

Senate Council Meeting Minutes  
2700 Posvar Hall  
September 11, 2013

<b>Topic/Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<p><u>Call to Order.</u> President Spring called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. President Spring asked for a moment of Silence in Commemoration of the deaths of 2,996 people in the attacks on New York, Washington and UA Flight 93 over Shanksville, PA on September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 as well as the deaths of 4 representatives of our country in the Benghazi attack on September 11, 2012.</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:01 PM.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the, June 12, 2013 Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Spring asked for approval of the minutes.</p>	<p>The minutes were approved as written.</p>
<p><u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> No new business.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Mark A. Nordenberg</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Somber day reflected on the remembrance of September 11, 2001; produced a combination of sadness, fear, and anger</li> <li>○ Reflected on that day, remembering spending much of that day wandering the campus not knowing exactly what to say; spoke with distraught students who had family and friends working in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon</li> <li>○ This was one of those times that the community came together</li> <li>○ Today there was time at Heinz Chapel for a moment of reflection on an event that changed America</li> <li>● Last year for the University of Pittsburgh was one for the books <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 225 anniversary of our founding; surpassed 2Billion fund raising goal, received positive Middle States report; praised our commitment to excellence; secured an early agreement for flat funding from the Commonwealth; cemented position among the top 5 universities for total research support; national and international recognition by faculty, staff, students and alumni</li> <li>○ Carried with it a sign of strength, soundness, and hope; recently presented to Board of Trustees an operating budget with a 2.5% salary pool for increases within this climate of financial cut by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the University of Pittsburgh.</li> <li>○ Increase in bond rating which is 1% above the state rating demonstrating a change in outlook from stable to positive.</li> <li>○ Best credentialed freshman class; less than 8,000 applications in 1995 today 28,000; SAT score up from 1100 to 1300.</li> <li>○ Move from the Big East into the ACC...milestone movement for Pitt because of the stability and resource base as members of that conference; regular visibility of the University of Pittsburgh on East coast from Boston to Miami. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ University of Pittsburgh is on border of the Midwest and the East....institution has always looked east for our students, send our students for jobs and our alumni;</li> <li>▪ Great collection of academic institutions</li> <li>▪ We are already working hard to strengthen the academic links between the institutions of the ACC;</li> <li>▪ Diversity among the institution members;</li> <li>▪ Welcome the opportunity to associate in meaningful partnerships with the ACC universities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Member of student government board were involved in showcasing Pitt at</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

the ACC game on Labor Day; Pitt developed a new ACC tradition by reaching out to Florida State to develop a student conference from ACC membership; credit belongs to the student government board; good for all who participated and visible statement about sportsmanship

- Move into this new fiscal and academic year from strength and soundness in a world inhospitable to our aims particularly in regard to funding; how the year goes will depend on the state revenue flows;
- On federal front reduced funding under the sequester. If you speak with leaders in DC, typically say that biomedical research needs to be a national priority. Depends upon restoration of funding; availability of additional funding and if Congress can get past political paralysis;
- Locally, relative new county administrator and potential new mayor...both are knowledgeable of what universities have done to contribute to the economy but are looking for money.
- Troubling transformation in terms of the national mood and dialogue related to higher education;
- President Obama is supportive of higher education but making it part of national platform to increase affordability...it could be good news or bad news depending on how it is implemented;
  - Appropriate assessment tools must be targeted to the “best value” not what is the cheapest....we have made our mark as a deliverer of quality at an affordable price; to compete as low cost provider of higher education inconsistent with our mission and business model
  - A new book by Derek Bok, former Law School dean and President of Harvard, “Higher Education in America” ...parts of intro that frames the kind of challenges we are facing.

*“In the modern world colleges and universities have assumed an importance far beyond their role in earlier times. They now are the country’s chief supplier of three ingredients essential to national progress; new discoveries in science, technology, and other fields of inquiry; expert knowledge of the kind essential to the work of most important institutions; and well trained adults with the skills required to practice the professions, manage a wide variety of organizations, and perform an increasing proportion of the more demanding jobs in an advanced, technologically sophisticated economy. In addition they help to strengthen our democracy by educating its future leaders, preparing students to be active, knowledgeable citizens, and offering informed critiques of government programs and policies. Not least they supply the knowledge and ideas that create new industries, protect us from disease, preserve and enrich our culture, and inform about our history, our environment, our society, and ourselves. Because of the essential role that colleges and universities play almost everyone has a stake in seeing them perform well.”*
  - By several measures he says that American universities are meeting that standard

