# Faculty Assembly Minutes 

2700 Posvar Hall
May 12, 2015

been raised. President Spring noted that there is a lot of good intent behind the new policy, and the Provost has listened to our comments and will revisit the policy.
5. Regarding the Standing Committees of the Senate: The Senate Council approved all changes to the standing committees recommended by Assembly. Thank you to Tom Smitherman for organizing the Committee restructuring.
6. Regarding Research Policies referred to the new Standing Committee on Research: Provost Beeson asked for copies of the motions passed last month at Faculty Assembly to pass on to various committees under her jurisdiction.
7. Regarding Senate Standing Committee Elections: These have now been completed. Tom Smitherman has certified the elections.
8. Presentation later in the meeting: Maureen Beal will be presenting a new item of business on the Purchasing process. She is responsible for purchasing as Vice Chancellor, Financial Operations, and has spearheaded millions of savings for the University.

President Spring reflected on his two years as Senate President. He noted that the debate on the travel policy changes was a great example of how debate can be healthy and he is proud of that exchange and how interactive the Senate has become.
Reports by and Announcements of the Special and Standing Committees of the Senate

## Budget Policies Committee (BPC)

Professors John Baker and Beverly Gaddy, Co-Chairs

The SBPC has met 6 times during the 2014-15 academic year, and will also meet May 22. The SBPC mission statement was reviewed and distributed to the Assembly.

According to SBPC's mission statement, our primary concerns "are the fiscal health of the University, the economic welfare of its faculty and staff, and the appropriateness and sufficiency of funds provided for the academic programs of the University". As such we are charged to make "recommendations on such matters as tuition levels, compensation policies, and issues like the creation, merger and termination of academic programs, when budgetary considerations are involved." They are also charged with monitoring the University planning and budget system. The Administration does not share much information on the University's budget and finances with the committee, thus the primary activities of the SBPC are basically limited to hearing and discussing various salary-related reports. The committee is charged with monitoring the implementation of Pitt's Salary Increase Policy (07-09-01), and reporting on that implementation annually to the University Senate.

SBPC has repeatedly requested more budget transparency, and several years ago agreed to have closed executive sessions so financial information could be presented. This has had some positive effect. For the first time in 5 years, the university produced and allowed the committee to see the universities' Revenue and Cost Attribution Study.

Highlights of the year's SBPC meetings were overviewed:

1. September 19, 2014

In executive session, presentation and discussion of the FY 2013 Revenue and Cost

Specific questions and discussion are noted after each report.

Attribution Study, a confidential internal university document that shows revenues and attributed costs for each university responsibility center. The committee was allowed to view the document in Box, but not permitted to print or keep a copy.
2. October 17, 2014
A. Presentation and discussion of one of the committee's regular annual salary reports: Average Salaries of Faculty and Librarians: A Peer Group Analysis for FY 2014. This report is based on the annual AAUP faculty salary survey which is published in the March-April issue of Academe. The Salary Increase Policy (07-09-01) states:"[T]he University has set a goal of ensuring that average faculty salaries at the Pittsburgh campus are at or above the median (for each rank) of AAU universities; related goals have been established for faculty at the regional campuses and for faculty librarians." The results are shown in the table and were published in the October 23, 2014, University Times.

| Rank | Pitt Average | Public AAU Rank |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Professor | $\$ 140,200$ | $16 / 34$ |
| Associate Prof | $\$ 93,000$ | $19 / 34$ |
| Assistant Prof | $\$ 77,800$ | $27 / 34$ |
| Instructor | $\$ 45,900$ | $20 / 22$ |
| Lecturer | $\$ 46,500$ | $27 / 27$ |
| Librarian | $\$ 78,000$ | $9 / 34$ |

For many years this peer report only showed salaries for professors, associate professors, assistant professors and librarians. Two years ago it was modified to also include the salaries of instructors and lecturers, and the number of faculty at each rank. It still omits no rank and all ranks faculty salaries. Salaries for these ranks were: Pitt All Ranks average salary ( $\$ 93,700$; Rank 27/34). Public AAU median $\$ 104,100$. No Rank salaries - Unknown; AAUP does not publish them.
B. At the Oct. meeting the SBPC subcommittee on part-time faculty salaries once again requested the Administration to prepare an annual report on part-time faculty salaries analogous to the annual Mean and Median Salary Report for Full-Time Faculty. The Administration's response was it would be time consuming to carry out, that there would first have to be agreement on which part-time faculty to include and that would require agreement on the definitions for different types of part-time faculty. The original request for this was roughly 3 years ago.
3. November 21, 2014

