



University of Pittsburgh

Community Relations Committee

University Senate

1234 Cathedral of Learning
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260
412-624-6504/6505 • Fax: 412-624-6688
E-mail: usenate@pitt.edu

**Community Relations Committee Meeting
Tuesday February 15, 2022
1:30pm – 2:30pm
Zoom Video Conference
University of Pittsburgh**

Meeting URL: <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/92415042635?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 924 1504 2635

Minutes

Attendees: LaMonica Wiggins, Marisa Alert, James William, Jamie Hammond, David Givens, Stephanie Mutchler, Kris Kanthak, Jamie Ducar, Victor Bench, Nikita Chakraborty, John Maier, Robin Kear, Donovan Harrell, Andrea Templaski, Georgia Petropoulos

- I. Call to Order: 1:32pm
- II. Meeting minutes approval
 - LaMonica Wiggins: The minutes for our last meeting have been distributed to you via the TEAMS files. We need to approve the minutes. Are there any corrections? Please use the zoom reactions to thumbs up or check mark to approve the minutes as distributed. **Meeting notes are approved.**
- III. Updates from Community Relations Liaisons and Engagement Officers at Pitt
 - Jamie Ducar:** 1. Moving forward with planning spring events in partnership with pitt serves. MLK Day of Service that was rescheduled will be next week. Registration in open. 2. We are planning “Be a Good Neighbor Day” for March 26th. A few hundred students are registered already. We need faculty and staff to participate as well. 3. We now have a policy in place for staff to use their work time for professional development and volunteerism. You need to work through your supervisor to schedule 1 day or 7.5 hours for professional development and public

service. 4. The Community Affairs Office is working closely with planning and real estate. A Vice Chancellor for Real Estate was recently hired. The OAF will be introducing this person to many neighborhoods including Oakland, Homewood etc. through tours and visits. 5. Community Engaged Scholarship Forum is two weeks from today. This year the faculty senate plenary will be the first full hours of the CESF. All sessions will be recorded and made available for 30 days.

IV. Updates from Community Pro-tem Members and Partners - OBID, Oakwatch, CHS, Peoples Oakland and OTMA

- ☐ **Andrea Templaski:** People's Oakland is a community-based mental health center and nonprofit. We provide services around social rehabilitation for adults. Peoples Oakland has long collaborated with neighboring universities to provide students with experiential learning opportunities. Peoples Oakland members have organized over several years to provide students with further insight about their experiences with mental illness and the mental health care system. This led to the development of our Panels program. The specific target audience for the panels are students majoring in the human services field such as Psychology, Social Work, Counseling, and Nursing. Sharing personal testimony with the Panels program provides a humanistic educational experience, enhancing overall student outcomes, and increasing empathic care in the workforce. We have members talk to students about their life, what is like to live with a severe mental illness and their experience with counseling and other mental health interventions. We would do 5-6 per year and have 3-6 members present. We are looking to increase our outreach to the classroom, please let us know if you'd like us to come into your class by sending an email to: andreat@peoplesoakland.org
- ☐ **Jamie Ducar on behalf OBID:** The Oakland Business Improvement District is a main street collective organization. Any business in the corridor of Oakland pays a membership fee into the BID and offers shared opportunities. They are concerned about pedestrian experience, business diversity etc. Georgia Petropoulos is our representative from this organization. 1. Their signature program Shop to Help has been extended. With this program, you can buy a gift card from an Oakland business and also support the food bank. 2. Please sign up for the OBID newsletter.
- ☐ **LaMonica Wiggins on behalf of OTMA:** Our representative from Oakland Transportation Management Association is Mavis Rainey. OTMA is a nonprofit organization focused on transportation issues. They send out a newsletter with updates on transportation. 1. Due to repairs of the bridge carrying the South Busway over Saw Mill Run Boulevard (Route 51) in Mt. Washington, light rail detours remain in effect indefinitely including Red Line rail and bus shuttle detours, as well as temporary stops for routes 39, 41, Y1, Y45, Y46, Y47, and Y49. Blue and Silver Line rail

service are not affected. 2. The Smithfield Street bus lane between Fifth & Third has been closed this week to allow Duquesne Light, AT&T, and others conduct emergency underground utility repairs for damage caused by an underground manhole fire over the weekend. 3. Port Authority disinfects every vehicle, every night, and requires mask to be worn by all riders inside vehicles and stations, including those who have been vaccinated. With health and safety top priority, read more about SafeToGo, Port Authority's in-depth plan to keep riders safe and on schedule when you use transit to travel. You can also still use the Room2Ride tool to check the average number of riders estimated to be riding during your preferred trip time (note this is not real-time data). You'll find hand sanitizer dispensers at 60 locations and the Port Authority is actively installing air purification systems across their fleet of vehicles to aid in making a safer environment for riders. 4. Alternative routes are available via their website.

V. Senate Council Update

☐ **Kris Kanthak:** The Senate Council passed a proposal regarding campus alert system and text messages. It has been updated. 2. The Council is watching closely on an initiative coming out of the Provost office to require diversity work and community engaged research for tenure standards.

☐ Senate Plenary

i. **Kris Katak:** The keynote speaker is Lynette Overby from the University of Delaware. Lina Dostillo will host a roundtable discussion with the project leaders from the 2021 Engaged Scholarship Summer Design Intensive, featuring projects that range from technology for the social good, to community-centered immunization efforts, to building a community documentation laboratory. These projects were incubated during the summer of 2021 and are currently being implemented. Join the discussion to learn about their successes and challenges and how Pitt is supporting the development of engaged scholarship projects.

VI. New/Other Business

☐ **Jamie Ducar:** Institutional Master Plan Dashboard is now live. IMP Dashboard looks at our outlook for physical building footprint and developments. Mix of number reporting and storytelling.

☐ Black History Month Programming Updates

i. **David Givens:** Facebook has now eliminated targeted marketing. This has affected our ability to reach the African American community online with health information from our organization.
Group Discussion about workarounds to marketing online.

VII. Adjourn: 2:35

Next CRC Meeting: March 15, 2022

