

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
June 13, 2012

Topic/Discussion	Action
Call to Order. President Michael R. Pinsky called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM	The meeting commenced at.
<u>Approval of the Minutes of the May 9, 2012 Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Pinsky asked for approval of the minutes.	The minutes were approved as written.
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u>	No new business.
<p>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Mark A. Nordenberg</p> <p>Thank you Mr. President.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I want to devote the first portion of my remarks today to the presentation of a well-deserved honor The Chancellor’s Affirmative Action Award which was created 23 years ago thru a generous and well-targeted gift made by Dr. Mimi Bishop Coffey, at that time director of the Office of Affirmative Action here at Pitt and her late husband Dr. Joseph Coffey, who was a member of the faculty of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. ○ I do need to say today that Dr. Joseph Coffey, one of the creators of this fund, passed away just 2 months ago in April and it seems appropriate for us to take a moment of silence in his memory and in gratitude for his contributions to University before moving forward with the award. ○ The Chancellor’s Affirmative Action Award is presented annually to an outstanding University program or individual that has made a significant contribution to affirmative action. For purposes of this award, affirmative action is defined as the “increase of access to and full participation in all aspects of University functions by minorities and women and others who have been declared members of protected classes by executive orders, legislation or court decisions.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The selection committee was chaired by Carol Mohamed, Director of the Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity & Inclusion. Other members include Vijay Singh, Associate Chancellor, and John Wilds, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Community Relations. The committee also included two members of the faculty appointed by President Pinsky. They were Jane Feuer and Mark Lynn Anderson, both members of the faculty in the Department of English. ○ It gives me great pleasure to announce that the 2012 Affirmative Action Award will go to the President’s Advisory Committee on Diversity at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg in recognition of its impact on the Greensburg Campus and the community that it serves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The selection committee was deeply impressed by the structure, operating procedures, and results achieved by the Advisory Committee. a role model for other schools, departments, campuses, or programs. ○ Dr. Sharon Smith, member of the Senate Council and President of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, nominated the Advisory Committee and credited it for its commitment to breaking down barriers of prejudice through a wide range of activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Advisory Committee begins the academic year with Diversity Week and uses Allies Network training to promote and improve 	

understandings of and to advance respectability for individuals with alternative sexual orientations; hosts events that combine opportunities for learning with social activities

- The Advisory Committee works to insure that it is able to address emerging issues. It has been said that diversity is the one true thing we all have in common and that it should be celebrated every day.
- It is with great pleasure then that I do recognize the Advisory Committee: Brandi Darr, Director of Financial Aid @ Greensburg Campus; Joyce Bucchi, Director of HR @ Greensburg Campus and one of the VERP participants; Pilar Herr, Assistant Professor of History @ Greensburg Campus; Sharon Smith, President @ Greensburg Campus; Jackie Horrall, Associate Professor of Economics @ Pitt Greensburg, Chair of Behavioral Sciences Division, and Chair of President's Advisory Committee on Diversity
- At the time of our last meeting I used commencement as a marker for the end of the academic year and discussed some of the ways in which we had closed the academic year with real strength, both in terms of an ongoing record of achievement and in terms of the effectiveness with which we had responded to a range of challenges. Let me begin with some good news from recent weeks.
 - Benjamin Jealous, the President of the NAACP came to this campus and was the Keynote speaker at the 10th Anniversary celebration of the creation of the Center for Race and Social Problems. This is the first center of its type to be created in a school of social work in America. Larry Davis, the Dean of the School of Social Work and the Donald Henderson, Professor, also leads the center
 - The Institute of Politics hosted a celebration of a different sort; it marked the release of a case study of Elsie Hillman's life as an engaged citizen, both as a political leader and as a supporter of a wide range of worthwhile causes. The release of the study was marked during a special program held at the Carnegie Music Hall because when we were sending out the invitations we were in the midst of bomb threats. Dick Thornburgh, Tom Ridge, and Tom Corbett all were there.
 - Pitt was one of just 11 universities to be designated a Center of Excellence in Pain Education by the National Institutes of Health. The schools of the Health Sciences have created a new Center for Military Medicine Research which will be led by Professor Rocky Tuan who holds the Rooney Chair in Sports Medicine and is the executive vice chair for research of the department of orthopedic surgery.
 - The school of medicine also has launched a new program in research on media and health which will be led by Professor Brian Primack from the department of pediatrics.
 - Seven faculty members have been selected by the Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence (ACIE) 2012 Innovation in Education Awards. This year's award winners are Peter Brusilovsky, School of Information Sciences; Fiona Craig, Department of Pathology,