*“The worldwide respect accorded to American higher education should be a source of satisfaction to many people, not least to those who work in the academy. Ironically, however this newfound prominence has brought many problems in its wake. No longer are colleges and universities left to function more or*

*less as they please. As they have grown in size and importance they have attracted closer scrutiny from each of the constituencies affected by their performance. This added attention has led to a bumper crop of complaints. It is tempting to make light of these criticisms and point to the unequalled global stature of American higher education as proof of the excellences of our colleges and universities yet it would be a mistake to make too much of this reputation. Like nations, academic institutions can start to decline at the very time their status in the world is highest and one can already detect warning signs that such a fate could eventually overtake American higher education. "*

- Main purpose is to discuss what it is higher education can do to improve itself.
  - 1995....reflexive reaction was to blame lack of funding from the state; but realized that there were things that we could do to make ourselves better and more efficient.
  - Inescapable advocacy role, we know the University, support the University with neighbors, committees, elected official
  - In the past few years, how effective we have been with state funding, city tax....no sign that the need for that type of advocacy is diminishing. Need to hang onto the gains we think we have won.
- It has been great to work with so many people in this room over the past few years in the place of public higher education for the university. There is great satisfaction with the opportunity to work with talented and committed people, secure victory, beat back the challenges of the recent past; have done this together.
  - 1995, Keith McDuffy...ready to be the Senate President....we said..."we are both in this to try to advance Pitt is to do this together". That has been the tone of the relationship of the past 18 years and has made a real difference in the successes we have been able to achieve.
  - This leads to the appointment of search committee that needed to occur at a time that is workable institutionally. The search committee has been appointed.
  - Looking to build another year to make great progress to Pitt and thanks to those of you who have contributed, you all owe a share of credit.

Report of the President of the Senate, Michael Spring

- My presidential goal this year is to facilitate better communication among faculty as it relates to shared governance. My personal goal this year is to learn from this experience and not make too many mistakes. I must admit that I have learned a great deal, but there have been some oversights as well, most notably with respect to the misplacement of a faculty member on the wrong ballot in the elections for members of the Chancellor's search committee. The oversight was corrected and the elections have been concluded.
- When I was asked to run for Senate President, I was assured it would be an interesting experience and a reasonable work load. It surely is interesting, but only physicians could define the workload as reasonable! I want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Thomas Smitherman for his quiet, competent and gracious service as President of the Senate. I had a sense during this past year about his efforts to work through matters quietly, collegially, and honorably, but I

didn't have a good sense of the extent of his efforts. I do now, and have already been the beneficiary of his quiet sage advice over the summer. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge his leadership and say thank you for his sage personal advice and continued service to the Senate. I also want to thank the team that actually runs the Senate, which includes Dr. Smitherman. First, Professor Linda Frank brings continuity to the team and provides a focused and critical review of issues. She has tremendous loyalty and commitment to the University and helps to keep things in focus. Professor Frieze is no less dedicated to Pitt and has encouraged and advised me as only a past president can do. Her passion and work ethic put me to shame and have been of great assistance these first few months. Finally, nothing would be possible without Lori Molinaro. My thanks to them and the many of you who have offered advice and suggestions.

- At the request of Stephen Tritch Chair of the Board of Trustees, we initiated a process over the summer to fill five faculty slots on the search committee for a new chancellor. Electronic balloting for five positions Arts & Sciences, Provost's Professional Schools and ULS, Health Science Professions and Libraries, School of Medicine, Regional Campuses was conducted through the University Portal (my.pitt.edu). I am very pleased to announce that from the 52 distinguished faculty who allowed their names to be placed on the ballot, the Faculty of the respective schools have selected:

From the Kenneth P. Dietrich Arts and Sciences: David Bartholomae from English

From the Provost's Professional Schools & ULS: Carrie Leana from Business

From the Regional Campuses: Jerry Samples from Johnstown

From the Schools of the Health Sciences and Libraries: Anthony Delitto from SHRS

From the School of Medicine: Maria Kovacs from the Department of Psychiatry  
Senate Director Lori Molinaro reported the results to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees Jean Ferketish shortly after midnight to allow the Trustees to mount the needed information on the search website which is now up. It is with great pride that I can report to you that voting for these positions was more intense than for any known Senate presidential election. In the case of the Arts and Sciences and the Provost's Professional Schools it was close to 50% (46% and 45% respectively.) Overall, 27% of almost 4000 eligible faculty cast a ballot!

