mercedes Bounthapanya, Alex Kinkead, Christian Roberson, Multicultural Student Government (MSG); Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little; Sara Shepherd, LJWorld

President Joe Harrington called the meeting to order and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

MINUTES for October 6 2016 were approved.

STANDING REPORTS
University Senate President
Harrington reported that while the IRS has reversed its decision to discontinue universities subsidizing GTA health insurance, the workgroup which was formed to study the issue met on the 15th of October to recommend raising salaries for eligible GTA employees. He informed Senate that SenEx had established two new committees: the Ad Hoc Committee on Cost Savings and Efficiency Enhancement, and the Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Policy Library. Committee information available at the end of the minutes. Explaining the background of the latter committee, Harrington said that when it was discovered last year that the University Program Policy (aka, “Policy on Policies) had been created with no Governance input the concern arose that there might be other similar policies approved without shared governance. The committee, which is composed of one faculty member, one staff member and one student, is charged to “review university-wide policies and identify those that should come to the attention of the University Senate”. Jonathan Clark is the faculty member; staff and student members will be appointed by the presidents of their senates. Jonathan Clark requested an addition to the committee’s charge.

Motion to add “and which might be accepted by Senate in their current form”. Clark/seconded. Passed.
In response to a question, Clark said the addition made the charge clearer. (Enroll and Pay materials available at the end of the minutes). Reading the new language on the Enroll & Pay login Harrington explained that faculty and staff who use the site to conduct their work and are not incurring any fees were concerned about the requirement to sign this contract agreeing to an open-ended statement. Since the new language originated with Student Account Services, Harrington contacted the Director Karen Bailey. He read Bailey’s response and his reply, and explained that the next step was a meeting with Bailey and possibly General Counsel. It was noted that since entry of grades were due in December the matter was of some urgency. Keller noted that the login language does not appear if entering the site through MyKU.

Faculty Senate President
Keller reported on the last KBOR meeting at Fort Hayes two weeks ago. The KBOR Chair confirmed that a Request for Proposal had been sent out for a consultant to the process, and indicated that the firm, as well as the chair and members of the committee will be confirmed before the semester is over. The search is anticipated to begin in January. The President and CEO, Blake Flanders reiterated that KState’s search for a new president was a closed search. Keller reported that the KBOR Governance Committee is currently reviewing the weapons policies of KState, Fort Hayes and Emporium and will review the policies for KU, Wichita State and Pittsburgh State in November.

Student Senate President
Gabby Naylor reported that there would be a referendum regarding the fee to remodel the Kansas Union. The referendum which would add a $50 fee would require a ten-percent vote to go through. Geraldo Sousa questioned the necessity of the remodel. Sofie Wang added that since many students shared his sentiments that the fee, which had been passed at Student Senate, needed to be voted on. Naylor also reported that Student Senate approved a resolution declaring solidarity for Standing Rock, and that an ad hoc committee has been formed to look at accommodations for religious holidays. Senate members have been meeting with Haskell to discuss relationships between the two institutions. Naylor will attend a Big 12 student conference in West Virginia next week which will advocate for higher education, and discuss social justice issues.

Staff Senate President
Reporting for Liz Phillips, Brian Moss, Staff Senate President-Elect, said that Staff Senate filled the PR Chair position at the last meeting which will allow them to improve communications, and cited the difficulties in communicating during voter registration. Noting that sending emails through the University is limited, he reported that they are reviving Facebook. The Personnel Affairs Committee will be looking at some minor changes HR is making, primarily to My Talent, to make sure they are minor tweaks. He said he is waiting on more details regarding the University’s proposed changes to tuition assistance which will make it more difficult for faculty and staff to receive the benefit and which will also decrease amounts. Merit raises have been made available for staff but health insurance rates have risen. He and Liz Phillips are working on retaining the Professional Development Fund which was reduced this year and will be discontinued next year; they have received applications for this year’s award. On a more positive issue the Provost agreed with their proposal, which resulted from Douglas County Clerk Jamie Shew’s call for more help at the polls, for a day off for a voter work day. She sent Ola Faucher, Director of HR a proposal to establish a half-day for civic engagement.

Chancellor Search
Harrington read the resolution SenEx sent to the Board of Regents on October 19, 2016 requesting both that the Chancellors search conduct public presentations and question-and-answer sessions for each finalist, and that the search committee include faculty, staff and student members of the University Senate. He pointed out that the response from KBOR Chair Zoe Newton, which he also read, didn’t mention including elected
members of Governance among the faculty, staff and students on the committee. He presented the resolution that Senex had voted that Senate pass, which included edits and a definition of University Senate with bolded text to make a point that Senate members are elected. Responding to the question of what interaction would look like, Harrington explained that, like the Provost search, candidates would remain secret until finalists were chosen. Asked what peer institutions were doing, Keller explained that KState’s search is closed; KU’s last search was also closed. The reason given is that a closed search encourages more applicants. Harrington and Cecile Accilien noted the situation at Kennesaw State University in Georgia where the chancellor was chosen by the governor and no search was conducted. It was suggested that “insure” should be changed to “ensure”. Harrington requested a motion that University Senate send the resolution.