Presentation and Discussion of a report on the Effect of Cost of Living on Average Salaries in Pitt's Faculty Peer Groups. This report covers the main and regional campuses, but methods for calculation are different. The results were published in Dec 4, 2014, University Times.
4. December 12, 2014

Presentation and Discussion of a FY 1998-2013 Faculty and Staff Salary Cohort Report. The results were published in the January 6, 2015, University Times.
5. March 20, 2015
A. Presentation and discussion of one of the committee's regular annual salary
reports: Mean and Median Salaries of Full-Time Employees, for FY 14. This report is based on a public report the University of Pittsburgh submits annually to the Pennsylvania State Legislature. The results were published in the April 2, 2015, University Times.
B. In executive session, presentation and discussion of a fully completed FY 14, newly proposed annual report on Faculty Salaries and Teaching Load, based on a public report the University of Pittsburgh submits annually to the Pennsylvania State Legislature titled: "UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH Report of Faculty Costs and Faculty Workload", FY ....... This report includes full-time and part-time faculty; the committee is waiting for feedback from the Administration. This report is not yet publicly available.
6. April 17, 2015
A. Presentation and discussion of one of the committee's regular annual salary reports: Analysis of Salary Increases for Full-Time Continuing Faculty, FY 2014 to FY 2015. The results were published in the April 30, 2015, University Times.
B. Presentation and discussion of an updated 15 -year salary cohort report from FY 2000-2015 for continuing faculty and staff. The results were published in the April 30, 2015, University Times.
7. May 22, 2015

In executive session, the SBPC will discuss and decide on an annual salary pool increase recommendation for next year which will be sent to the Chancellor.

## Questions/Discussion:

Do these salary reports hold contract times (8-month or 12 -month)?
Baker: Yes. The AAUP report uses a conversion factor so the results are nominally comparative. It is a reasonable comparison.
Kovacs: You noted that the Administration does not share much information about finances. What information would you want to have in this Committee to be more informed? Second question is that if your Committee is offered confidential information, how can it serve in an advisory fashion?
Baker: It is hard to have discussions without full information. This year's Attribution Report was a great step to having the information we need. The budget is done as an additive/subtractive system, and tuition increase and faculty salaries are filled in last. This information is never seen.
Kovacs: Why is this such a secret?
Baker: I am not sure if it comes from the Administration or from the Board of Trustees.
Kovacs: The Board of Trustees are successful businesspeople. This committee should ask for more information.
Gaddy: We had a discussion on whether to keep an open session (this would limit information) or have a closed session but obtain confidential reports.
Weinberg: I read the letters in the University Times between you and Dave DeJong. Could you summarize the issues?
Baker: This was a private letter, but Pitt has the lowest percentage of full professors of any of the AAUs. We have high percentage of Assistant professors, lecturers and instructors. The lower-ranking faculty is over $60 \%$ of the faculty. I feel that the low-
ranking faculty salaries are too low, and they should be raised to their peer salaries. This gap has opened in the last 10 years. That is what my letter was about, asking Administration to review and potentially change the salaries.
Spring: The raw complexity of any data analysis is in these reports. I have a sense that the trend is a positive one over the last few years. Also, what is true is that the University does not want to do its budgeting and planning in public. There is some constraint on how some information must be shared. We should know that it would be a mistake to think this has not helped PITT in the past years. We are not the Chancellor and Provost; we as the Senate are advisory. We operate on good faith. They listen to this body of faculty. The same is true in fiscal matters, although it might not be as much as we want.
Baker: I don't want to give the wrong impression that the Administration is not doing what is needed to make decisions. The question is the priorities that we have on salary review. This has been voiced. I would like to see this a little faster than has been happening.

## Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-discrimination Advocacy Committee (EIADAC) <br> Professors Marilyn Hravnak and Claud Mauk, Co-Chair

The mission of the Committee was distributed to the Faculty Assembly. There is a proactive and reactive component to our Committee's work. The verbal report is provided below.

