## Senate Council Meeting Minutes

2700 Posvar Hall  
December 5, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>The meeting was called to order by President Chris Bonneau. If approved. The meeting commenced at 3:00 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of the Minutes of the November 7 Senate Council Meeting</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items of New Business</td>
<td>No items of new business were raised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</td>
<td>No discussion</td>
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### Points highlighted:
- United Way Dec 21 is last day for payroll deduction; just passed half-million dollar amount
- Staff recognition ceremony, 17 had over 40 years, 2 over 50 years. Collective achievement is to be celebrated
- Panthers Forward to offset student loan needs, loan forgiveness. Pay it forward from alumni. 100 students are receiving up to $5K loan forgiveness, paired with 30 alums.
- IT Assessment report. Jinx Walton brought in consultant to audit the state of our IT capacity. Potential opportunity for potential efficiencies and cost saving.
- Master plan is still open for comment
- Title IX: Department of Education revised rules, clock is started for 60 day commentary, then review and response, then final ruling. Changes proposed include narrowing definitions, limiting judicial parameters, mediation, and appeals process. Regulation can be the “floor” of institutional response — we are not making any changes based on drafts at this time.

See Chancellor’s Report for more specific details on these and additional items.

### Question/Discussion:
None

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**Report of Senate President, Chris Bonneau**

Twas the meeting before Christmas  
And all through the room  
People were listening  
Not hoping for gloom

The provost was there  
And the S-V-C-R
What is his name.....
Oh yeah....Rutenbar

The Chancellor’s report
Was thorough, even funny
As we approach budget season
And request some more money

And the Faculty Senate President
Thinks he’s so witty
But most of his jokes
Are, well, kind of.....

It’s been a busy semester
Talk of unions and Title IX
Can’t forget intellectual property
For the 1,000th time

Socially Responsible Investing
Is of concern to many
2 Town Halls were held
And suggestions were plenty

The Benefits and Welfare Committee
Is still discussing smoking
I would say more about it, but
<cough cough> I’m choking.

Questions have been raised
About the use of Student Analytics
There is so much data...
What is going to be done with it?

Faculty and staff at Titusville
Were informed where they stand
To give as much time as possible
For our colleagues to plan

Soon it will be time
To hear from the students
Maggie will tell everything
Even if it isn’t prudent

Then we’ll have Andy from Staff Council
With his sonorous voice  
He could work for NPR  
It’s really his choice

A simple request:  
Under my Christmas tree  
I’d like a great turnout  
At our spring plenary

And so I will close  
With an end-of-semester cheer:  
Good holiday wishes to all  
And a happy new year

Comments and Questions:
PROVOST CUDD: Can you (Chris Bonneau) tell us more about the Inside Out program?

Inside Out prison exchange joining Pitt and prisoners for classes. Last night was the celebration for this program at maximum security SCI Fayette. Undergrad students; looking to expand to graduate TAs and such.