Related to the search, Trustee Eva Tansky Blum has invited the Senate executive committee to meet with her and Provost Emeritus James Maher, Vice Chair of the search committee to discuss the search process and allow us to provide input. The faculty assembly has discussed the matter and I invite you and your colleagues to share your thoughts with me and your representatives on the search committee. Student representatives include Amelia R. Brause of the student government board and David M. Gau of the Graduate and Professional Student Government. Our colleague Rich Colwell will be representing the staff.

- We have been working on a number of changes to our web presence. We were able to work with Provost Beeson and Vice Provost Balaban to restore some links that were lost and expand them making the Senate more visible to the University community.

Last year, President Smitherman worked with the Chancellor to secure funding

for a new Senate website. Working with Dr. Smitherman over the summer, we were able to complete the negotiations for the design and execute it. Director Lori Molinaro put in many hours over the summer to populate the website. While it is still a work in progress, I believe you will find it to be more accessible to you from any device you might choose to use – from a smartphone to a tablet to a desktop. I also hope that you will find that the reorganization makes information you might need easier to find. I want to thank the Chancellor and Dr. Smitherman for making it possible. Of course, you need to make dreams a reality and I want to thank Lori Molinaro and her staff as well as Christine Cornely and the UMC team for making it happen.

Over the last couple years, the University Senate portal under my.pitt.edu has languished. I asked the University's CIO, Jinx Walton, if we could get help in revitalizing it. She assigned Bill Rupp and Kit Ayars to work with us. We asked for the moon, and while the moon was not quite in the cards at this time, Jennifer Decima worked with Lori and the University Marketing and Communications team to give us a new portal. At this point in time, we were able to accomplish a couple of our goals. Basically, the main Senate Portal will be open to all faculty and will have both an announcements section and an open discussion board. The portal will provide access to sub portals for the standing committees that will only be accessible to the members of the standing committees. Each committee will have an announcements page and a discussion page where threaded discussions can be undertaken in private among committee members. We were not able at this time to introduce a mail widget for committees that would ease the process of sending email, nor were we able to introduce an online voting system that could be used as needed. With feedback from you and the members of the standing committees we will endeavor to refine and improve the network of portals over the coming year. Our goal is to make the lives of the faculty who do the critical work of the Senate easier. There will be no requirement that any committee use the sub portals, and Lori will continue to provide whatever support is required, but the various committees will now have a controlled space where they can confidentially discuss issues and post announcements. The faculty as a whole will also have a private space where they can choose to speak to their colleagues when they have time.

- I have three matters of business by the Faculty Assembly to report to you:
  - a. The Assembly endorsed the creation of an ad hoc committee charged with the analysis of university policies and procedures related to non-tenure stream faculty, both part-time and full-time with an eye to adjustments that may need to be made and positioning of responsibility for consideration of these matters within the standing committees of the Senate, as well as identification of issues not currently within the purview of an existing standing committees.
  - b. The Assembly agreed to explore an experiment to provide streaming video and/or recording of one meeting of the Faculty Assembly in the Fall of 2013 to members of the University community. There were a number of conditions restrictions and stipulations. Cynthia Golden the director of CIDDE, has graciously agreed has agreed to help us with the experiment.
  - c. We received a request to join the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics, an

alliance of faculty senates and councils at schools in the NCAA's Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS, formerly Division 1A), devoted to addressing major problems in college sports through faculty engagement at local and national levels. I have asked Professor James Irrgang, co-chair of the Senate Athletic Committee to give this their consideration as they examine matters of oversight of athletics at Pitt this fall.

- The Chancellor will be hosting a reception for all members of Faculty Assembly and Senate Council today in his office (107 CL) after the Senate Council meeting beginning at 4 p.m.

Report of Student Members of Senate Council.