School of Medicine; Paul Leu, Department of Industrial Engineering, Swanson School of Engineering; Jonathan Pearlman, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences; Andrew Rose, professor of engineering technology, Pitt-Johnstown; Tonya Rutherford-Hemming, School of Nursing; William R. Schumann, professor of anthropology, Pitt-Bradford.

- Peyman Givi, James MacLeod Professor, Swanson School leads a team that has been awarded a 3.7 million dollar grant from the Air Force to develop quantum computing algorithms to better model turbulent combustion in aerospace applications. When it comes to the area of quantum computing Pitt really is emerging as a leader with Pitt faculty being selected to lead multi-university teams in big projects.
- This is also a season of continuing challenges; chief among them obviously is the challenge that is presented by declining and in some instances dramatically declining and disproportionately declining support for public higher education here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
 - The Senate has passed a bill that would eliminate the cuts proposed by the governor in February and restore the University of Pittsburgh for the next fiscal year to this fiscal year's funding levels.
 - That bill would completely restore the funding that had been completely eliminated from the tobacco settlement proceeds.
 - Competitively awarded in two ways: 1. Awards tied to an institution's record in attracting NIH funding; 2. awards that are made on the basis of proposals each year. Pitt has attracted more than 13 million dollars each year and those are dollars that have been leveraged and converted into successful applications for even larger federal grants.
 - As things stand now, leaders of the majority caucus in the senate, the leaders of the majority caucus in the house and the governor's team are negotiating the shape of what will be the final appropriation bill.
 - As things stand now we're slated under the governor's proposal to lose 40 million in our base appropriation and another 13 million dollars through the elimination of this tobacco funded research program.
 - Even if we get that, we lost 67 million dollars this year. We lost 40 million from our general appropriation and another 7 million dollars in a mid-year freeze.
 - Then we lost half of our capital project support, that's another 20 million dollars. When you hear someone talk about funding pressures or when you read articles about funding pressures, these are very real pressures. If the governor's proposal were to advance that would mean that we would have lost more than half our support from the state in 2 fiscal years.
 - We really are advocating as aggressively as we can before the senate bill. We do hope that that is the bill that largely sets the shape of the state budget for the next fiscal year.
- On the longer term there also is the governor's commission on post-secondary education of which I am a member. That group is going to hold 2 public hearings tomorrow; one in Pittsburgh, one in Sharon. I'll be present

for both and other friends of the University of Pittsburgh will be present at these hearings.

