

Faculty Assembly Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
December 1, 2015

Topic/Discussion	Action
<p><u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order by President Frank Wilson.</p>	The meeting commenced at 3:01 PM.
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes</u> President Wilson asked for approval of the minutes of the Faculty Assembly meeting of November 4, 2015.</p>	The minutes were approved as written.
<p><u>Introduction of Items of New Business</u> There were no items of new business raised.</p>	None.
<p><u>Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson</u> James Jacob from the School of Education introduced a Guest Professor from Peking University. She will be with us in the United States for two weeks. She was welcomed to the meeting.</p> <p>President Wilson began his remarks with mentioning that it is soon time for the Senate Elections to start, and for members to consider positions with the Senate and its Committees. Past-President Spring will chair the Senate Committee on Elections, and elections will occur in Spring 2016.</p> <p>The faculty engagement session occurred and President Wilson noted that there was a bit of a lack of faculty turnout. Although there was a competing Health Sciences meeting at that time, faculty should try to attend these sessions. President Wilson recommended that these faculty engagement sessions continue. The session had a small turnout but was a valuable and interactive meeting.</p> <p>Dean Burke at GSPH is facilitating a movement to have PITT be a tobacco-free campus. There is a group of representatives who have begun the discussion process. For the Senate’s involvement, we will refer this to Benefits and Welfare Committee, and discussion there has started. The Senate Committee will be considering this and there will be a report coming to us in a future month.</p> <p>Many of our Senate Committees have been at work regularly. There is a calendar on the Senate Website listing meetings times and minutes/agendas are listed as well. Each month at Faculty Assembly, we will hear from various committees with updates. We have been trying to identify issues where multiple committees need to have input and keep committees connected and more efficient. Many questions are being put in front of us. For example, Senate Budget Policy Committee is meeting Friday; the <i>ad hoc</i> Committee on Part-Time NTS has already met with a planned agenda--- both of these committees are looking at part-time faculty issues and working in a coordinated manner.</p> <p>The Senate Plenary planning has been moving ahead. The keynote speaker is already scheduled. The group is close to finalizing the panel of PITT faculty responders. A pre-Plenary event has been planned following the January Faculty Assembly (Jan 12th) with Michael Madison from the School of Law to talk about issues of academic freedom in</p>	Discussion notes are recorded below.

<p>research. More information will be coming forward on that. We are trying to schedule additional pre-Plenary sessions prior to the March formal session.</p> <p><u>Questions/Discussion:</u> Hartman: Is the session with Michael Madison open to all faculty? Wilson: Yes, the meeting will be open and will be right after the January 12, 2016 Faculty Assembly in 2500 Posvar Hall.</p>	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of the Special and Standing Committees of the Senate</u></p> <p><u>Computer Usage Committee (CUC)</u> Professor Alex Jones and Ms. Fran Yarger, Co-Chairs</p> <p>A handout was distributed regarding the University Technology Loaner Program for International Travel. Fran Yarger presented the update from the CUC. Devices are available to faculty and staff for the purpose of conducting University business and program activities during international travel. Devices and a limited data plan are provided at no charge. Equipment is available on a first-come, first-served basis. A core group of software is preinstalled on the devices (list provided). CSSD will only install software or app titles on a device if the licensing agreement includes international rights. Other costs such as data overage charges; international voice; text messaging, and lost, stolen, or damaged equipment are the responsibility of the borrower and his or her department. The process for requesting a device was reviewed, and includes a) registering your trip through the Travel Registry Community at my.pitt.edu; b) completing the Technology Loaner Program Device Request Form; and c) CSSD will contact you to let you know where and when you can pick up the device. Equipment available includes: 22 laptops (12 Windows and 10 Apple); 15 Apple iPads; and 25 smart phones (15 Apple iPhones and 10 Samsung Android). Faculty usage from June 1, 2015, has included 41 unique users, 21 laptops, 12 iPads, and 31 smart phones.</p> <p><u>Questions/Discussion:</u></p> <p>Munro: How do I get software and apps on the phone? Yarger: If a core application/software, you can work with the CSSD to get these loaded. Munro: If traveling internationally for work combined with pleasure, should I bring my laptop and a business laptop? Yarger: There is no policy for this specifically, but the loaners are to be reserved for work-related travel. Stoner: The issue of financial responsibility (of the faculty) for the equipment – with my home computer, I would be covered under homeowners insurance. Stoner: Does the University have insurance in case of theft or damage? Yarger: No, there is no insurance policy available. Frieze: Do you know if there is expectation to register with the travel registry if you are going on a personal trip? Manfredi: No requirement of faculty. (it is encouraged) Hartman: Is it first-come, first-served basis? Yarger: Yes it is. Wilson: If I wanted to get equipment while I am traveling, do I have to sign up through the travel registry?</p>	<p>Discussion notes are recorded below.</p>