CUDD: Incredibly moving experience to see students working together in presentations; clear rapport and transformational experience. Made me really proud.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reports of Student</th>
<th>Student Government Board (SGB)</th>
<th>Discussion included on left</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maggie Kennedy, President</td>
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1. Reflection on the Pitt Women’s Leadership Experience
   a. Nov. 17-18
   b. Initiative out of Senior Vice Chancellor Dr. Humphrey’s office
   c. Close to 90 undergrad women attending as mentors and mentees
   d. Keynote: Dr. Anupama Jain + Q&A
   e. Women’s Panel
      i. Kristin Kanthak
      ii. Meredith Guthrie
      iii. Nandini Mandal
      iv. Yoko Suzuki
      v. Jennifer Rae Seng
      vi. Christel Temple
      vii. Paige Lumley
   f. Men’s Panel
      i. Gabby Yearwood
      ii. Kenyon Bonner
      iii. Chauncey Alexander
      iv. Dr. David Sanchez
   g. Planning Committee to debrief after Winter Break + work with Board Members
      Human and Chong to incorporate follow-up programming for the participants into
      Women’s Empowerment Week (March 18-22)
2. Previous SGB Town Hall-- University Policy focused
   a. Tuesday Nov. 13th 9 pm in WPU Nordy’s Place
   b. This was an open space and time for any student to share their questions/concerns
      about all things university policy related with their Student Government Board
      representatives and a few featured faculty members and administrators.
   c. We were joined by:
      i. The Assistant Vice Chancellor for Policy Development and Management
         Thomas Hitter
      ii. Vice Provost and Dean of Students Kenyon Bonner
      iii. Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies Joe McCarthy
      iv. Associate Dean and Director of Residence Life Steve Anderson
      v. WPU Building Manager Allie Chornick
      vi. Tyler Tenney from the Office of Policy and Development
   d. Next Town Hall to be in January, possibly University Budget focused, but TBD
3. ACC Advocacy Days
   a. SGB will be traveling to Washington D.C. for a conference with Student
      Governments from the other ACC schools
   b. We’ll also be meeting with representatives from Congress while there
4. Gun Sense Legislation Call to Action
a. See post here: https://www.facebook.com/PittSGB/photos/a.10150352588156702/10156668451726702/?type=3&theater
b. A non/multi-partisan letter calling for gun sense legislation in order to save lives
c. Specifically, our calls to action have bipartisan support, including Senator, Pat Toomey (R-PA), whose website states that “We can make progress on gun safety while still fully respecting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. First, we must strengthen our background check system with legislation... We must also address the fact that people who are on the No Fly List are still able to purchase a firearm...[and] Finally, we need to make sure we're enforcing existing gun laws.” (https://www.toomey.senate.gov/?p=issue&id=61).
d. Additionally, President Trump was in the news last week because his administration plans to ban bump stocks (https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/28/us/politics/trump-bump-stock-ban.html).
e. We believe that the gun violence conversation is past the point of partisanship.
f. The Student Government Board at the University of Pittsburgh is made up of individuals from all across the political spectrum, including folks on the right and folks on the left.
g. Together, we wrote our call to action with one goal in mind--saving lives. We believe that the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness was put first in the constitution for a reason.
h. We believe that legal actions must be taken so that hate-filled terrorist attacks like what happened at the Tree of Life in Squirrel Hill cannot repeat themselves and we hope that everybody, regardless of political affiliation, can agree on that.
i. While there are many underlying causes to this kind of violence and much work needs to be done to eliminate this hatred, we believe that disarming dangerous people in order to save lives is crucial.
j. As Student Government representatives who politically lean many different ways, we all feel that it is our responsibility to defend the lives of our student body and call upon our legislators to enact tangible protective measures.
k. We understand this issue has been heavily politicized, but we urge Pitt students, and the nation at large, to step back from partisanship and consider our proposed (but certainly not all-encompassing) steps towards a solution.

5. Sustainability Efforts
   a. Board Members Chong and Tanjaya working with SOOS to introduce a recycling workshop program/event for off-campus students
6. SGB Election
   a. Campaigning begins next semester
   b. Election on Tuesday Feb. 19th
7. Otherwise, all of our Board Members, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members are hard at work with their various initiatives and we’re really excited about what’s to come!
8. Happy Holidays everyone!

Comments/Questions
VERARDI: How are SGB activities addressing non-binary gender identifying students?
KENNEDY: Considering a variety of diversity issues and how to find balance and representation for all students.

**College of General Studies Student Government (CG SSG)**
*Dave Levine, President*
Not attending/No report

**Report of Graduate and Professional Schools Student Government (GPSG)**
*Rachel Coombs, President*
No report (in the spirit of the holiday, we voted all of our December meetings off the island!)

**Schools of the Professions**
No discussion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School of the Arts and Sciences Graduate Students</th>
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<td>Anthony Verardi, President</td>
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To the members of the Senate Council of the University Senate:

On November 29, 2016, the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization (GSO) voted by private ballot to support the efforts of the Graduate Student Organizing Committee (GSOC) and the formation of a graduate student worker union. Out of 26 departments represented, 18 voted in support; 6 no; 1 abstained; 1 ballot was invalid for not following directions. As of February 11, 2017 the union drive led by the GSOC and the United Steelworkers has proceeded to the card authorization stage; once at least 30% of the graduate student body signs the authorization cards, then the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board may authorize an election on whether the graduate students approve the formation of a union.

As a recognized student body that represents the graduate students of the Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, we see that it is appropriate for us to state our position at this time on the advisability of a graduate student worker union. We write this letter to detail our support for the GSOC:

- Whereas graduate student workers serve as teaching assistants and fellows, providing critical instruction and academic mentoring to thousands of undergraduate students, and whereas graduate students, in their capacities as research assistants, laboratory technicians, and editorial assistants, contribute to the high level of excellence of teaching and research at the University of Pittsburgh;

- Whereas this indispensable role of the graduate workers should be recognized;

- Whereas a union would give graduate workers a meaningful voice in how the university operates, and help to ensure more democratic and transparent relations between the workers and the Administration;

- Whereas collective bargaining would allow graduate workers to negotiate with the University administration as equals, thereby ensuring proper compensation and respect for their contribution to the University;

- Whereas a union contract would ensure that any changes to the benefits and working conditions of graduate workers are bilaterally agreed upon by the workers and the Administration;

- Whereas no other graduate student organization has the power to negotiate a binding contract on behalf of student workers, and
therefore the power to obtain the above benefits;

• Whereas a union would help build a more unified community of graduate workers by forging relationships across departments and disciplines, thereby contributing to the quality of graduate student life at Pitt;

• Whereas a democratically accountable union would ensure that all graduate workers benefit from contracts negotiated by it;

