

Minutes of Senate Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting

July 2020

Date and time: July 21, 2020, 10:30 am - Noon

Location: Zoom

Present: Chris Bonneau, Micaela Corn, Lorraine Denman, Irene Frieze, Vicki Gamble, Suzanna Gribble, Sandra Guzman, Robin Kear, Marty Levine, Patrick Loughlin, Morgan Pierce, Vinayak Sant, Tom Songer, Amy Tuttle, Lu-in Wang, Geovette Washington, John Williams, and Frank Wilson

Absent: Tom Diacovo, Jay Sukits, Preeti Venkatesan, and Seth Weinberg

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by I. Frieze at 10:30 am.

COVID details

1. Introduction of special guests
 - a. Dr. Geovette Washington—Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer; Executive Sponsor of the Resilience Steering Committee
 - b. Dr. John Williams—Henry L. Hillman Endowed Chair in Pediatric Immunology; professor of pediatrics, School of Medicine; director of the University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Medical Response Office.
2. Medical concerns relating to COVID.
 - a. Dr. William’s outlined the University approach to testing, emphasizing the importance of mask wearing, hand-washing, and social distancing.
 - i. **Testing**—2 extreme options, we are in the middle
 - a. Test symptomatic students throughout the semester, have a mechanism in place to get results within 24 hours, often the same day.
 - b. Want to have a sense of the prevalence that is coming onto campus, systematic random subsampling, to give estimate of virus burden, using specific groups (below) and the on and off campus students, 8 total population +/- 1% precision on the prevalence of virus in student population
 - i. 8,000-9,000 students from SW PA region
 - ii. 9,000 students from rest of PA
 - iii. Several thousand from other US states
 - iv. Few thousand from other countries

- c. Faculty/Staff my health at work, will be tested when symptomatic, not a random sampling of testing, we know the local prevalence
 - d. CDC criteria will be used, along with a self-attestation app, to determine what symptoms students would present to warrant a test,
 - e. Dashboard for daily data Pitt Campus Cases (Google that), landing page will be coronavirus.pitt.edu.
 - ii. **Contact tracing** – will be conducted via an app that is currently in development, trained contact tracers will be employed.
 - iii. **Quarantine** – Asking students to self-quarantine for 7 days at home before coming to campus, if symptomatic when arriving on campus will be tested, students will quarantine for 7 days after arrival to campus
 - a. Random testing will be conducted during the quarantine period and throughout the arrival. If prevalence is high, the next cohort of arriving students could be delayed.
 - iv. **Isolation** – Infected students
 - a. Several hundred isolation beds, availability of several hundred more if necessary
 - b. Infected person in isolation, their contacts will be in quarantine
 - b. Part of the approach with students is emphasizing the community good, help other, scaring is not going to work, they know they aren't at high risk for getting very sick.
 - a. P. Loughlin noted the marketing and messaging campaign broadly among faculty and staff. Would like to see it so faculty can reinforce the message.
 - i. G. Washington indicated it is not complete yet, will be broadly distributed when finished.
 - b. Williams recognizes that we are
 - c. Random group and symptomatic testing is it mandatory or voluntary? (telephone number person on Zoom)
 - a. J. Williams, cannot make testing mandatory for students, refusing a test is built into the statistical model
 - b. Data shows that students tend to not refuse testing
3. Discussion of compliance, building access
- a. G. Washington described the function of the resiliency committee, taking work from the task forces and working groups (May 2020) to turn into University wide standards and guidelines, so plans can be drafted that are resilient enough to move between the operational postures.

- b. G. Washington, the student code of conduct is modified for those not complying. De-escalation strategies rolling out soon to address dealing with non-compliance. A statement for syllabi that will reinforce the safety guidance is available.
- c. Frequent reminders very important to do.
- d. Work remotely as much as you can to keep buildings dedensified
- e. Air handling system, three different sets of consultants have reviewed the work. Some areas will be closed because they haven't been deemed safe. Information coming out on Pttwire and coronavirus.pitt.edu
- f. I. Frieze, office access in the fall. G. Washington, not barred from the offices. Schools putting together their activity plans with those who need access to office identified in the plan.
- g. G. Washington, working to minimize the number of the public individuals coming into the buildings, put buildings on card access only.
- h. T. Songer commented that communication in summer has been haphazard making it difficult to communicate with advisees and colleagues. What is the best place to look for communications?
 - i. Coronavirus.pitt.edu updated daily

Other Business

1. Current situation for Appointment Stream full time and part time faculty.
 - a. DSAS part-time faculty not receiving contracts.
 - i. L. Wang, back up in various offices, like faculty records
 - ii. To seek an update, start with the department administrators to get the most
 - iii. A. Tuttle oversees faculty records, part of the problem was that until March 20th everything was on paper. Increasing the time to process. A lot of September 1 starts they haven't started on those yet
 - iv. HR cloud project is still on going, due to go live in January 2021, much more streamlined process. Alleviate the need for data entry and more on checking the information.
2. Classroom management updates. Help with technology, instructor on-line requirements for the classroom.
 - a. Technology installed starting this week
3. Library update from R. Kear
 - a. Updated information on services: <https://library.pitt.edu/library-response-resources>
 - b. New Discovery Layer: <http://newpittcat.pitt.edu/>
 - c. Questions: <https://library.pitt.edu/askus>
 - d. New website starting next week, with a new discovery layer (new PittCat and only Pitt Cat. No Pitt Cat Classic) Questions link also available.

- e. Buildings are tentatively scheduled to open on August 10 to students and Pitt Affiliates. Reserves will all be e-reserves for the whole library system.
 - f. Print materials require 72 hours quarantine period before putting on the shelf.
 - g. Contactless pick up for books, you can request and pick up at Hillman and a few other locations. Also Ship-it available to get print materials sent to the home.
4. Faculty evaluation/review
- a. I. Frieze, requesting Council of deans in the fall
5. Moving expenses
- a. Irene serving on a committee to update the University Policy on Moving Expenses, contact her with questions/concerns

Next Meeting, early September given everything that will be going on, date TBD

Meeting adjourned 12:03 pm