- Changes in administrative positions of 3 people who have made a real difference in the progress of the University and also have dealt with a range of issues.
 - Betsy Porter: who has served so capably as the director of admissions and financial aid during a period in which our trajectory in term of the number of applications that we have attracted, the quality of the students who have been enrolled has been amazing.
 - Vice Provost for Research George Klinzing and Vice Provost for Faculty Andy Blair also have announced their intentions to step down. Both of them plan to return to the faculties of the School of Engineering and the Katz School/CBA respectively.
 - Pat Weiss has made an impact through leadership roles within the University Senate who is leaving the office of Vice President.
 - John Baker who is leaving position as Immediate Past President of Senate Council and also serves as the Chair of the senate budget policies committee who has for an extended period of time real investments of his time and talent through his senate work.
 - Michael Pinsky will now serve in the role of Immediate past president and with Tom Smitherman as the new president of the senate.
 - Michael is distinguished in his own discipline and has further distinguished himself through his work as the president of the University Senate.
 - When I moved into the position of Interim Chancellor, relations between the senate officers and the officers of the University serving in the administration were something less than ideal Keith McDuffy, who was the incoming president, and I sat down that summer and we said, “Life isn’t gonna be that way” with the two of us and promised that we were going to be unfailingly civil and open but respectful about our areas of disagreement, that we were going to work hard to resolve any differences that might arise, and that we were always going to put the University of Pittsburgh first.
 - Michael has not only lived up to each of those principles of fair and constructive dealing but he really has become an exemplar of them
 - I want to present him with the ceremonial gavel and this hand-forged depiction of the Cathedral of Learning, a physical symbol of the University that has been the foundation for our professional partnership and our personal friendship.
- This has been a tough year.
 - They are years that have involved some challenges that maybe were predictable in terms of the financial problems attendant to the general economic downturn, not experienced just in Pennsylvania but throughout the country and around the world.
 - But almost every year has brought unanticipated challenges as well. What did we do to deserve G20 riots? Who would have expected some of the things that came after Super Bowl wins?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Certainly what we endured during the weeks from last February to the third week or so of April this year weren't anything any of us had signed up for in terms of our job descriptions or what we were hoping to do with our lives during that period of time, but we kept everything moving forward. ○ In the end we're stronger in ways that can be measured and we're stronger in ways that can't be measured but I think that we all appreciate because we all are a part of this community. I look around this table and I see so many people who have contributed in so many ways to making this an even better University. ○ So as we bring not just the academic year but the fiscal year and the fundraising year and everything else to an end I really do want to say thanks to everyone because we've traveled this path together. 	
<p>Questions/Comments</p> <p><u>Dr. Pinsky</u>: I think that the thing that really strikes me as being positive was the way that the University as a whole came together during the bomb threat crisis; from the administration, the staff, the faculty, and the students. I was really pleased to see the collegiality, the cooperation, the compassion that was held.</p> <p><u>Question (Richard Mulcahy)</u>: Three things that I would like to say; 1) we at Pitt Titusville need to establish what constitutes economic viability and how that will be assessed, 2) What is the goal and what can or should be done on the local level to achieve that goal, 3) we need a seat at the table where that discussion is going to take place.</p> <p><u>Answer (Dr. Beeson)</u>: Thank you for bringing those up. I'm actually in conversation right now with President Alexander about setting up a meeting up on your campus so that we can talk with the faculty about where we are and what we're doing and what the expectations are as we move forward. Right now we've been working over the last three weeks just trying to get the initiative moving so that we can start the term off correctly and will be meeting later in the summer.</p> <p><u>Question (Richard Mulcahy)</u>: Do you have a target date when that meeting might take place?</p> <p><u>Answer (Dr. Beeson)</u>: If we can do it before mid-July that would be perfect. If not it won't be until the beginning of September.</p>	
<p>Report of the President of the Senate, Michael Pinsky.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This will be the last report that I will give you as the senate president. I have been elected Vice President of the University Senate twice and President now for three times. It's been my honor and privilege to serve as president and I thank you and the faculty in general for allowing me to serve in this role for the past three years. ● This has not been quiet three years, to say the least. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ From attacks from without first by the mayor on trying to tax student tuition, city bus route cuts limiting access to the University for students and staff, the G20 summit meeting and its associated campus disruptions followed by two rounds of budget cuts by the governor on state support for higher education and recently the bomb threats, we have endured and continued to grow stronger as a public/private research institution of higher education. ● We also had the faculty handbook revised to specifically list that community service if it resulted in durable knowledge would count 	

