

Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
January 16, 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 3:01 pm.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the Past Faculty Assembly Meeting</u> Minutes (December 5, 2017) were approved as written.</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u></p> <p>QUESTIONS/ISSUES: KOVACS: Intellectual property committee --- did it finish their work?? Michael Spring – “assignment” of intellectual property has been settled (assign in advance or to wait to after creation). Senior Vice Chancellor Rob Rutenbar is now in charge of this through the Research Committee.</p> <p>Regarding Provost’s Search: Framing the search parameters, meetings with executive committee of Senate; concern that we include focus groups and knowing in advance what the focus group questions will be. Need to report to Assembly and Senate. Tananis is on search committee and will report to Assembly and Senate, as information becomes available.</p>	<p>Discussion and recommended questions directed to Rutenbar, as needed</p>
<p><u>Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson</u></p> <p>UPDATES:</p> <p>Results of Provost Selection Committee: Shelome Gooden: Linguistics Michael Goodhart: Political Science Susan Fullerton: Engineering Cindy Tananis: Education Maria Kovacs: Psychiatry (School of Medicine) Christopher Cook: Political Science, Johnstown</p> <p>Additional members will be appointed by the Chancellor</p> <p>Last search (2009), turnout was much lower this year: Arts and Sciences 55% to 24% this year Health Sciences 11% to 9.5% Professional Schools 74% to 33% Regional, drop of 9%</p>	<p>Updates and Discussions</p>

Discussion

There was a complaint from the medical school that there were no representatives from the basic sciences. Complaints will need to be dealt with through Bylaws changes. We expect to hear more from the Bylaws committee in the future regarding this matter. Additionally, we are notifying the Chancellor of some concerns so that he can address issues of representativeness in his appointments.

KOVACS:

Some people complained about lack of part-time faculty (senior faculty) regarding voting. More focus on the announcement of elections.

Survey to understand the “shameful” lack of interest in faculty affairs. Some members should volunteer to find out.

WEINBERG:

What has changed between 2009 and now. Specifically, we had the University Times in hardcopy. Now it’s one of many “Read Green” announcements. So the question is did people even know?

MOLINARO:

In 2009 the only announcement in 2009 was HOW to vote. It was handled almost identically in 2009 as it was this year. Eligible voters received four Read Green announcements.

ROHRER:

From early on in the process, there was a concern that people did not know about the process. Impression was a lack of awareness.

BECKER:

In calculating the School of Medicine denominator, how is that determined.

MOLINARO: all Health Science eligible faculty.

WILSON: Numbers provided -- 2009: 262/2308, 2018: 246/2567

BALABAN:

Do we know if people accessed the ballot and chose not to vote as a measure of overall voting behaviors?

KOVACS:

Email addresses may be an issue

LOUGHLIN:

The drop is huge; this is more than an email address issue --- this goes back to hardcopy announcements and lack of University Times

MUNRO:

Read Green announcement headings are not catching people’s attention, especially on phones.

SPRING:

We are facing issues around communication, for example the University Times from hardcopy to electronic. I wonder if people know that Provost Beeson is stepping down --- news is communicated quite differently in focus than in the past. In the past, issues would be announced and then discussed in the Times across issues --- that helped to focus the conversation more fully. Perhaps it is time to convene an ad hoc committee to consider issues of communication with and regarding faculty.

SUKITS:

What do we want the outcome to be? Is it sending out info? Or is it that

<p>people get it and READ it? Online switch often decreases response rate --- we've seen that with online OMETs and our outreach to veterans, as well.</p> <p>HARPER: "Flashes" on announcement screens – do we have access or make use of these boards as one way to inform.</p> <p>MOLINARO: each school controls each screen; we currently do not use it centrally</p> <p>WILSON: follow up in each school by members</p> <p>SPRING: We need to take responsibility, as Carey Balaban suggested, however there are many different types of people among the faculty; Senate is not truly representative across all faculty, for example. Some colleagues may need more direct effort to engage them.</p> <p>KOVACS: There is a reality and convenience about how people engage with communication that are beyond "responsibility."</p> <hr/> <p>Senate Elections: Current READ GREEN – Announcement regarding Senate elections of officers, Faculty Assembly members, Standing Committees. PLEASE READ THEM. This will also include the first official voting for the new Faculty Affairs committee (staggered appointments, 3 to 1 year, based on highest to lower votes). Consider how each of us can encourage voter turnout!! March deadline.</p> <p>Discussion BECKER: Double the font size on Read Green will help! KOVACS: More information happening TANANIS: As Faculty Assembly members, WE have the responsibility to get this information out in our schools and departments MUNRO: Dean's Council can also help get the info out MUENZER: Announcements at department meetings LANDSITTEL: potential ad hoc committee is still useful to put these suggestions in place. ROHRER: "Multi-message, multi-mode" is a useful strategy WILSON: communications committee may be helpful, will follow up Election Committee is convening in February --- will take up getting the info out.</p> <hr/> <p>UTimes Advisory Board: Constituted. Scheduled to begin meeting next week. (Spring is representative)</p> <hr/> <p>Senate Plenary: Focus on "teaching"; though specific focus is not yet formed. Planning committee scheduled this Friday (January 19, 11a-12:30p, 272 Hillman). Welcome to attend. Cynthia Golden (Center for Teaching and Learning) invited to attend and participate.</p> <hr/> <p>Socially Responsible Investing Committee:</p>	
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<p>There is a chair (Dave Dennis from Business School) and some members have agreed to serve, however the committee has not fully formed and a meeting has not convened. We are hopeful the committee will SOON meet. Hope to get input from the campus at large.</p> <p>STONER: Head of Blackrock Investing has plans to put CEOs on notice that there should be a social intent in investing.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Open Access Materials: Librarians at Pitt have been working with faculty and students to move this issue forward. Student Government Board is voting on this issue soon and have been working with the Chancellor and Provost who seem ready to offer support.</p> <hr/> <p>Pitt Day in Harrisburg (March 20): Trying to identify faculty and staff who are willing to recruit people/groups to travel to Harrisburg. The committee will report at the upcoming February 13 Faculty Assembly meeting. Follow up meeting on February 16 for preparation.</p> <p>-----</p>	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of the Special and Standing Committees of the Senate</u></p>	<p>None</p>
<p><u>Adjournment</u></p>	<p>Moved and accepted, 4:17p</p>

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

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



HAIL TO PITT!

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, Balaban, Becker, Betru, Bircher, Borovetz, Brodt, Conley, Cook, Dahm, Danford, Deitrick, Fort, Guterman, Harper, Henker, Horne, Kaufman, Kear, Kiselyov, Kovacs, Landsittel, Long, Loughlin, Lyon, Martin, Molinaro, Muenzer, Mulvaney, Munro, Nelson, Petty, Phillippi, Rohrer, Sant, Sereika, Spring, Stoner, Sukits, Tananis, Tashbook, Weikle-Mills, Weinberg, Wilson, Wtithers

Members not attending:

Adams, Bilodeau, Bonneau, Buchanich, Clark, De Vallejo, Frieze, Gold, Harries, Infanti, Irrgang, Jones, Kanthak, Kaynar, Kelly, Kubis, McGreevy, Mendeloff, Morel, Mulcahy, Olanyk, Roberts, Salcido, Smolinski, Soska, Swanson, Taboas, Thorpe, Van Nostrand

*Excused attendance:

Bratman, Bromberg, Cassaro, Czerwinski, Gaddy, Goldberg, Labrinidis, Rigotti, Yarger

Others attending:

Fike, Rubio, Schackner, Tannery

*Notified Senate Office