The academic year (AY) '15 Working Groups included: Gender Equity, International Populations (new in AY 15), and Race \& Ethnicity (new in AY 15). Moving forward, EIADAC has two major initiatives in the planning stages:

The University's diversity website, currently situated in HR, is being significantly revised and updated. The existing page provides a list of links each related to diversity in one way or another. However, other universities have a much fuller representation of diversity within their pages. Features we would like to see implemented are news stories on diversity topics and a University-wide calendar of diversity-related events, to make it more informative and interesting. Marketing has informally indicated that they would be willing to build such a page and link to it from the University's homepage. The biggest issue outstanding is to determine who would take responsibility for maintaining the webpage: finding news stories to feature and monitoring the events calendar. What has come through strongly in our committee discussions is a lack of any overarching Diversity Organization at the University to facilitate communication of diversity-related information. The University already hosts a wide range of diversity initiatives, but because the various groups working on diversity issues are not well connected, information does not flow evenly, often not reaching interested parties. We hope that a new webpage will help to improve the situation.

The second update provided was regarding an effort by our International Populations working group to improve the experience of international graduate students and opportunities for them to integrate into the larger University community. International undergraduates have access to a wide range of services and programming from Cross Cultural and Leadership Development (CCLD). International graduate students, on the other hand, are largely socialized directly into their respective programs, which may have largely academic goals. The International Populations working group is bringing together the Office of International Services (OIS) and the Graduate and Professional

Student Government (GPSG) to create a new one week orientation for international graduate student to be implemented in fall of 2015.

## Questions/Discussion:

Novy: What has the Gender Equity group been doing?
Mauk/Hravnak: The Pay-Equity report from the Provost's office is being reviewed, and we are tracking more information about this with the Chancellor's liaison.
Labrinidis: The international outreach is a good idea. Please make sure this does not conflict with the department-based activities.
Hravnak: We are using the website to have a two-way repository of events to connect different services and activities. We would like to move the page to a more visible link outside of HR.

## Governmental Relations Committee (GRC)

Professor Linda Frank, Chair

The mission statement of the GRC was overviewed. The Administration was thanked for their cooperation on this committee. Professor Frank also noted that every time she has reached out to governmental officials to work with the GRC, she has met with positive reaction and collaboration.

## Mission Statement

The purpose of the Governmental Relations Committee of the University Senate is to foster and promote mutual understanding and rapport between the University of Pittsburgh faculty and members of the federal, state, county and local governments that have an impact on the University's main and regional campuses. The primary, but not exclusive means of achieving this purpose is through informal luncheons held during the academic year with members and/or representatives of these governments and University of Pittsburgh faculty, and representatives of the Staff Association Council and student governments. The Governmental Relations Committee also supports interaction with government officials on specific issues and in general between members of the University community and those who represent them.

A summary of content of the monthly meetings of the GRC was highlighted, with a summary below.

September 2014: Meeting with University of Pittsburgh Governmental Affairs, Representative Frankel Friday, Sept. 26, 2015.Topics include short and long term budget issues, privatization of liquor stores, and financial support for education.

October 2014: Representative Martin Causer and Mark Adams, State Senator Joe Scarnati's District Director attended. Meeting was held on Bradford campus. A second October meeting was held on October 31, 2014, with information available at: http://www.repcauser.com/

December 2014: Allegheny County Administrator Rick Fitzgerald attended the meeting and provided background on his work in Pittsburgh prior to becoming Chief Executive. Also discussed was the importance of Pitt to the Pittsburgh Community, ongoing connections and partnerships established, and his interest in new opportunities for joint initiatives for faculty and students.

January 2015: Allegheny County Health Department, Karen Hacker, MD, MPH, Director discussed goals to improve health of Allegheny county which are: population health, focus on the Mon Valley (chronic disease: obesity, smoking-related conditions), access to primary care, vaccinations, HIV/STIs, and drug use. Also discussed were fiscal resources level funded for 6 yrs. (current budget of $\$ 38 \mathrm{M}$ with 370 employees); restructuring that is taking place in terms of fiscal, environmental health, epidemiology, community and diseases prevention, public policy, and community relations.

