

Senate Council Meeting Minutes  
 April 18, 2018  
 2700 Posvar Hall

<b>Topic/Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<u>Call to Order.</u> President Frank Wilson called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.	The meeting began.
<u>Approval of the Minutes of the March 21, 2018, Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Wilson asked for approval of the minutes of the March 21, 2018, Senate Council meeting.	The minutes were approved as written.
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> President Wilson asked if there were any new items of business to be brought forward.	No new items were brought forward.
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Patrick Gallagher.</u></p> <p>The Chancellor gave the following report:          Thanked the outgoing SGB board members and thanked them for their service and wished them all the best in the year end mode.</p> <p>Speaking of transitions to the end of the year, commencement is next week. Graduate Commencement (April 26) speaker David Frederick, an appellate attorney, has argued 50 cases in front of the Supreme Court, he's the first Rhodes Scholar from the University of Pittsburgh and a strong supporter of our Honors College. On Sunday, April 29, Mayor Bill Peduto will be the commencement speaker. He has a master's degree from GSPIA. I'm looking forward to celebrating all the graduates.</p> <p>Another announcement regarding Titusville. President of the Bradford and Titusville campuses, Livingston Alexander is retiring and the interim president will be Larry Feick, who is currently Vice Provost of Special Projects. The other big personnel announcement is the new dean of the school of Dental Medicine, B.J. Costello, effective April 1. The other personnel announcement is Ellen Moran, has been named Vice Chancellor of Communications effective May 2. She comes from the Dewey Square Group. She targets strategic communications. She has a lot of experience and is a collaborative and engaging person.</p> <p>March 29 the Randall Big Idea was held. This year, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Randall family gave a new gift – the Randall Family Big Idea Center which will be housed within the Innovation Institute.</p> <p>Last week the Provost announced that next year will be the “Year of Pitt Global.” We are finishing out the “Year of Healthy You.” This is Pitt’s sustainably week. Pitt recently released a new sustainability plan. Next week, students will be wearing sustainable caps and gowns.</p> <p>Ranking Season, Philosophy - #1 in the world, 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year; School of Nursing - doctor of nursing program 1<sup>st</sup> in the state, rose to 5<sup>th</sup> nationally, per U.S News and World Report; Law School is now</p>	The Chancellor's report was accepted.

<p>ranked 74 by U.S. News and World Report an 8 point jump. Social Work, celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Today, it's 11<sup>th</sup> in the country per US World and News report.</p> <p>Student side – Max Kneis and Rachel White both from CBA were named winners of the Poets and Quant best and Brightest Award. Dennis Doyle has been named a Beinecke Scholar. He's a junior studying chemistry and studio arts.</p> <p>Faculty side – Angela Gronenborn, who is head of our structural biology department has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Tamer Ibrahim, Engineering, received a very large set of grants from NIH; Nitin Sharma, also from engineering received a CAREER award, half a million grant from NSF; Tracy Soska from Social Work was honored with Council on Social Work Education Service and Leadership in Social Work Education Award. Congrats to all of them.</p> <p>The Chancellor invited everyone to a reception to honor Provost Beeson, to thank Patty for eight extraordinary years, which will be held after today's meeting.</p> <p>The Chancellor concluded his report. President Wilson asked for questions or comments; no comments were offered.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Senate, Frank Wilson</u></p> <p>President Wilson gave the following report:</p> <p>The Senate Plenary focused on teaching and was quite successful. We worked closely with the Center for Teaching and Learning. You can view the recording from the Senate website.</p> <p>Our Governmental Relations Committee hosted several lunches, the first one was with Austin Davis, who is newly elected and a graduate of Pitt Greensburg.</p> <p>President Wilson thanked all the graduate and undergraduate students and wished them well and looks forward to attending commencement.</p> <p>President Wilson concluded his report and asked for questions or comments. No comments were made.</p>	<p>The President's report was accepted.</p>
<p><u>Report of Student Members of Senate Council.</u></p> <p><u>Student Government Board</u></p> <p>President of the SGB, Max Kneis, gave the following report.</p> <p>A few highlights of what SGB accomplished this year: we launched free on-line access to the New York Times for all undergraduate students that resulted in over 250,000 articles being read. We added a Diversity and Inclusion Committee to our student government board, organized a phone banking to lobby state representatives to pass an appropriation bill for the state related universities, helped spear head the use of Open Access textbooks, extended the drop period by a week</p>	<p>The SGB report was accepted.</p>

to undergraduate students, we gifted over \$150,000 to the WPU for technology upgrades to student space. I want to give a few thanks – first to Staff Council, to faculty for their tireless efforts, including teaching, researching, advising and mentors, to the other student governments as well as to the administration.

A few quick personal thanks to President Wilson, Dean Bonner, Geovette Washington, Provost Beeson, Dr. Humphrey and Chancellor Gallagher

Closing thoughts, my experience with SGB has been the best part of my collegiate career.

College of General Studies Student Government Report  
CGSSG President Dave Levine - no report

Graduate and Professional Student Government.  
Chris Staten, GPSG President, gave the following report.