Motion to approve and send to KBOR the Chancellor search resolution requesting an open search which would include University faculty, staff and senate representation. Passed.

Unfinished Business
None.

New Business
Sousa suggested SenEx consider adding a charge to the Calendar Committee to look at the feasibility of extending Fall Break to one week, citing advantages such as benefitting study abroad and faculty research. Deering said that she had been on the Calendar Committee the year an extension was considered and noted some of the issues: the schedules of the Medical School, Edwards Campus, the military, and State had to be considered; when a week at Thanksgiving was proposed students argued that that was too late in the semester to wait for a break which she said is why there is a two day break in October. Noting that the Law School has its own schedule, it was suggested that Lawrence could have a separate schedule from the Medical School; Deering said that that was not an option when she was on the committee several years ago. The Chancellor pointed out that the day could be spread out in any way during the semester but that there are a minimum number of days that are required. Harrington said that he would put the suggestion on the next SenEx agenda for consideration.

ACTION: HARRINGTON WILL PUT THE SUGGESTION OF LENGTHENING FALL BREAK ON THE NEXT SENEX AGENDA. HE INVITED SENATE MEMBERS WHO HAD ANY COMMENTS TO THE SENEX MEETING ON NOVEMBER 15.

Harrington read the Multicultural Student Government (MSG) document and ad hoc committee proposal to senate.

Motion that University Senate adopt an ad hoc committee to explore the feasibility of a Multicultural Student Government, and if deemed appropriate, propose amendments to the University Senate Code to include the Multicultural Student Government within the University Senate Code at the University of Kansas. Wang/Chavez.

Responding to questions, MSG member Alex Kinkead explained that they want representation on University Senate so they can work directly with Senate because Student Senate, which doesn’t focus on diversity, doesn’t give the marginalized a voice. The Chancellor pointed out that to be another unit on University Senate, like faculty, staff and students, the University Senate Code would have to be changed. A student senator noted that all the groups listed under MSG are already represented in Student Senate. Others commented that a new body would be redundant; Wang pointed out that that would be for the committee to determine. Concern was expressed that while representation for MSG was important “separate but equal” is dicey; Kinkead disagreed that they were requesting “separate but equal” but were rather attempting to empower marginalized groups and give them a seat at the table. He added that MSG isn’t only for people of color but that anyone can be part of it. To give background on the
MSG proposal senator Michael Chavez read from page 21 of the DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Committee report.

“Specifically, we urge the University Senate to take special action to review: the structure of student representation in University governance to ensure equitable representation between the MSG and the current Student Senate; Student Senate elections processes to determine if Student Senate elections might be best administered by a University Senate committee comprised of students, staff and faculty; how to disrupt concentrations of power within the Student Senate in order to ensure that the Student Senate is inclusive, representative, and allows for broad participation from the student body.”

He suggested that the ad hoc committee would allow conversation on the recommendation and bring their ideas to the larger body of University Senate. Several said they would like to look at the proposal, discuss more of the issues, and not make a decision in one day. Harrington reminded that the motion was not to approve MSG on University Senate but to approve a committee to look at the feasibility.

Motion to call to question (end discussion and vote on motion before the committee).

Patterson/seconded. 18 yea. 20 nay. Failed.

In response to who would appoint the ad hoc committee members, Kinkead said that it was his understanding that presidents of the constituencies appointed; Harrington pointed out that, as the proposal indicated, the three students MSG chose were officers on the MSG board. Mercedes Bounthapanya explained that they chose themselves because they wanted to make the relationship. Naylor said that the process is that she or Stephonn Alcorn (Student Body President) asks for interested students.

Motion to table the vote until the next University Senate meeting on December 1 and that the MSG information materials be sent to senators. Barrett-Gonzalez/Sousa. Passed.

ACTION: KATHY REED WILL SEND THE MSG INFORMATION TOMORROW.

The meeting adjourned at 4:52.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Altman
MEETING MATERIALS

U Sen Ad Hoc Committee on Cost Savings and Efficiency Enhancement

**Purpose:**
To save resources while enhancing or minimally impacting the Teaching, Research and Service functions and long-term viability of KU.

**Committee Structure:**
2 staff, 2 students, 2 faculty. Committee elects chair from among membership:
Susan Twombly, Chair
Mohamed El-Hodiri
David Day
Hannah Coe
Anna Paradis
John Michael Rubein

**Committee Charges:**
Construct a survey mechanism to poll faculty, staff, students and alumni for cost-saving ideas. (Make such a mechanism anonymous, but with an option to self-identify, come and describe opportunity to committee.)
Collect surveys;
Examine budgets, commission studies as necessary;
Identify how the need for cost savings (i.e. budget cuts) has been addressed in the last few years
Decide on priorities for the future;
Enlist expert help from within KU for cost savings and impact analysis;
Make recommendations publicly to the Administration.

University Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Policy Library Review

**Purpose/Charge:**
To review university-wide policies [in the Policy Library] and identify those that should come to the attention of the University Senate.

**Committee Structure:**
One faculty member (Jonathan Clark), one staff member, and one student. Chair chosen by members [TBD]

**Enroll & Pay Login Notice (on log-in page):**
*By clicking "Sign in", I agree to conduct business electronically with the University of Kansas. I understand that I am responsible for charges incurred (as well as any and all costs, charges, expenses, attorneys' fees, and/or reasonable collection agency fees associated with the collection of outstanding charges by the University, a collection agency, and/or State Setoff) in the course of transacting business with the University of Kansas.*

Karen Bailey, Dir. Student Account Services:
The current statement on the Enroll and Pay login page was updated in March 2016. This was needed in order to be compliant with State of Kansas new procedures in collecting outstanding debt . . .
. . . While it may seem that this does not apply to faculty and staff, it is possible that faculty/staff sometimes owe The University of Kansas money. The debts could be related to tuition, library fines, Watkins health center charges or travel reimbursements just to name a few. . . .

In the normal course of business such as entering grades, there are no financial obligations. Many of us at the University work daily in Enroll and Pay but do not incur debts with the University. As long as individuals pay their outstanding charges with the University, there should be no issues with agreeing to this statement.

Harrington’s reply:
One solution that has been proposed is to ask the user to click an "I agree" button when and if they make a monetary transaction – not unlike when one purchases something on line. I know there are a lot of people on the
faculty and staff who are rather uncomfortable with the open-ended and wide-ranging nature of that statement, particularly since they have to use Enroll and Pay in their job duties. If the disclaimer did not appear until the transaction is requested (but before it is completed), that would obviate the concern. Is this a possibility you could look into? It certainly would be appreciated.

Karen Bailey response, Nov. 2:
We can certainly discuss the request but I can’t make any promises as to whether anything can or will be changed. Just to provide some additional information, prior to March 2016, this statement was on the Enroll and Pay login screen:

*By clicking “Sign in”, I agree to conduct business electronically with The University of Kansas. I understand that I am responsible for charges incurred in the course of transacting business with The University of Kansas.*

This statement had been in place for years so it’s really not a new concept. At the advice of General Counsel, we updated the wording . . .

**CHANCELLORS SEARCH**

SenEx letter to KBOR, October 18, 2016
We, the members of the K.U. University Senate Executive Committee, feel it is essential for the new Chief Executive Officer of this institution to have the opportunity to interact with the people they will be serving and supervising. Accordingly, there must be open, public presentations and question-and-answer sessions for each finalist.
Moreover, we urge KBOR to include in the search committee elected representatives of the Staff, Student, and Faculty Senates of the University of Kansas. Only in this way can we insure that all stakeholders on campus have a voice in the process. And it is crucial that the students, faculty and staff, as well as community leaders, play a vital role in selecting the next Chancellor – especially in light of the challenges of weapons on campus, and achieving greater diversity, equity and inclusion.
We thank the members of KBOR for their consideration.

KBOR response
Zoe Newton, Chair, KS Board of Regents (Oct. 25):
The Board has opted for committee-led searches for every university President and Chancellor search conducted over at least the last ten years. Those committees have consistently included student, staff and faculty representatives, as well as representatives of university administration, alumni, the community, and the Board itself.

I am certain the Board will again choose to include a broad-spectrum of representation on a committee to assist in the review and evaluation of candidates for the next Chancellor at the University of Kansas, and I can assure you that the Board is committed to choosing the process that it believes will result in attracting the best possible candidates for this critical position.

Draft of Senate letter to KBOR
We, the KU University Senate,* feel it is essential for the new Chief Executive Officer of this institution to have the opportunity to interact with the people they will be serving and supervising. Accordingly, there must be open, public presentations and question-and-answer sessions for each finalist.
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* The University Senate is unique amongst the Regents universities. Its 64 voting members are representatives of the Student, Staff, and Faculty Senates. According to the University Code, “The University Senate shall act in behalf of the University’s faculty, staff, and students in the performance of its powers.” Those powers, “[s]ubject to and in accordance with the control of the Chancellor and the Board of Regents as provided by law,” are “to formulate such Rules and Regulations as it shall deem wise and proper for the control and government of such affairs of the
University as directly affect the entire Lawrence campus, including the Edwards campus, and shall take such steps as it shall deem necessary for their implementation and administration.”

Multicultural Student Government