<p>Yarger: Yes, you have to go through the travel registry to get to the equipment rental page. You must register to be able to sign-out equipment.</p> <p>Wilson: Sign-up with the travel registry is still optional for faculty.</p> <p>Jacob: Are graduate students able to use the phones and computers in the loaner program?</p> <p>Yarger: I do not know and will find out.</p> <p>Czerwinski: Is there text messaging?</p> <p>Yarger: Yes, but it may be a data overage charge.</p> <p>Czerwinski: Is the equipment available only in Oakland?</p> <p>Yarger: You can work with a technology person to obtain it. Please work ahead so you can have the equipment you need.</p>	
<p><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business</u></p> <p><u>Diversity issues the Chancellor addressed at Senate Council:</u></p> <p>President Wilson noted to Faculty Assembly that if you attended the Senate Council meeting or read the article in the <i>Pitt Chronicle</i>, the Chancellor made a request to the Senate to work with his Chief of Staff and Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion to help and develop a sustainable strategy for PITT’s culture of diversity. Events are going on across the country related to academic freedom, free speech, and at-heart, issues of diversity or lack of diversity, or discriminatory behavior that are a potential spark for student protest. Demonstrations have been occurring at over 40 campuses across the country. The Chancellor feels this is a very important issue. President Wilson noted that it would be prudent of us at PITT to talk about this. It is aligned with our Plenary on academic freedom as well.</p> <p>A small group that includes the Chancellors’ administrative members, Rich Colwell (SAC), President Wilson, and student leaders from Senate Council have begun to meet and discuss issues and ideas. A meeting occurred November 30th. The meetings will continue and the students are very interested in being involved in this. What role would the Faculty Assembly play? President Wilson hopes to have more expanded discussions at Faculty Assembly in the future on these issues. The idea of diversity and inclusion is not new at PITT, and is already important for position searches and student enrollment. It is also part of the Strategic Planning process. The Assembly and Senate may need to think about curricular pieces, so many of our Committees beside EIADAC may be touched by this work. President Wilson will be suggesting that Senate Committees work together on these issues. The Chancellor would like a report back to him as soon as we can.</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u></p> <p>Goodhart: Is the issue of framing of this discussion coming up at the meetings? It seems that in his report and the write-ups, the word toleration was used a lot, and we have emphasis on balancing free speech with students’ rights to live in a civil community. These are important issues, and saying tolerance is a narrow lens to use. An example is a recent organization gathering with 30 students drew 40 police officers. Professor Goodhart noted that he is concerned with disenfranchisement and human rights violations. He would like to see the conversation occur with the broader issues addressed. We do not want to widen the gulf of impacted students. He is very pleased that the Chancellor is taking action on this.</p> <p>Wilson: We are in early stages right now at the work group, and we are defining how this will be framed in terminology and layout, etc. There are different views on this, and</p>	<p>Discussion notes recorded below.</p>

I was impressed with participation and how serious the student leaders are about this. For example, there will be a time in the coming months where a Senate Council will focus on this with an open discussion. He also credited the Chancellor for getting this issue on the table and allowing a stronger version of shared governance. We have an opportunity to engage in this process full-speed ahead. One thing revealed was that because there is a component in our different schools that has been addressing diversity and inclusion, that this was not the same across all schools at the University. There is much variation on this issue across the campus. Some of the problems are because few places have figured out how to deal with these types of problems. President Wilson wants Assembly to be fully engaged in this.

Rohrer: If you look at racism issues, it seems that this extends beyond the bounds of the University and into the community.

Wilson: I am representing faculty on this, but I know this is much bigger than PITT and even the City of Pittsburgh, or Westmoreland County. We do have a responsibility to this, and we are a public university and should be part of this bigger discussion and look at ourselves. This is an opportunity for us to engage in serious work.