• Whereas a union could provide clearly outlined grievance procedures for alleged contract violations and for alleged violations of students’ labor rights and civil rights;

• Whereas a union could be a powerful advocate for a diverse graduate workforce; and could serve as an additional way to protect and support our colleagues from other countries;

• Whereas we of the GSO believe in a democratic workplace, fair working conditions and compensation for hours worked, transparent policies, a diverse workforce and an inclusive workplace climate;

• And whereas we are honored to be a part of the University of Pittsburgh because of its outstanding reputation and academic excellence, and see that we have a vested interest in maintaining its distinction, and believe that the creation of a graduate student worker union is the best way to ensure that all stakeholders are full participants in Pitt’s well-being;

• Therefore, we deem that the formation of a graduate student worker union at Pitt is advisable and fully support such a measure, and collegially invite the Senate Council to do the same.

Sincerely,

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization

Biomedical Graduate Student Administration

No representative/No report

Report of the President of the Staff Council (SC)

Andy Stephany, President
Alex Toner, Vice-President of Public Relations

Good afternoon everyone...

Congratulations to all the staff members recognized at the Chancellor’s Staff Recognition Ceremony yesterday afternoon. The professional dedication and personal success of Pitt staff members who have spent 30, 40, or even 50 years
with the University is always motivating to reflect on.

Staff Council has discussed the proposed Smoke and Tobacco-Use Free Policy at its past two general meetings and has synthesized that feedback into a document shared with SGB, President Bonneau, and the Senate Benefits and Welfare Committee. We feel that there are several points necessitating clarification prior to moving this positive and well-intentioned proposal forward.

We are pleased to announce Nichole Radulovich as our 2018 Staff Council Staff Mentor Award winner. Nichole is the senior administrator within the Department of Medicine and was nominated by seven of her coworkers, who commented that she “has a keen ability to pinpoint individual’s strengths and weaknesses and connect them with appropriate resources. By investing her time and care in the people she works with, she impacts our lives for the better.”

We received over 60 nominations, a testament to the network of impactful staff mentors across our five campuses. Thank you to everyone who submitted a nomination.

Staff Council is excited to award four $500 scholarships to children of Pitt staff members to be used toward the purchase of books and academic supplies as part of our annual endowed Book Fund award. Thank you to all the students who applied. This year’s awardees are:

- **Cassandra Colland**, a junior at the Greensburg campus studying Management and Accounting and daughter of Ronna Colland in the Department of Administrative Services at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

- **Sara Kaempf**, a junior at the Pittsburgh campus studying Social Work, daughter of Carolyn Kaikaka in the Office of Student Financial Services.

- **Megan A. McKenzie**, a junior at the Pittsburgh campus studying Communication Science Disorders and Studio Arts, daughter of Mark McKenzie in the Office of Facilities Management.

- **Leigh M. McLinden**, a junior at the Pittsburgh campus studying Finance, Supply Chain Management, and Business Information Systems, daughter of Stacy McLinden in the Department of Psychology.

Our Identifying & Responding to Students in Distress Brown Bag this past November was well attended by staff from across the Pittsburgh campus. Thank you to speakers from the Care and Resources Support Team, University Counseling Center, and the Office of University Counsel for discussing awareness and resources for staff.

Thanks to Jay Graham and CSSD for speaking at our Cyber Security and YOU:
Managing Security Risks at the University Brown Bag, which was also held in November.

Finally, a big thanks to everyone who made a food or financial donation to the Campus Food Drive, a collaboration between the Pitt Police, SGB, Community and Governmental Relations and Staff Council. Four large hampers of goods were collected and distributed to the Pitt Pantry and CHS Oakland Community Food Pantry.

We wish everyone a successful conclusion to the semester and a safe and enjoyable winter break.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate</th>
<th>No reports</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unfinished Business or New Business</td>
<td>No business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcements</td>
<td>No Announcements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjournment</td>
<td>Adjournment at 3:40p</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

University Senate website: [http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/senate-council](http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/senate-council)

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Tananis, Ed.D.
University Senate Secretary

Associate Professor
Administrative and Policy Studies, Education Leadership
Director
Collaborative for Evaluation and Assessment Capacity

Members attending:

Bachman, Bonneau, Bonner, Brodt, Bromberg, Chong, Conley, Coombs, Cudd, Czerwinski, Dahm, Gallagher, Haley, Henker, Humphrey, Kear, Kennedy, Kovacs, Labrinidis, Mercer, Molinaro, Rutenbar, Scott, Smith, Stephany, Stillman, Stoner, Tananis, Toner, Verardi, Washington, Wilson

Members not attending:

*Excused attendance:

Arkush, Becker, Gaddy, A. Levine

Others attending:

Ayars, Connelly, Harrell, Hartle, Miksch, Moran, Wilds

*Notified Senate Office