

**Senate Benefits and Welfare Committee
University of Pittsburgh
Minutes of January 28, 2020**

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Room 702 Benedum Hall

Attendees: Tammeka Banks, Lucas Berenbrok, Angela Coldren, Alexander Cole, Balasubramani Goundappa, Irene Kane, Laurie Kirsch, John Kozar, Lucas Mentch, Ann Mitchell, David Salcido, Linda Tashbook, Harvey Wolfe

Guests: David Gau, Sue Jones, Nathan Urban, Kate Young

Minutes taken by: Lucas Berenbrok (Chair)

Topic	Discussion	Action to be Taken
Call to Order	Introductions	
Committee Business	<p>Postdoctoral Associates and Scholars //Nathan Urban</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently, postdoctoral professionals at the University of Pittsburgh are classified as either “associates” or as “scholars.” Postdoctoral Associates look like faculty and staff positions. Postdoctoral Scholars look less like faculty and staff positions due to NIH rules. Both categories of postdoctoral professionals are paid stipends compliant with federal laws. • Many of our peer institutions use two categories to classify postdoctoral professionals like the University of Pittsburgh. Offer letters to postdoctoral professionals should clearly state which category the postdoctoral professional will be hired as. • Postdoctoral Scholars are not eligible to receive a W2. The University of Pittsburgh will provide the following tax resources to help postdoctoral professionals navigate the 2019 tax year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spintax ○ VITA Tax Assistance <p>https://www.ois.pitt.edu/tax-resources-april-15-2020-deadline</p>	

Benefits Report //John Kozar	Student Loan Forgiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The University of Pittsburgh is collaborating with TIAA and public benefit company Savi to provide University faculty and staff with assistance in navigating repayment plans and federal student loan programs, such as the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program. https://www.hr.pitt.edu/current-employees/benefits/student-loan-assistance 2019 Taxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employees should expect to receive their W-2 soon. 	
Topic	Plan for Pitt 2025 //Laura Winters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic planning workshop facilitated by Laura Winters, Deputy Chief of Staff https://www.planforpitt.pitt.edu/ 	
Next Meeting	Tues, March 3, 2020	
Adjournment	2:30p	