<p>toward academic advancement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This change was central to the University-wide development of community service related programs and the creation of CERTS. ● The threats from outside the University have created a greater sense of camaraderie across school lines. Still the forces of change and the world's economic realities demand that we remain vigilant and proactive as we strive to sustain collegial shared governance. ● We also need to focus on making sure due process is followed and collegial discourse remains standard for all discussions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Last week we discussed the impact that these changes are having on the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, the impact that consolidation will have on three departments. The conversations at the Faculty Assembly meeting were collegial and instructive. It is my sincere hope that we continue to work directly and proactively with the administration and others to sustain the gains we have realized. ● I maintain that the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh is the University's most prized resource. We have an internal obligation to support academic freedom, academic conduct and academic responsibility. ● Faculty Assembly and Senate Council will not meet again in July or August. Meeting again in September we will have a new president, President Tom Smitherman, and a new Vice President, Jim Becker. Also returning for a second term will be Linda Frank as our secretary. ● I want to thank my Vice President, Pat Weiss, for the last two years of service and very capable service at that, and her wise council. ● I also want to thank and acknowledge the work and dedication of the past president John Baker who was president for 3 years and then past president for the last 3 years, a total of 6 years on the executive committee. ● I wish to thank Linda Frank our secretary for one year together with us and wish her good fortune the new administration that's coming up when I take on the role of immediate past president. 	
<p><u>Questions/Comments</u> None</p>	
<p><u>Reports of the Committees</u> <u>President of Student Body Government Board: James Landreneau</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First want to say thanks to board member Rothenberger who sat in for me last month. I was remembering, while the Chancellor was speaking, when I was here 2 months ago we exited during a bomb threat. Time has changed for the better. I apologize for not being here a month ago, I actually had a doctor's appointment then but as Natalie knows I am also studying for the MCATs so I apologize for the haircut as well. By next week I should be back in order. ● I just have a few updates for what is going on over the summer with SGB. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Right now I'm working with Summer Rothrock with CCLD to prepare for the Panther Gold Leadership Summit. Panther Gold Leadership Summit is an opportunity for Exec boards of Student Clubs on campus to meet each other prior to the school year. Over 30 groups were 	

invited this year. Those groups include: SGB, Pitt Program Council, Blue and Gold, Pathfinders. Over 40 people have registered thus far. Registration will end at the end of the month.

- As far as the Panther Readership Program is concerned right now; to remind everyone the readership program was resigned this last February to permit US Today and New York Times prints around campus. Board member Hallinan and GPSA President Givens met with the Hillman Library last week to find alternative ways to curb costs for the program. We are also looking for additional funds to support the program for the upcoming years.
- Alongside of being involved with being a member of Panther Leadership, we are involved with creating events for the fall.
- SGB is excited about that given that the presidential election is coming up this November.
- SGB traditions committee is working on a homecoming game for the fall that would feature throwback jerseys and other apparel for the fans. They also have branded the student section as the “Panther Pit” and have finalized a more unified t-shirt design for students at football games.
- Board member Rothenberger is working on creating an SGB connect system, this is a way for people who are members of the SGB connect texting service to get alerts on SGB events such as Pitt Day in Harrisburg, upcoming meetings.
- I am going to be meeting with the elections chair next week to proof the recommendations for the elections code for fall. So I’m looking forward to that as well.
- SGB focus for fall is Pitt Make a Difference Day, the largest service day. It will be in October again this year.
- Community Outreach Chair Mallampalli will be coming back from her Study Abroad trip to Brazil in two weeks and I’ll be meeting with her committee to discuss getting people involved.
- Lastly I am working on getting SGB town halls on the move. This spring we did something new to SGB where we had in informal Town Hall every month where students could come up to the Board and discuss their concerns on campus. After talking with Dean Humphrey about 2 months ago she suggested to think about making it a little bit more informal by shifting the position of the meetings across campus such as visiting a dorm, etcetera. I’ll be working on that.
- You guys have done a great job. I’ve been a board member prior to my presidency and heard nothing but good things from everyone else about your work.

No Comments

College of General Studies Student Representative: Christina Hornack

- I’m sitting in for Brian Coleman who is studying abroad in France. A lot of changes have happened at the College of General Studies Student Government recently.
 - We had our elections so we met briefly in May to appoint new

divisional directors.

- At that meeting we also organized our upcoming presence at the Pitt Starts and Transfer Days which are an opportunity for us to speak with incoming students and prospective students.
- We are planning some events for the fall and the spring, most notably community service events with Project Bundle Up and Keep It Clean Oakland.
- Our main focus during the summer will be organizing our peer mentoring group which is designed to support the efforts of our students here and help them take advantage of all the resources they have available on campus. Thank you.

