

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
May 8, 2013

Topic/Discussion	Action
<p><u>Call to Order.</u> President Smitherman called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:02 PM</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes.</u> President Smitherman asked for approval of the minutes of the April 10, 2013 Senate Council Meeting.</p>	<p>The minutes were approved as written.</p>
<p><u>Report of Chancellor Mark Nordenberg</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Invited to participate in private roundtable with the Governor later today at 4 PM. ➤ Thanks to everyone who participated in making the Senate Plenary, very informative and well attended ➤ The University wide commencement was well attended and spectacular. There is nothing like being in the Petersen event center with graduates and their families. There were also school specific ceremonies on campus and at the regional campuses. A very happy time of year as we see our graduates obtain well deserved credit and helped to build lives of impact. ➤ Monday evening after commencement, as I walked across campus, I was greeted by a brother of a graduate from California he said, “After looking at this building...we feel like we were jipped and should have come here to school”. ➤ In Harrisburg....I have legislators from distant parts of the state comment about the University of Pittsburgh and how happy students from their constituencies are who attend here. This is a wonderful feeling. ➤ Feelings of pride not limited to recent graduates. 225 year medallion is being given to graduates from engineering and law. Bring together the most accomplished and what their time at Pitt meant. Dr. Herb Boyer has returned to hear lecture named after him. Boyer earned the Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees in biological sciences from Pitt's Faculty of Arts and Sciences in 1960 and 1963. In 2000, he and his wife provided \$1.5 million to establish the Herbert W. and Grace Boyer Chair in Molecular Biology in Pitt's Department of Biological Sciences. In 1976, Boyer cofounded one of the world's first biotechnology companies, Genentech, which uses recombinant DNA technology to produce commercial pharmaceutical products. ➤ University of Pittsburgh graduating senior Lisa Volpatti and doctoral candidate Noah Johnson have received awards from the Whitaker International Program, which sends emerging U.S. leaders in bioengineering overseas to undertake self-designed projects that will enhance their careers and develop their international ties. This is the fourth consecutive year that Pitt students have received Whitaker awards ➤ This week LaVonda Baldwin won Thomas Pickering undergraduate award aimed at preparing undergraduates for careers in the Foreign Service. ➤ 21 Pitt students received 2013 National science foundation fellowships, pursuing research based master’s and doctoral degree in science, engineering, math ➤ Sossena Wood, student from Swanson School of Engineering was elected as chair of the National Society of Black Engineers. <p>Faculty</p>	

- Lauren Resnick, membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
 - Pitt Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History Marcus Rediker, who has written extensively about working men and women and how they shaped the nation, will receive the Sidney Hillman Foundation's 2013 Sol Stetin Award for Labor History at the foundation's annual dinner May 7 in New York City
 - Alberta Sbragia, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies, selected to receive lifetime achievement award from European Union Studies Association
 - Mathew Rosenblum, University of Pittsburgh professor of composition and theory and chair of the Department of Music, is one of 175 scholars, artists and scientists selected for a Guggenheim Fellowship from among 3,000 contenders. The award is in recognition of past achievement but also of future endeavors
- Clinical research top 10 achievement awards. Pitt ranked among the most environmental responsible Universities by Princeton review

Commencement celebration at Pitt Greensburg

University Center for Social and Urban research 40 years.

Univeristy research and development center, 50th anniversary

Challenges

- State revenue receipts has followen below need, likely to be a period of additional cuts before the budget for the next fiscal year is finalized, no indication of revisiting the flat funding agreement reached earlier. Good news is that our funding arrangement still appears to be in place. That arrangement keeps us to funding levels at the level of support in 1995.
- University planning and budgeting committee has been working at looking at our budget, we will soon feel the real pressures from federal sequestration which will affect research funding as well as the simmering challenges to the non-profits by municipal governments. This issue has been moved aside until after the primary election.
- Current challenges are different because pressures are from all levels of government, federal, state, and local governments.....a triple threat.
- Dealing from challenges from a position of relative strength, some of things happened at peer institutions...we have been more effective and better equipped to deal with them.
- Applications to Pitt are way up, moving forward form a position of relative strength and moving forward together.
- Thanks to all you have contributed and to those who will contribute as we move forward.

