



# University of Pittsburgh

*Community Relations Committee*  
*University Senate*

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**Community Relations Committee Meeting**  
**November 20, 2019**  
**12:00 Noon-1:30 PM**  
**527 William Pitt Union**  
**University of Pittsburgh**

Minutes

Attendees: Judy Callan, Dominic DiSanto, MARRISA Arlet, Georgia Petropoulos, Mavis Rainey, Hannah Green, Lina Dostilio, Jamie Ducar, Mary Beth McGrew, David Salcido, Eric Macadangdang, Mariarosaria De Rosa, Amanda Ritonie, Daisra Williams.

Regrets: Amani Attia, Victor Bench, Tim Coleman, Anne Hays, Jennifer White, Jacob Kariuki, Kenneth Batista, Andrea Kriska, Andrea Tempalski, Jennifer Jones, Wanda Wilson, James, Williams, Kenneth Thompson, Paul Supowitz.

Presiding: Shenay Jeffery and Jennifer Cousins, co-chairs  
Minutes by: Jennifer Cousins

Call to order: 12:01

1. Introductions of the group.
2. Addressing minutes from October 16 meeting: Minutes from October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.
3. Guest Speaker: Georgia Petropoulos, Executive Director, OBID, Oakland Business Improvement District. Georgia presented on two ongoing advocacy-based programs through OBID, Oakland for All and Oakland Say No More.
4. Guest Speaker: Lina Dostilio, Associate Vice Chancellor, Community Engagement. Lina presented on two initiatives: definitions for community outreach and community engagement and Pitt's Engagement and Outreach Map

**Oakland For All:** The goal of Oakland For All is to make the Oakland business district and Oakland accessible to all people in the community. A goal would be to use Oakland as a model for other communities to help ensure that all of its people have access to businesses within a community. The project started in 2013 when community members raised the issue of building accessibility for individuals in a wheel chair. Numerous community groups were brought together to address this issue and Oakland For All was formed. Issues brought to the table were how to be proactive, raise awareness of the need for accessibility and then create accessibility. The first goal was the business district. An annual event about positive access was formed called the Oakland Ramp Crawl, a bar and business crawl for business that provide ramps and access for wheel chairs, etc. In addition, this program increased blue paint and worked with bike lanes to provide people with disabilities access. Another component was raising money and providing matched grants to businesses that make modifications to allow for access if they didn't have it already. An example would be installing a ramp and taking out a step.

Next year is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ADA, American Disabilities Act, and there will be numerous events and collaborations with other community organizations to celebrate the event and create awareness of what has been accomplished and what still needs to be accomplished. The website [Oaklandforall.org](http://Oaklandforall.org) will have more information.

There is continuing work on job access, overall resource availability, engagement with port authority, and communication with the Oakland Master Plan on the redesign of Bigelow Blvd. to make sure that all is accessible. Oakland For All will continue to work with community partners to have a broader reach in Pittsburgh and incorporate help at the state and federal level.

**Oakland Say No More:** This program is based on the national program Say No More that is involved in reducing sexual assault. The program started in 2017 when a member of the community was assaulted and killed in Oakland. Numerous Oakland communities came together to address this issue and discuss ways to reduce sexual assault in Oakland. The goal is to identify what the business district can do to make Oakland safe. The program that is being developed is based on programs that have been initiated in Paris, London, Berlin, D. C. area and the University of Michigan and others to reduce sexual assault around bars. Such programs address issues of escalation, getting men in the community and in the businesses in leadership roles to publicly denounce sexual assault. Training in Oakland businesses is provided by PAAR, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, a well-known organization to help prevent sexual assault and provide counselling and support for those who have been sexually assaulted. A graduate student in Social Work has organized students groups at Pitt and CMU to address the student voice and engage educational leaders.