No Comments

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly: David Givens

- There are 3 other things that we have going on that can sum up the multitude of activity that we have going on at GPSA.
- Chancellor Nordenberg mentioned multi-university teams as being a kind of theme that we seem to be seeing here at Pitt. One of these teams that GPSA has been with has been the Pittsburgh Student Government Council on which I serve as a representative and have been representing that council to the City of Pittsburgh in their Sociable City Initiative.
 - I met with the mayor, many members of the city council, the CEO of that study as well as community leaders from Lawrenceville, Southside, Oakland, and Downtown.
 - Along with the Pittsburgh Council of Higher Education CEO, Ken Service, I have been tasked with starting a task force for Sociable City looking at ways in which the universities as part of the city can contribute to the safety and vibrancy of our night life and the infrastructure here of the city.
 - We have a number of initiatives on our docket of ways that we can continue supporting the University whether that's thru lobbying, Pitt Make a Difference Day, Pitt Day in Harrisburg, Harrisburg Day at Pitt, etcetera. We are very excited about that.
 - We are continuing to advance our initiatives for improving student life, student programming for graduate and professional students here at the University.

Staff Association Council: President Deborah Walker

- SAC will participate in the University's 225 Acts of Kindness on Saturday, June 30th.
 - Our selected project will be Keeping it Clean Oakland. SAC members and their families will weed, mulch, plant flowers, we may pass out in South Oakland on Parkview Avenue and the Blvd. of the Allies.
- The SAC Safety and Security Committee will sponsor a bike safety workshop sometime in September.
- Due to the University budget challenges; SAC has decided to suspend the Staff Appreciation Day Picnic until a later time.

Comments:

<p>Chancellor: I'd like to publically congratulate Deborah Walker who, I think it was just last week, was sworn in as a member of the Governor's Commission of African American Affairs and is the chair of their education committee.</p> <p><u>Bylaws and Procedures Committee: Chair Nicholas Bircher</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you read in the preamble the University Senate has adopted as a strategy electronic communication to supplant paper communication and has done this in several different ways over the past decade or so. In the process of doing that we've developed a website on which the minute of the Faculty Assembly, the Senate Council, and the Standing Committees are all available to our constituents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is very important that we communicate to our constituents and our constituents have the opportunity to follow what goes on and the University Senate website does provide that opportunity. ○ The Bylaws and Procedures Committee unanimously approved this amendment as did Faculty Assembly: "Be it therefore resolved the Senate Council approved the following proposed amendment to the University Senate Bylaws which replaces Article 6 section 4 in its entirety. Section 4: The executive committee shall report the activities to all members by posting on the Senate website meeting notices, meeting minutes, reports, newsletters, and senate matters columns generated by the executive committee, faculty assembly, Senate Council and/or Senate Standing or Special Committees." <p>No Questions/Comments</p>	
<p><u>President Pinsky:</u> I ask that this motion be put to a vote. (Seconded) All those in favor? All those opposed? Abstained? It has been passed.</p>	
<p><u>Announcements:</u> The Chancellor is hosting a reception and you are all welcome to go, Meeting is adjourned.</p> <p><u>Adjournment.</u> Meeting adjourned 4:00 PM</p>	

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN
Senate Secretary
Associate Professor of Public Health, Medicine, & Nursing
Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Infectious Diseases
September 7, 2012

Members attending:

Baker, Balaban, Beeson, Buchanich, Chaiklin, Cochran, Costantino, Frank, Galloway, Givens, Hravnak, Humphrey, Juhl, Kear, Landreneau, Levine, Lin, Miller, Molinaro, Mulcahy, Nordenberg, Pinsky, Ramicone, Rothenberger, C. Singh, V. Singh, Smith, Smitherman, Spring, Walker, Weiss, Wendell

Members not attending:

Arnold-Blais, Bauer, Bonneau, Caldwell, Culley, Daley, Elliott, Gallagher, Greenberg, Hartman, Kearns, Kory, Louderback, Moriarty, Muenzer, Murdoch, Neufeld, Pan, Rosborough, Savinov, Slimick, Smolinski, Sukits, Towers, Wilson

*Excused attendance:

Bartholomae, Burkoff, Gaddy, Harbert, Kovacs, Rickman, Savoia

Others attending:

Barlow, Bircher, Blair, Blake, Bonner, Clark, Frisch, Golden, Hart, Harvith, Hoogendoorn, Hornack, Mohamed, Supowitz, Wilds

*Notified Senate Office