February 2015: Mayor Bill Peduto attended and the discussion centered on the role of Pitt in Pittsburgh, where Pittsburgh was described as an "urban lab"...small enough to develop programs and make changes, focus on improvement of city services including the Bureau of Neighborhoods (community involvement is essential to make changes) and involvement of faith-based organizations, educational institutions, entrepreneurs, community leaders, National VFW conference is being hosted in Pittsburgh in July 2015, and higher education, student programs, service-learning and community work with neighborhoods. This will be highly advertised. Other initiatives include boilermakers, apprenticeships, reintroducing EMTs and the "Pittsburgh Promise."

March 2015: Planning meeting via webinar to include debriefing of sessions with speakers, identification of follow-up needed from Allegheny County Health Department and Mayor's office.

May 2015: Pittsburgh City Councilman (confirmed) Corey O'Connor will join our meeting on May 21, 2015, University Club, 1:00 PM.

For June 2015, Chancellor Emeritus Nordenberg (confirmed), discussing the Institute of Politics. (June 12, 2015 at the University Club)

The Fall 2015 Potential Invitees include Representative Timothy Murphy, PA Governor's Office Regional Representatives, and State Senators.

Challenges and opportunities facing the Committee include faculty participation in meetings; continued recruitment of speakers for meeting; initiation of meetings at local and federal legislative offices; participation of the Senate in Pitt Advocacy Day in Harrisburg; and collaboration with other Senate committees.

## Questions/Discussion:

Weinberg: At an earlier meeting, you noted that we should have a bigger presence in Washington. Did you make any progress?
Smitherman: The Chancellor has appointed someone now; perhaps it could be a webinar at one of your upcoming meetings. This has been accomplished.
Baker: Deciding to include local governmental officials has been effective then? Frank: Yes it has. It also builds bridges between the faculty and local leaders, and it presents new opportunities for other committees to know all that is going on.

## Library Committee

Professor Rhobert Evans, Chair

This report was available to the Committee via review. Professor Evans was not able to be present at the May $12^{\text {th }}$ meeting. A summary from the written report is below.

The Senate Library Committee met four times over the year. The Committee brings together representatives of the three University library systems: The Barco Law Library, the Health Sciences Library System (HSLS) and the University Library System (ULS).

Hillman Library hours: It was noted during the September meeting that the 24 -hour service, Sunday through Friday, had been a success. Originally a pilot project, these hours will now be permanently maintained. The HSLS has gone to $100 \%$ online journals. Hard copies will only be available for historical pieces.

During the December meeting, M. Ratajeski (HSLS) and A. Brenner (ULS) reviewed Data Management (DM) activities. A survey of faculty concerns and opinions had been conducted. The libraries emphasize the educational training of researchers. The formats for teaching DM range from one-on-one, to focused departmental settings, to walk-in classes at the library or at the Clinical and Translational Research Institute.

At the February meeting, A. Ketchum (HSLS) and T. Deliyannides (ULS) reviewed Open Access (OA) practices. Advantages of OA publishing were emphasized: improved dissemination of knowledge, high citation rates and the entire peer review process can be examined. Impact factor and prestige are compatible with publisher controlled journals. Authors retain copyright to their work. However, predatory publishers exist. Check address, contact information and instructions to authors. ULS publishes >40 OA journals. This improves communications and combats the current onerous subscription pricing systems. ULS may also pay the publishing costs for eligible authors and select journals.

Concerns were raised pertaining to security checks required of new employees. Three aspects are involved: Child Abuse History check, Department of Public Welfare; Criminal Record check, police; FBI check. These security checks may take several weeks and cost $\$ 50$. This may become a particular problem in the fall when the libraries will hire many new student workers. The Barco Law Library and ULS will pay the $\$ 50$ charge for students. It was questioned whether the University was interpreting the law too broadly. Although only one of a group of researchers may interact with children, the University expects the entire team, including those who will never meet the children, e.g., data analysts, to be cleared.

Two members of the Committee, F. Brody and B. Epstein, are serving on the task force studying potential collaboration between Pitt and CMU. An interim report is expected in May.

In April, questions were raised concerning the Risk Management policies at the University. During spring break, a significant flood occurred in the Barco Law Library. Over 150 books, plus carpets, ceiling panels and furniture, were damaged. Subsequently, the risk management office indicated that University property insurance had a deductible of $\$ 250,000$. Further, there is a cap value on each book but the rate is not clear. It may be low and not reflect the worth of many books. Limited library input had been obtained prior to creating the cap. The Committee will clarify and review these decisions.