Report of the Senate President Smitherman

- Elections for Senate Officers and open position in the Faculty Assembly were concluded on April 20th.
 1. Dr. Michael Spring was elected as president for the next academic year, beginning July 1st. He is an Associate Professor of Information Science in the School of Information Sciences. He has been on Pitt's faculty since 1986. His involvement in the University Senate began in the early 1990s and has continued to the present. He is a member of the Faculty Assembly, the Senate Council and the Senate Budget Policies Committee now. He served on PUP from 1996 to 1998 and was that committee's chairman from 1997-1998.
 2. Dr. Irene Frieze was elected as vice-president for the next academic year.

She is a Professor of Psychology and is very well known to the Senate where she has served in truly numerous roles, including one year as President.

3. Dr. Linda Frank was re-elected for another term as Secretary. She is Associate Professor of Public Health, Medicine, and Nursing.

I will provide more detailed introductions for next month's meeting. I congratulate Professors Spring, Frieze and Frank and wish for them a fruitful and productive next academic year.

- Voting for members of the Senate Committees concluded at 11:59 pm on Monday, May 6th. All members of the Faculty Assembly were qualified to vote.
- There are several items of very good news on Pitt's sustainability activities. Given the role played in this effort by the University Senate, especially its Plant Utilization and Planning Committee and its Sustainability subcommittee, I think the University Senate can be very proud of these accomplishments.

1. The Princeton Review's 2013 guide to 322 Green Colleges were recently announced. The top score available is 99. Pitt's grade was 97. Within PA, WV and Ohio, Pitt was the top school with the other schools ranging from 85 to 96.
 - the ACC, only Georgia Tech and Virginia Tech topped Pitt, with scores Pitt was the top Big East school with the other schools ranging from 60 to 95. Within of 99 and 98 respectively. The other schools ranged from 78 to 95.
 - Accolades and congratulations are due to the staff members at Pitt who performed Pitt's survey submission and have played important roles in Pitt's sustainability efforts over recent years: Laura Zullo, Dan Marcinko, Lela Loving, Will Mitchell, and Kathy Trent (Facilities Management), Gena Kovalcik, Melissa Bilec, Bhavna Sharma, and Alex Dale (MCSI), Kevin Sheehy, Scott Artis, and Heidi Fonzi (Parking and Transportation), Renee Galloway and Tom Youngs (Purchasing), Patrick Heffley and Mary Carenbauer (Housing), Kristen Lauteri and Brenna Sweetman (Food Services), Mark Collins and Ward Allebach (Environmental Studies), Jay Frerotte (Environmental Health and Safety), and Diane Drazdzinski (Institutional Research), among others who may have contributed within individual units.
2. On April 12th there was a student sustainability symposium on initiatives being undertaken at the University on sustainability.
 - Speakers included Pat Weiss, the co-chair of our PUP committee. Dan Marcinko of Facilities Management reported that green practices are taken into consideration when constructing or renovating campus buildings, adding that the Chevron Science Center and the Biomedical Science Tower 12th floor renovation are the most recent of five LEED gold buildings on campus.
 - The University is pursuing various levels of LEED designation for its Salk Hall addition, Benedum Hall phase II-A, the new Nordenberg Hall dorm, the GSPH addition and renovation, mid-campus complex renovations, and the Clapp Hall renovation as well as for a new sustainable office and classroom building at Pitt-

Greensburg and a new nursing building at Pitt-Johnstown. The Nordenberg Hall dormitory is on track to earn a LEED silver designation. I refer you for details to an article in the April 18th issues of the University Times.

3. The shape and form of the newly planned University Working Group on Sustainability are coming into focus. I hope to give you the final details at our next meeting.

- Current tentative plans are that there will be two faculty members, nominated by the University Senate, two students, nominated by the officers of student groups with the assistance of the Dean of Students, two staff members and two senior administrators.
- The sustainability group within the operations office of university administration will convene the meetings, which will likely occur three times yearly.
- Reports will be generated periodically to the public. Ad hoc members could be added as needed for special purposes.

