

Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
March 5, 2019

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order by President Chris Bonneau.</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:00 pm.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the Past Faculty Assembly Meeting</u> Minutes (February 5, 2019) were approved as written</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u></p>	<p>None</p>
<p><u>Report of Senate President, Chris Bonneau</u> March ... the only month that is also a command. Also, it is allegedly also the month when spring starts. But we know better. We had over 60 individuals express an interest in serving on the search committee for the Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences. This level of enthusiasm is gratifying and speaks to the importance of the position. Nominating committees composed of members of Senate Council from each of the two areas (Health Sciences and Provost’s area) waded through the expressions of interest and prepared slates of candidates. These slates were announced in a Read Green last Friday. Additionally, there is an opportunity for anyone to petition to get on the ballot, and the procedures for that were also in the Read Green. The election will run from March 13 to March 25. Faculty will only be able to select candidates from the areas of their academic appointments. At the Board of Trustees meeting, the Chancellor formally announced the creation of the Pitt Success program. The core of the program involves Pitt matching all Pell grants received by students. In addition to benefitting our current students, this also opens the door for many other potential students with high financial need. Where Pitt might have been out of reach before, it may now be seriously considered. Pitt Success will benefit our regional campuses at least as much as the Oakland campus, if not more. This exciting initiative will help diversify our student body and well as help make Pitt an engine to reduce economic inequality. The new Policy Development Office is in full swing. Recently, I reviewed and signed off on charters for a revision of the Nondiscrimination, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action policy as well as the creation of an Electronic Information and Technology Accessibility policy. Both of these committees have significant faculty involvement in their membership. Once these policies have been drafted, they will come through Senate committees, Faculty Assembly, and Senate Council.</p>	<p>Report No Discussion</p>

	<p>On Thursday at noon, the Governmental Relations Committee will host a lunch with State Representative Anita Kulik at noon in Conference Room B of the University Club. Representative Kulik has served in the House since 2017 and her district includes parts of Carnegie, Robinson Township, McKees Rocks, Coraopolis, and Emsworth, among others. If you are interested in coming to this free lunch and discussion, please let Lori know ASAP.</p> <p>Finally, two reminders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitt Day in Harrisburg is Tuesday, March 26. Please sign up online through the Community and Governmental Relations Office: https://www.cgr.pitt.edu/ • And this is my last chance to remind you of our spring plenary on March 27. The topic is Free Speech in the Modern University and in addition to a delectable lunch, we also have a keynote address by Professor Sigal Ben-Porath from Penn and a panel discussion featuring our own Jules Lobel, Kris Kanthak, and Kenyon Bonner. 	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of the Special and Standing Committees of the Senate</u></p>	<p><u>Elections Committee Update</u> <i>Professor Frank Wilson, Chair</i></p> <p>One formal meeting, scheduling a second. Still looking for officer position candidates, please step up April 3-18 also includes people willing to serve on Faculty Assembly. Some areas have a solid slate available, though we are short in Social Sciences, Education, Engineering, GSPIA, and General Medicine, along with others that have a full slate but no “choices” among those nominated. April 24-May 6 will also be Committee elections. Again, opening abound (Bylaws, Community Engagement, Government Engagement, Library, and Plant Utilization and Planning all need nominees!)</p>	<p>Reports and Discussion</p>
<p><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business</u></p>	<p><u>Learning Management Presentation</u> <i>Ms. Cynthia Golden, Director, University Center for Teaching and Learning</i></p> <p>Blackboard to Canvas Transition at the University of Pittsburgh</p> <p>See the LMS presentation file sent earlier from the Senate Director via the announcement of the Faculty Assembly meeting</p>	<p>Briefing and Discussion</p>

	<p>Additionally, the report of the committee is available, as well.</p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <p>BONNEAU: We want to pilot courses in Canvas while the system is still on Blackboard. We want to minimize confusion. How will faculty be chosen for early adoption? Looking at various types of courses --- large enrollment, heavy video use, etc – to pilot in a number of ways to test. The system will be made available to faculty well ahead of actual installation for courses.</p> <p>FRIEZE: Computer Use Committee reviewed this option and was in support</p> <p>GOLDBERG: How might Canvas be used beyond credit class courses (continuing ed, for example)? Golden – We are in the process of a seed grant to test this aspect of the platform with five different programs – hoping to learn across continuing education programs; just getting started.</p> <p>TANANIS: Can people outside of the University be enrolled? Golden – for continuing education purposes, yes.</p> <p>BONNEAU: Are there resources for regional campuses as well? Golden – Yes, we will continue to work with the regional campuses through the transition.</p> <p>GUTERMAN: Do we have a test version up? Golden – we’ll get a version up soon, though you can go Canvas website and view the product at any time</p> <p>BONNEAU: Costs similar? Golden – yes, equivalent.</p> <p>KEAR: Will we still be calling this Courseweb? Golden – No, we will likely be rebranding with Canvas</p> <p>Arkush: Archived courses still available? Golden – we are working through those processes now, however, those courses will still be available to faculty for use. Processes and policies related to faculty needs will be sought.</p> <p>SPRING: Will our contract with Canvas include Helpdesk support? Golden – Yes, we are looking into these options. So, do equivalent costs include this? Golden – No, there are a number of different package options including pursuing helpdesk options; we are also looking into impact on overall CSSD resources.</p> <p>Can you be more specific? --- ideal environment would be a smooth and complete transition without faculty effort --- so far, those tests scenarios have not been assessed yet, correct? Golden – no that process is not yet completed --- it’s in our best interest to do that as quickly and specifically as possible, hopefully by this semester, definitely by Fall 2019. By that time, we hope to set expectations for transitions with students and</p>	
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	<p>faculty. BONNEAU: Status quo was not an option, correct? Golden – No, the Blackboard Ultra version would require considerable transition as well.</p>	
<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <p>FREE SPEECH IN THE MODERN UNIVERSITY March 27, 12-3 P.M., Assembly Room, WPU</p> <p>Past President Wilson congratulated our Bradford campus colleagues who sent a short film that fit perfectly and added much to our learning at the Open Education Resources forum kick-off.</p>		
<p><u>Adjournment</u></p>		<p>Moved and accepted, 3:40p</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:

Arkush, Aziz, Bachman, Bircher, Bonneau, Borovetz, Brodt, Buchanich, Dahm, Denman, Fort, Frieze, Goldberg, Guterman, Kear, Kiselyov, Kucan, Loughlin, Miller, Molinaro, Mulvaney, Poljak, Roberts, Salcido, Sant, Spring, Stoner, Tananis, Triplette, Wilson, Yates

Members not attending:

Adams, Betru, Bratman, Bromberg, Cassaro, Conley, Cousins, De Vallejo, Gold, Goundappa, Harper, Harries, Horne, Infanti, Irrgang, Jones, Kanthak, Kaufman, Kaynar, Kelly, Landrigan, Landsittel, Long, Mahoney, Martin, McGreevy, Mostern, Mulcahy, Nelson, Rohrer, Smolinski, Soska, Sukits, Swigonova, Taboas, Tashbook, Weikle-Mills, Weinberg

*Excused attendance:

Becker, Danford, D’Cunha, Gaddy, Henker, Kovacs, Labrinidis, Morel, Munro, Van Nostrand

Others attending:

Golden, Harrell, Hobough, Kirsch, McCarthy

*Notified Senate Office