

Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
February 13, 2018

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order by President Frank Wilson.</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:00 pm.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the Past Faculty Assembly Meeting</u> Minutes (January 16, 2018) were approved as written.</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u></p> <p><u>Pitt Day in Harrisburg</u> Paul Supowitz – (See handout) One day to be out in full force in Harrisburg to influence legislators; visit all 253 offices. Tuesday, March 20, 2018. Board buses 6:45a, depart 7:00a at Soldiers and Sailors garage. Prime time in the morning arrival; visit your House and Senate member. Informal lunch, then finish visits. Alum visit, legislative reception with Chancellor. Exhibits in Rotunda, and Graduate student research posters.</p> <p>Hopeful that the budget discussion will not be as contentious as past few years; hearing from faculty and students is very important to this process.</p> <p>Questions/Issues: Rohrer: How to participate – send text 52886 to Pitt Day or website</p>	
<p><u>Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson</u></p> <p>Pitt Greensburg Govt Relations committee has started to set up lunch meetings with legislators. Austin Davis (Pitt Greensburg alum) new legislator is first meeting; also trying to set up additional meetings.</p> <p>Jim Holland, former president of Senate (1992-95), psychology faculty passed. Celebration of life was held at University Club. A number of faculty were present. The story of the Senate at that time – pretty tense and turbulent times, Chancellor was being driven out, the relationship with Senate was adversarial and he made a strong stand on shared governance. We owe a debt of gratitude for his legacy.</p> <p>Provost Search: Town Hall meetings here and at regional campuses. Please pay attention to the search and put your voice into the mix.</p> <p>Provost Beeson will be providing an update at the next Faculty Assembly meeting.</p> <p>Retirement Plans: received critiques and sent them on to the Benefits Department. Senate has been involved (not the least, through Jay Sukits as a</p>	<p>Discussion and recommended questions directed to Rutenbar, as needed</p>

member. We have also been briefed at Faculty Assembly. Mostly, the details are as advertised, though there may be specific elements that are different.

Discussion

FRIEZE: What kinds of critique?

Details of specific investment funds and transfer issues.

SUKITS: The committee is still active, every quarter to monitor performance with staff members. Complaints stem from two areas: ideological in nature, or lack of understanding of the changes. Included a fund from Wells-Fargo: Federal system is going to punish them; WF funds we are investing is a separate company.

DE VALLEJO: There are HR meetings scheduled; but applied by how they are addressing this by phasing out investment portfolio choices; driving individual investments differently.

SUKITS: Mutual funds are not included in the array for new employees

DE VALLEJO: Funds being phased out

SUKITS: These will move to the Brokerage window (individual opens it) and you can elect those funds. The reason for the decrease in funding opportunities is in response to confusion and legal issues that have arisen across universities.

Funds have been cut from 120 to about 55, based on performance and low investment dollars.

DE VALLEJO: Should have been presented different options.

MUNRO: Activated by a certain date?

SUKITS: Within a 90-day window, no costs for you.

WILSON: Sessions are underway and available for specific cases and questions.

Senate Elections: Elections committee meeting February 21, 2018. Need candidates for Presidency.

Plenary Planning: continuing and making progress. Focused on teaching and a number of aspects of teaching. More details as they develop. Hold the date: March 27, 12-3p Assembly Room of William Pitt Union

Open educational resources will be part of this plenary (a committee was formed and has been part of our overall deliberations). Committee will continue to meet; anxious to get to a report and plan for action for implementation

UTimes: University Times Advisor Board has been reconstituted will be meeting this week; oversight advisory board to consider aspects of the UTimes.

Senate proposal generated to form a **Communications ad hoc committee**. We would like to make a formal proposal at the March Faculty Assembly meeting. Anyone who would like to volunteer should contact Lori Molinaro or Frank Wilson.

Letter from Vice Chancellor Pam Connelly (Diversity and Inclusion) has received a **request from the Dean of Public Health regarding the name of Parran Hall** (first team of that school). Was surgeon general of US. During his tenure, the Tuskegee Syphilis study occurred, as well as the Guatemalan version of a similar study. Dean Burke (of GSPH), has made a formal request for institutional review of the name of Parran Hall. A review committee is being formed by Vice Chancellor Humphrey and

<p>chaired by Vice Chancellor Connelly. The Assembly has been requested to appoint two faculty. The committee is expected to meet and come to decisions reasonably soon.</p> <p>Serious issue regarding the legacy at and of Pitt; has been an issue within the GSPH for a number of years with more information uncovered over the years.</p> <p>Volunteers? Let Frank Wilson know ASAP.</p> <p>Discussion MUNRO: no website for the Plenary WILSON: there will be soon!</p> <p>-----</p>		
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of the Special and Standing Committees of the Senate</u></p>	<p>EIADAC Committee (Equity, Inclusion, Anti-Discrimination, Advocacy Committee) Cindy Danford, chair</p> <p>Statement to support the Chancellor’s statement regarding related to past issues in the Communications department. Handout presented</p> <p>Discussion: MUNRO: add “if you know about it” SUKITS: is there a definition of harassment? GOLD: There is and it discussed various forms of harassment SUKITS: complexity of issues/concepts DANFORD: we can add a reference to the policy number KUBIS: Trainings and documents are available through workshops DANFORD: policies updated in the last two years WILSON: with his statement, the Chancellor put in place two investigations: Katie Pope Title IX is currently interviewing people and we may hear status update soon, and second, the Chancellor also indicated a need for an external person to review the historical situation. We have no update on this part of the investigation. Dean Blee is also investigating across A&S; other schools may also be under review. We’ve been assured these investigations will be reported and be transparent. Our past discussions of core principles and core values is an important part of us thinking through these kinds of issues.</p> <p>Reminder: Senate meets on TUESDAY, not WEDNESDAY of next week.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><u>Adjournment</u></p>	<p>Moved and accepted, 3:50p</p>	

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,



HAIL TO PITT!

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, Bircher, Borovetz, Brodt, Bromberg, Buchanich, Cassaro, Conley, Cook, Danford, De Vallejo, Fort, Frieze, Gold, Guterman, Henker, Kaufman, Kear, Kubis, Landsittel, Loughlin, Lyon, McGreevy, Molinaro, Morel, Mulvaney, Munro, Nelson, Phillipi, Rohrer, Salcido, Sereika, Spring, Stoner, Sukits, Tananis, Wilson, Withers, Yarger

Members not attending:

Adams, Betru, Bilodeau, Bonneau, Clark, Deitrick, Harper, Harries, Horne, Infanti, Irrgang, Jones, Kanthak, Kaynar, Kelly, Kiselyov, Landrigan, Long, Martin, Mendeloff, Muenzer, Mulcahy, Olanyk, Roberts, Sant, Smolinski, Soska, Swanson, Taboas, Tashbook, Thorpe, Weikle-Mills,

*Excused attendance:

Balaban, Becker, Bratman, Czerwinski, Dahm, Gaddy, Goldberg, Kovacs, Labrinidis, Perry, Rigotti, Van Nostrand, Weinberg

Others attending:

Bonner, Fike, Graves, McLaughlin, Supowitz

*Notified Senate Office