Student Government Board: Gordon Louderback

- I would like to thank John, Tom, and Amelia for filling in for me while I was pursuing my internship near Philadelphia.
- We were very proud in hosting the first ever ACC Student Body President Conference here on our campus last weekend
  - 11 out of the 14 active ACC institutions were represented at the conference
  - Some of the highlights of the conference were having a welcome dinner at Dean Humphrey's house, a few hours of meetings in the Cathedral's Babcock Room, guest speakers that included the ACC Commissioner John Swofford, FSU's President Eric Barron, and our very own Chancellor, thank you again for your generosity.
  - Concluded the conference at Pitt vs. FSU football game where we each school run out onto Heinz Field with school flags during pregame show.
  - Planning session to draft documents to guide future Student body presidents to continue this conference twice a year for easy transition.
  - Collaborated amongst ACC campus on 4 common issues (ie: on-campus voting locations, university-wide email systems) Looking forward to these relationships
- Our Community Outreach Committee Chair, Mona Kazour, is very busy planning Pitt Make a Difference Day for the fall. Registration is open and will be capped at 4,500 students and it will be held on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.
- SGB hosted a successful Panther GOLD retreat the weekend before the fall semester started. Roughly 100 student leaders traveled to camp Kon-no-kwee for a 2-day retreat. We want to thank Renny Clark for being the Keynote Speaker this year.
- SGB elections set for Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Introduced a resolution last night to support the transition for Pitt to begin using Google Apps for Education instead of our current webmail and exchange email services we provide.

SGB – CGS: Brady McCormick:

- Partnered with CGS administration to host series of "boot camps" for new students
- CGS student government membership expanding
- Refocused outreach efforts to make clear to CGS students that the organization seeks to serve and advocate on their behalf at the University
- Greater significance on service, both to Pitt & the many different communities of which CGS students are a part (i.e.: Veterans Community @ Pitt – appointment of

<p>president of Veteran student association as special member of Board).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch of Peer Mentoring Program in partnership with CGS administration; 10 CGS student leaders participate in offering bi-weekly workshops in support for new CGS students, cultivating new student leaders. Thanks to Dr. Sherry Miller-Brown for championing this effort.</li> </ul> <p><u>Graduate and Professional Student Assembly: David Gau</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer semester <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 80 GPSA students to Pirate game</li> <li>○ 100 GPSA students to Phipps Party in the Tropics</li> <li>○ Martha (VP of programing) set GPSA fastest ticket sales record selling 100 tickets to Lion King in 30 seconds.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fall semester <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cookies &amp; Colloquium – students near end of thesis defense join for cookies &amp; coffee as they defend their thesis, monthly event</li> <li>○ Recruiting students to showcase @ Harrisburg to talk about what research funding is going towards</li> <li>○ In spring 2014 teaming with National Association of GPS for similar event in DC</li> <li>○ Fall formal – Creepy Carnival Ball, November 2<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>○ 300 students attended first ever University wide orientation @ O’Hara Student Center; refreshments, campus tours and information. Thanks to GPSG officers and volunteers (particularly event planning committee) and Pathfinder Alumnus for help with tours.</li> <li>○ Moving forward with Graduate Pathfinder Initiative – Trailblazers, contacting schools to offer service, volunteer basis as needed throughout the year.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Schools of the Professions:</u></p> <p><u>Arts and Science Graduate Student Association: Michael Lipschultz</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First official meeting of year to discuss plans and workshop needed; portfolio creating, dissertation issues</li> <li>• Suspension of Arts and Science programs</li> <li>• Increase request for travel grants, 4 times as many</li> <li>• Reach out to students; range table at orientation</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC), Rich Colwell</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officers have met with Chancellor and Mr. Cochran</li> <li>• Met with President Spring</li> <li>• Scheduling a meeting with Provost Beeson</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Announcements:</u> Chancellor’s reception immediately following meeting in his office; University portal are open as of this afternoon.</p> <p><u>Adjournment.</u> Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM</p>	

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN  
Senate Secretary  
Associate Professor of Public Health, Medicine, and Nursing  
Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

Members attending:

Beeson, Brause, Chiarulli, Cochran, Colwell, Cordier, Costantino, Flynn, Frank, Frieze, Gaddy, Gau, Levine, Lewicka, Lipschultz, Louderback, Lunsford, Lyon, McCormick, Molinaro, Neft, Nisnevich, Nordenberg, Rosen, Savun, Sharon Smith, Smitherman, Spring, Supowitz, Vieira, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Caldwell, Clark, Clermont, de Montmollin, Gleason, Hughes, Karp, Kory, Majumdar, McKinney, Mulcahy, Munro, Sahfiq, Slimick, Smolinski, Tisherman

\*Excused attendance:

Beck, Burkoff, Butterworth, Erickson, Gibson, Humphrey, Jabro, Juhl, Ramicone, Skledar, Sallie Smith, Song, Sukits, Tananis

Others attending:

Baker, Balaban, Barlow, Becker, Bonner, Clark, Frisch, Harding, Hoogendoorn, Mohamed, Moore, Service

\*Notified Senate Office