

Minutes
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
April 1, 2014

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in the Board Room, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower at 10:00 a.m. on April 1. Keith Gannon called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Angela Edwards, Kelly Holland, Roshan Palli, John Wilson and Barbara Young

Dr. Gannon distributed the minutes of the January 31, 2014 Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by Barbara Young to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Kelly Holland. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 1: Establishment of Honorary Degree - *In Memoriam Posthumous Degree* – Resolution requesting authorization to approve a new category and title of an honorary degree and the conditions for conferral of the degree. Dr. Lee Blonder, Senate Council Chair, reported that the President had asked the Senate Council to identify a recognition that could be provided for families of deceased students who have not completed requirements for a degree. Once approved, the degree and conditions will be codified in the University Senate Rules. A motion was made by Roshan Palli to approve the recommendation and seconded by John Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 2: Creation of the Department of Urology – Resolution requesting approval to create the Department of Urology in the College of Medicine, effective July 1, 2014. The Department of Surgery was founded in 1960 with the formation of the University of Kentucky Medical School. The Department housed all of the various surgical disciplines with the exception of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN). At the time, this was the norm. Over the last 20 years, most academic centers have moved away from this model. Urology has grown away from general surgery and thus the trend nationally is to have Urology as an independent department. Dr. Jay Zwischenberger, Chair of the Department of Surgery, said the establishment of the Department of Urology gives us national recognition and establishes a path toward further excellence in patient care, education and research. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Kelly Holland. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 3: Creation of the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies – Resolution requesting approval to create the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2014. Dr. Mark Kornbluh, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the establishment of the department began with an external review initiated by the College of Arts and Sciences in 2008 where the need for stronger writing instruction and a department that could meet the needs of writers across the university was identified. As a result, the Division of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Media was founded in Spring 2010, and the newly organized faculty in the Division voted to seek departmental status. The department will focus on improving student success across the curriculum and by producing graduates who are prepared to succeed in professional and community settings. A motion was

made by Kelly Holland to approve the recommendation and seconded by John Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 4: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Arts and Sciences (Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies) – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science with a major in Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies degree in the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies, in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective in the Fall 2014 Semester. Dr. Mark Kornbluh, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the degree will prepared students to enter professional and community settings in which writing and advocacy are necessary and will serve students with a variety of interests. A motion was made by Kelly Holland to approve the recommendation and seconded by John Wilson. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 5: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Arts and Sciences (Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing) – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing degree in the Department of English, in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective the Fall 2014 Semester. Dr. Mark Kornbluh, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the proposed two-year residency program will expand the already existing undergraduate creative writing program to the graduate level. A motion was made by John Wilson to approve the recommendation and seconded by Kelly Holland. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASACR 6: Joint Conferral of Master of Business Administration Degree – Resolution requesting approval of the joint conferral of the Master of Business Administration (Executive Concentration) degree with the University of Louisville. Dr. Dave Blackwell, Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics, said the Master of Business Administration (MBA) concentration is not a new degree. The size of the potential market in Kentucky is small relative to much larger urban areas and delivering the concentration jointly efficiently utilizes the resources of both institutions and the state. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Kelly Holland. The motion was unanimously approved.

Barbara Young asked about costs associated with new degrees and if we are terminating degrees at the same time as establishing new degrees. Dr. Riordan said the Executive MBA gives us added capacity. She also said we are seeing a lot of creative changes in degrees as units are trying to diversify to serve student interests better. Resources are carefully looked at as part of the review process as we track demand and growth.

Roshan Palli, Student Government Association President, gave an update on student activities. DanceBlue, the annual fundraising effort to fight childhood cancer raised \$1.4 million and was a fantastic event. The Student Activities Board brings entertaining, educational and enriching programs to campus that are reflective of contemporary issues and trends. SAB recently sponsored Laverne Cox. The Center for Community Outreach sponsored eight trips during spring break. The Violence Intervention and Prevention Center hosted Take Back the Night march and rally to end violence. The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) is this weekend with over 4,000 undergraduates coming to campus. This is a great opportunity for UK students. Students have weighed in on issues from dining to the student center. Student organizations are in the process of selecting new leaders.

Dr. Gannon reminded committee members that the strategic planning process was initiated at the Board Retreat last October. The strategic planning team was asked to perform a rigorous examination of trends that are, or are likely to impact UK in the future. This strategic plan is likely one of the most important documents in the history of our university because of the dynamic landscape that currently exists at UK and across academia in general. It was great leadership and insight by President Capilouto that ensured we took time to honor this important step.

Provost Riordan reported that 103 faculty, staff and students are part of the Strategic Plan team. The Strategic Plan process started in December/January when the committees started collecting data and looking at trends. A Piñata version of the Strategic Plan is being used to gather feedback.

In the report, *"Understanding Tomorrow: A Research Report on Trends in Higher Education and Their Impact on UK"*, nine broad areas were identified as daunting challenges and compelling opportunities that we will be facing in coming years. They are:

1. Changing finances
2. Changing the purpose of public higher education
3. Greater accountability
4. Increased use of technology
5. Increased internationalization
6. Changing undergraduate population
7. Challenges in graduate and professional education:
8. Research in an era of declining resources
9. Changing professoriate

The University of Kentucky has significant strength to build on for the future. We are a flagship, land-grant research university and one of eight institutions in the country with the breadth of colleges on a single campus. We have formed partnerships with EDR to rebuild our residence halls, Coursera to create MOOCs, and we have an increased focus on philanthropy. We have increased the academic quality and diversity of our students and support programs and made investments in infrastructure. However, our financial challenges include declining state funding, increasing tuition and fees, declining federal research support, and rising competition for our students from out of state institutions.

Town hall meetings in April will be held to gather input from campus groups before finalizing the Strategic Plan for approval by the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Gannon thanked everyone in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Gannon
Academic and Student Affairs Committee