➤ Over the last month, issues that the Tenure and Academic Freedom committee have been considering for several months continued to be an active issue within the University Senate. I will provide you with a brief follow-up to my more lengthy report from last month.

- As a quick review, the Tenure and Academic Freedom Committee (TAFC) may be asked to conduct an informal investigation and mediation effort for a faculty member to seek redress of grievances arising from certain actions by an administrator not covered by other University policies when efforts to resolve the issue when prior efforts at resolution at the department, school, or campus level have not been satisfactory to the faculty member, according to University Policy 02-03-01.
- Dissatisfaction with a salary decision is excluded, however, from this policy except where a salary decision or set of salary decisions is part of a pattern of conduct that, taken as a whole, may constitute the basis for a grievance.
- Dissatisfaction with a performance appraisal decision that is perceived to affect academic freedom is within the purview of the Tenure and Academic Freedom Committee.

➤ In recent months, there have been a number of requests from tenured faculty within the School of Medicine (SOM), principally from the basic sciences, who are not also members of the University of Pittsburgh Physicians, to TAFC for guidance, advice and informal mediation about planned reductions in their salaries for the next academic year.

- One of the most common concerns was the lack of knowledge on the part of the faculty members about University of Pittsburgh and SOM policies and procedures on this issue.
- Relevant documents are being posted on the SOM website now although we have made further requests to the Dean's office in the SOM about the documents that have been posted and have asked for even more documents to be posted. I will provide further update on that topic at our next meeting.
- The Executive Committee met with Dr. Levine about a month ago. Subsequent to that meeting, Dr. Levine provided to Dr. Michael Pinsky

and me a copy of his most recent draft at that time of an updated statement on Tenured Faculty Salaries and asked Dr. Pinsky and me for any comments and suggestions.

- We responded together with three suggestions. I will provide more information at next month's meeting. I also note that Dr. Levine has selected this topic for his State of the School address on May, 22, 2013. I encourage all members of the faculty of the SOM to attend.

➤ Here is my understanding of where this issue stands now:

1. There is no guarantee of salary associated with conferral of tenure anywhere within the University of Pittsburgh.
2. The policies on Tenured Faculty Salaries and updated performance appraisal forms represent official policies that have been approved properly according to University and School of Medicine policies and procedures.
3. The role of the Tenure and Academic Freedom Committee in this regard is properly focused on providing guidance and informal mediation to faculty members about salary decisions where a salary decision or set of salary decisions is part of a pattern of conduct that, taken as a whole, may constitute the basis for a grievance.
4. Dissatisfaction with a performance appraisal decision that is perceived to affect academic freedom is within the purview of the TAFC.

➤ At last week's Faculty Assembly meeting, two committees provided reports, the Computer Usage Committee and the Tenure and Academic Freedom Committee.

- The report from the later was the periodic report on faculty who are tenured or non-tenured, tenure stream or non-tenure stream and full time or part time.
- The Computer Usage Committee's report included very valuable information for faculty, especially, but for students as well. I refer you, especially faculty members, to the report for details. It is posted on the Senate Website, under Computer Usage Committee and reports.
- The report from the Tenure and Academic Freedom Committee, in the same format as previous years, looked at the number of tenured faculty, the number of tenure stream faculty, the number of full time faculty outside the tenure stream and the number of part-time faculty.
 - In summary, they reported, that the number of tenure and tenure-stream faculty has remained stable in most schools and academic units.
 - The marked growth in the number of tenured faculty in the SOM since 2006 is a noted exception, correlated with an increase in extramural funding.
 - The vulnerability of the SO M's financial commitments to this growing tenured faculty should be monitored.
 - The utilization of increased numbers of full-time and/or part-time faculty outside the tenure stream continues to vary within the academic unit.
 - The net effect of these trends is a continuing decrease in the percentage of tenured and tenure stream faculty within the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, Professions and the Regional Campuses, but stable percentages of all faculty in the SOM and the other health sciences. I refer you for more details to the full