Thanked President Wilson, Provost Beeson, Sr. Vice Chancellor Humphrey, Chancellor Gallagher.

New GPSG leadership: President Rachel Coombs, V.P. of Committees, Jennifer Enriquez, V.P. of Communications Crystal Taylor, V.P. of Finance Spencer Edelstein and V.P. of Programming Alison McIntosh

Spring Fling will be held on April 20 at Rivers Casino, sold over 300 tickets. Hosted a Black Male Summit on April 8 with support from Dr. Bonner, had over 40 undergraduates attending, 10+ faculty and staff also attending.

Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization  
Amber Griffith, gave the following report.

The annual Grad expo was held on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, where about 60 participants presented a poster or a short seminar on their work. The workshop that was hosted for this event “Negotiation Skills for Graduate School and Beyond” was also in well attendance. The GSO also awarded the Elizabeth Baranger Excellence in Teaching award to 6 graduate students in the school of Arts and Sciences: Joshua Eisenthal (Philosophy), Morgan Thompson (History and Philosophy of Science), Rebecca Forgrave (Geology and Environmental Science), Kimberly Lockwood (Psychology), Brianna Howell (Political Science) and Mathew Tarpey (Political Science. Honorable mention for this award went to Brittany Bara (Theatre) and Matthew Blank (Biological Sciences)

There were several departments that hosted a three-minute thesis competition, and their winners were invited to compete for top

<p>three from the school of Arts and Sciences to compete at the University level for a hefty travel award. Our winners for our school were Katie Wonziak, first place for natural sciences, Yi Han for Social Sciences and Samuel Allen for humanities. Of the three students, Katie Wonziak won first place for the University and Samuel Allen came in as runner up.</p> <p>The GSO will also be awarding summer research grants and we are in the process of choosing our winners. There were a total of about 40 applicants and we are hoping to award 5 students with \$500 in grant funds.</p> <p>The Committee for Diversity and Inclusion is still working on our annual climate survey and we are hoping to have the survey live by mid-May. Lastly the GSO had our last meeting for the semester and in this meeting we voted for a new President and Vice President. Our new president is Gary Mills (economics) and our Vice President is Golnar Touski (History of Art and Architecture).</p>	<p>The ASGSO report was accepted.</p>
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Council.</u> Andy Stephany and Alex Toner. It's been a pleasure to work with everyone this year. We received 58 applications for the staff development award. They are currently under review. Spring assembly will be held on May 15, at the O'Hara Student Center. Audrey Murrell will be the keynote speaker. Elections will be held in May for standing committee chairs. Chairs will serve a two year term.</p>	<p>The SC report was accepted.</p>
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate.</u> Senate Research Committee – Co-chairs Penny Morel and Pat Smolinski</p> <p>Revisions that have taken place over the past couple of years, one was to provide a much clearer and readable document as well as to relax many of the previous restrictions that had been placed on faculty who were involved in moving their research ideas into the market place.</p> <p>A lot of time was spent benchmarking what happens at a lot of other universities. The document outlines the restrictions that have been relaxed pertaining to startups, faculty can have management positions. This policy has been approved by the Senate Research Committee, as well as Faculty Assembly.</p> <p>No questions, Gallagher thanked the committee and Rob Rutenbar. This policy pivots us from risk avoidance to firm gates, we are going to manage the conflict more.</p>	<p>Vote Passed unanimously. No no's, no abstentions.</p>

Carey Balaban commented that this is a very sensible thing, as a member of the Conflict of Interest committee, there is no problem with conflict unless it's not managed. As a member of this body, I'm happy to support this.	
<u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business.</u> No unfinished business or new business was brought forward.	No action needed.
<u>Announcements.</u> Staff Faculty appreciation picnic, is May 2.	No action needed.
<u>Adjournment.</u> With there being no further business, President Wilson adjourned the meeting at	The meeting was adjourned 3:43

Members attending:

Balaban, Becker, Beeson, Bonner, Brodt, Czerwinski, De Vallejo, Fall, Fort, Gallagher, Griffith, Haley, Henker, Humphrey, Kanthak, Kear, Kent-Smith, Kiselyov, Kneis, Loughlin, Manem, Molinaro, Morel, Muenzer, Mulvaney, Phillippi, Rohrer, Scott, Smith, Spring, Staten, Stephany, Toner, Washington, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Betru, Bilodau, Bonneau, Clark, Deitrick, Gaddy, Goldberg, Harries, Horne, Jones, Kory, D. Levine, Lyon, Mulcahy, Nelson, Perry, Rigotti, Sukits, Swanson, Thorpe, Van Nostrand, Weikle-Mills

\*Excused attendance:

Bratman, Bromberg, A. Levine, Munro, Tananis

Others attending:

Bedford-Jack, Cooper, Connelly, Culpepper, Di Palma, Ducar, Farwell, Fike, Harding, Henderson, Hitter, Kirsch, Mills, Pope, Lila Rose, Smolinski, Walker, Wilds

\*Notified Senate office