Spring: The Chancellor has called for help on the part of the larger community. He made a statement regarding sexual harassment, and calls on the community to come together. Faculty at-large need to respond to this. One of the five top goals of the Strategic Plan is to increase diversity, and it is our charge to help do this. The question of the faculty as a whole and our committees is how to live in our university. There is an issue that needs to be discussed and an environment that needs to be changed. It might be time for an open letter suggesting that. There is not a clear and easy path to change the University, the City, the state, and the world. We can only impact what we can touch. Response at-large has been less than spectacular so far, and it is time for us to articulate the issues verbally and in writing. We have three significant issues that the Administration has taken the lead on, and that the community has been passive on. He encouraged everyone to find ways to articulate what this means. The Chancellor is clear that he wants us to help.

Kovacs: What are examples of what we should do that we are not doing?

Spring: Put out ideas of how we can address the issues, or report other issues that you feel strongly about. The Chancellor has put himself on the line 3 times: sexual harassment, diversity, and racism.

Kovacs: What are the actions we can do? Take an ad, write a letter, call the Chancellor's office...

Spring: I am not going to demand anything of anyone, but an idea is that each of our Committees should respond to these matters and see if there are issues that each Committee can discuss further.

Stoner: With the incoming Chancellor, there has been an upgrade to the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, Affirmative Action, etc. The title now used suggests an advocacy mission in addition to the historically regulatory function. Could we get a briefing about how these can frameworks can interact?

Wilson: This update will be coming.

Nelson: I am worried looking around this room as to how we can address issues of diversity.

Wilson: When you look at all of the groups that are part of this process, we are just one of the stakeholder groups. If all of our pieces look the same, we need some soul searching. For example, students thought there should be more African American faculty teaching courses other than African American cultures. Some would say we have tried to do this. The hope is that we do not give up on a topic such as this, and keep asking the questions to find answers and make changes. The Chancellor made the

<p>request of the Senate Council to work on this, where all groups are represented. He is bringing this issue to Faculty Assembly to engage ourselves.</p> <p>Nelson: We need to be honest with ourselves as to who is conducting these evaluations and how valid the soul searching is. What are the thoughts of those spearheading this? Are we equipped to address these issues, or do we need outside input that will give us perspective that is impossible for me to reach? We will need input at the various levels of the university.</p> <p>Wilson: There are faculty representatives, staff, graduate and undergraduate student leaders, and administration talking about how this should proceed. He would like everyone to know what is going on and feels we have a big contribution to make. He would like to see parts of our Faculty Assembly devoted to this and Committees beginning to focus on this. Our situation is for us to reveal and work on this before we are under-the-gun to respond.</p> <p>Marra: We have already begun in EIADAC to address the issues. We have a list of ideas on this, and our group is very diverse and is fit to address these issues. We are finalizing a list for the Chancellor of actions we can take.</p> <p>Wilson: None of us is starting at zero on this. We need to expand our actions and discussion on this.</p> <p>Bircher: It is extraordinarily important that we are far from the only set of stakeholders on this. This is a very difficult problem to address. Regarding the office of regulatory compliance becoming one of advocacy, we should have concrete steps to move from lofty aspirations to a concrete plan. We need as many stakeholders as possible at the table.</p>	
<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <p>No announcements were made.</p>	None
<p><u>Adjournment</u></p> <p>The meeting was called to end by President Wilson.</p>	Adjournment at 4:06 pm.

Documents from the meeting are available at the University Senate website:

<http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/faculty-assembly>

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Skledar, RPh, MPH, FASHP

Senate Secretary

Associate Professor, School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics

Members attending:

Bircher, Bratman, Clark, Cohen, Costantino, Czerwinski, Dahm, Dewar, Donihi, Fort, Frieze, Goodhart, Groark, Hartman, Horvath, Jacob, Kaufman, Kaynar, Kear, Kovacs, Leers, C. Lin, Marra, Molinaro, Morel, Muenzer, Munro, L. Nelson, S. Nelson, Olanyk, Ramsey, Rea, Rigotti, Rohrer, Skledar, Spring, Stoner, Tananis, Triulzi, Wilson, Withers, Yarger

Members not attending:

Alarcon, Atai, Buchanich, Falcione, Frank, Fusco, Gleason, Gold, Helbig, Hravnak, Irrgang, Jones, Kanthak, Kearns, J. Lin, Mauk, McLaughlin, Miller, Mulvaney, Norris, Novy, Poloyac, Savinov, Schmidhofer, Scott, Smolinski, Swanson, Toto, Velankar, Vieira, Weiss

*Excused attendance:

Beck, Cole, Corral, Flynn, Gaddy, Guterman, Labrinidis, Loughlin, Mulvaney, Savoia, Sukits, Weinberg

Others attending/guests:

Barlow, Fedele, Manfredi, Wanhua

*Notified Senate Office