Lina Dostilio: CGR University of Pittsburgh, shared working definitions of community outreach and community engagement for CRC review and approval. The definitions were developed by the Working Group on Institutional Progress in Community Engagement, co-chaired by Dostilio and Vice Provost, Joe McCarthy. Development of these definitions was part of the recommendations made by Pitt's Carnegie Classification Application Taskforce. The Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement is the most visible and selective national acknowledgement of community engagement within higher education. The CRC passed a resolution in 2018 that Pitt pursue the Carnegie Classification. As the taskforce developed Pitt's application for the classification, they noted within information being reported a high degree of conflation between faculty service to the discipline/institution and forms of community outreach and community engagement. As such they recommended that Pitt adopt definitions that clarified what is meant by community outreach and community engagement. Community outreach was defined as "the provision and promotion of University services and resources for community use". Community engagement, was defined by the same group as "the collaborative development and delivery of initiatives through reciprocal partnerships between members of the University and members of the broader public." The primary difference is the nature of community involvement. Dostilio also presented on Pitt's Engagement and Outreach Map, a publicly-searchable, map-based inventory of community outreach and engagement across the Pitt system. The tool is co-developed by CGR and the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center. Throughout the spring and summer, schools and campuses across the Pitt system will be rolling out the Map and inviting faculty and staff to submit activities. The website is [engagementmap.pitt.edu](http://engagementmap.pitt.edu).

Respectfully submitted to the CRC for review and approval:

The University of Pittsburgh is committed to strengthening our communities—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally—through a diversity of efforts. Among these, two types of mutually beneficial activities—community outreach and community engagement—are generated from teaching, research, and service endeavors of students, faculty, and staff. Here, we offer definitions for these activities and define key concepts that enable these activities.

- **Community outreach** is the provision and promotion of University services and resources for community use.
- **Community engagement** is the collaborative development and delivery of initiatives through reciprocal partnerships between members of the University and members of the broader public.

Community outreach and community engagement may be expressed as projects, programs, and informational resources produced through coursework, research, service, and the business operations of the University. The primary distinction between community outreach and community engagement is the nature of community involvement: within outreach, community members are participants in programs and users of services. Within community engagement, community members are collaborators, and are

involved in the development and/or delivery of activities. Mutually beneficial and sustainable outreach and engagement are of value to the University and its broader communities.

### **Updates from community groups**

1. **Pitt CGR:** Wrapped up fall session of tenant workshops that addressed the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords. Students have been involved in this program and can now earn OCC credit. In March, the housing lottery will occur for Pitt students. Upcoming is Christmas day at Pitt, there are 175 volunteer spots. Pitt community partners with Sodexo to provide food for the community, wrap gifts, gift bags, etc. The master plan development meeting between the Hill CDC and Oakland plan will take place on 12/5 at 6pm in David Lawrence. Topics will include housing in Oakland, facilities management and community improvement.
2. **Student Government Board: SGB** has a working task force about new campus design. They are meeting with students, various departments and faculty on these issues.
3. **Pitt Serves:** There are still grants still open, \$10,000 community grant to implement for community service. In January is MLK day of service. They are still looking for community organizations that may want to host students, 15-45 students are welcome.
4. **Community Pro-team Members:** The annual holiday gathering is on 12/16 5:30-7:30 in the new building at 2520 Wadsworth St. At the financial opportunities center there was a successful financial wellness course about community land trust, program partners with talent alliance. In addition, School to Career students are participating in a pilot program about drone policy.  
Land trust: There are properties for sale on Robinson St., Parkview and on Frasier. Oakland wide community wide meeting on 11/26 about new residence halls in CMU. And there is the kick off for the Oakland community survey and getting feedback from Oakland residence about needs in the community.
5. **Oakland Team:** A Blvd of the Allies project from down town to bates street is underway. Penn dot is working on pedestrian safety improvements on Blvd of the Allies at Bates and Halket. Project to be completed in January 2020. The Mon- Oakland connector – which is an alternative mode of transportation that may encourage people to use the public service as opposed to driving. It is called the People Mover. Talks are being held in Hazelwood to discuss this proposal. The estimated cost of the People Mover is 9M.
6. **People's Oakland:** Report via email note from Andrea Tempalski who could not make it to the meeting. Thanks were given for all of those who helped out with the annual Day of Caring on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Peoples Oakland would like to extend sincere thanks to Alex Toner and the Office of Community & Governmental Relations for generously donating tickets for our members to attend Pitt football home games! We have had wonderful student interns from the School of Social Work, Psychology, and Nursing Program this semester! We look forward to those continuing into the spring as well as welcoming in some new students.

Lastly, I'd like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, restful and peaceful Holiday Season!! I feel grateful for all the hard work everyone does and continued partnership it creates and enhances.

Adjourn: 1:12pm

**Next CRC Meeting: Tuesday January 21, 2020 12:30 -2:00pm in WPU Kimbo Conference Room**