<p>report which is posted on the Senate website under standing committees, TAFC report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Plenary Session of the University Senate, “<i>The Cyberlearning Revolution in Higher Education: What should Pitt be doing about instructional technology in the age of MOOC’s?</i>” was held on Thursday, April 18th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Professors Cynthia Golden, Alan Lesgold and Charles Perfetti of the University of Pittsburgh and Professor Norman Biers of the faculty of Carnegie Mellon University were the featured speakers. ○ Attendance was superb, probably the largest number in recent year. Feedback so far has been uniformly quite positive. ➤ We completed our discussions at Faculty Assembly meetings for this academic year centered around the 2012 NRC report on the nation’s research universities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Last week, Drs. Kathleen Blee and Alberta Sbragia gave to us an informative and useful presentation on the status and future of post-graduation education at Pitt and nationally. ➤ Senate Budget Policies Committee continues to monitor the progress of the review of the process of suspending the graduate programs of the Departments of German, Classics and Religious Studies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resolution of this issue, which has been considerably delayed, is anticipated within the next few weeks. A proposal has been reviewed by the Dietrich School of A&S Graduate Council and approved and the proposal is now under review in the Dietrich School Council. <p>Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kovacs: additional nuances that need to be resolved. 2. Smitherman: make sure all relevant documents are made available. 3. Initial document will be placed on the website and all of the documents will be readily available. 	
<p>Report of Student Government Board: John Cordier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New initiatives for more study space in the Pitt Union ➤ Hydration stations were installed. ➤ Student organization money allocation process ➤ Collected 20,000 hours of community service ➤ Thanks to Dr. Humphrey with our work 	
<p>Report of Graduate Student Government: David Gau</p> <p>Vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Themes on the idea of “unity” paradigm shift in what graduate students are seeking; get degree, get out. Students are trying to learn about other program in the institution; student want to continuing promoting Pitt and Pittsburgh ➤ Recent event at the opera; met others from Pitt nursing and medical school and more ways to get involved ➤ New orientation for graduate students, beginning September 5 and chance to see organization; offering high caliber of programs, i.e. Midnight premier of Star Trek; reach out to other student organization, particular Pitt Vet. ➤ Prospective: graduate Pitt Pathfinder organization and there is nothing like this at the graduate level and want to begin a similar organization for graduate students. 	
<p>College of General Studies: Brady McCormick presented by Travis Ritter, VP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ April 13 Pitt project Oakland, clean up and interaction ➤ April 19 excellnce reception at PPA, accomplishment of evening and university 	

scholars; award 6,000 in scholarship, honored 15 faculty and staff and recognizes with plaque ➤ Inducted new officers ➤ New elected student government will have planning meeting on May 11	
School of Arts and Sciences: Michael Lipschultz ➤ During the last month, on hold ➤ Over the summer, board will be planning	
<u>Report of Staff Association Council (SAC), Deborah Walker</u> ➤ Held a closed meeting, all candidate were able to present to the council today ➤ Elections will begin May 15 and the officers will be announced at June 12 ➤ Provide a concluding report.	
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> No new business. President Smitherman thanked the work of the University Senate committees.	
<u>Announcements.: None</u> <u>Adjournment.</u> Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM	

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN
 Senate Secretary

Members attending:

Arnold-Blais, Beeson, Butterworth, Clermont, Cochran, Cordier, Costantino, Flynn, Frank, Gaddy, Gau, Humphrey, Juhl, Kear, Kovacs, Lin, Lipschultz, Lyon, Matychak, Miller, Molinaro, Neft, Nordenberg, Ramicone, Savinov, Singh, Sallie Smith, Sharon Smith, Smitherman, Song, Tananis, Walker, Wendell, Wilson

Members not attending:

Barker, Bauer, Bonneau, Bruse, Buchanich, Chiarulli, Culley, Daley, Gallagher, Gleason, Hravnak, Jabro, Kearns, Kory, Louderback, Lunsford, Majumdar, Mulcahy, Neufeld, Savoia, Skledar, Slimick, Vieira

*Excused attendance:

Bartholomae, Beck, Becker, Hartman, Levine, McCormick, Pinsky

Others attending:

Balaban, Barlow, Bonner, Clark, Frisch, Harding, Harvith, Hoogendoorn, Mohamed, Moore, Ritter, Supowitz, Wilds

*Notified Senate Office