## The new chair was elected for 2015-16: Sheila Corrall.

## Unfinished Business and/or New Business

## Purchasing (tentative)

## Maureen Beal, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Financial Operations

Purchasing touches every department in the University. Vice-Chancellor Beal was invited to make a connection to Faculty Assembly and help and listen. The Panther Express team concept was explained. The goals of the Panther Express team are to make purchasing and paying for the over $\$ 700$ million of annual goods and services to PITT as easy as possible. The focus is on reduction of delivery time, returns for defects, administrative costs/time, and product/services costs. Compliance and safety are also a focus. The most important goal is to meet academic and research needs for innovation by building in flexibility. Their methodology involves listening, benchmarking, sourcing to leverage spending (and buying) power, aggressive use of eCommerce, and results for continuous improvement.
Advisory groups and surveys, as well as purchasing pattern analysis are used to know what our customers' needs are. Scientific supplies are the majority of what we buy as a university, and we have a standing Scientific Advisory Group. We have ad-hoc advisory groups as well. We have been meeting with focus groups to obtain information. Buying services is very different than buying goods. The team receives an average of 16,000 inquiries per year. These are replied to and reviewed for continuous improvement and action. Demand-based, collaborative approaches, enabled by advanced spend analytic software is a key sourcing strategy, with over 70 agreements available. Consolidating spend to fewer supplies and using spending consortiums is another of our sourcing strategies. The eCommerce involves online catalogs, ePO, elnvoices, and eApproval. This reduces the search time for department administrators to find items. Improvements are underway to the traditional purchase order (PO) process for larger and smaller suppliers. Our initial years were focused on purchase of goods (high volume, high transaction numbers). Recently, we have been focused on processes, including a DocuSign pilot with an on-line request-to-pay, including eSignatures. There is also a system in place where you can call-in an order and the Panther Express team will place the order for you. Results to-date include university-wide savings estimates of $\$ 20$ million (20\%), annually, for all 70+ contracts across the University (FY14). These savings stay in the academic and resource areas (within the units). Administrative savings estimate equals $\$ 3.6$ million, based on the estimate that an eCommerce order costs roughly $\$ 26$ less per order. An external audit of the Fisher Scientific contract in 2010, completed in 2015, confirmed actual savings of $\$ 7.8$ million (was $\$ 7$ million in 2010); 75,000 eCommerce orders (50,000 in 2010), eStockroom for visibility of oncampus supplies (formerly a paper stockroom), 0.9 day ("same day") average delivery time (1.7 days 2010), defect rate of 14 per 73,000 items ordered ( 17 per 50,000 in 2010), and an increase in dedicated account representatives from 2 in 2010 to 4 on-site in 2015. Most importantly, a January 2015 survey found that the majority of campus

Questions and discussion are noted below.
stakeholders are satisfied or highly satisfied with Fisher Scientific as a vendor. Contact name and email were provided.

## Questions/Discussion:

Sukits: At the Business School, we have a point person for purchasing. They submit the orders. Do these orders flow through your Department?

Beal: Yes, if it is a company we contract with (example: Dell computers). The best value models are posted on the website, but you can buy what you want.
Sukits: Does the savings flow down to the individual?
Beal: Yes, it does, directly.
Spring: Maureen was thanked for coming, and the progress and accomplishments were recognized.

Beal: Next year, we will be looking at smart devices. She noted that she would be glad to come back next year to update Faculty Assembly on this and other progress.

## Announcements

A group of faculty talked to the Chancellor about bundling computing and information science and engineering resources into a potential new campus entity. The Provost asked that we get the right faculty together and have something to her within a year. She initiated this concept on April 10, 2015. The shape of whatever may come is coming from the bottom up. What does PITT need to be outstanding in this area? Professor Labrinidis will be sending out a call for this faculty-led initiative and set up a discussion venue. A clarification was made by Professor Munro to state that the Provost's mandate directed the Deans to lead this process, so faculty will be involved collaboratively in this but it may be led by the Dean.

## Final Remarks:

President Spring made final remarks since this is his last Faculty Assembly meeting. Thanks were given to the Chancellor, Administration, and faculty for the great opportunity to serve in this position. A lot has occurred over the last two years. There are 4-5 new committees in action, we have better use of media, we have to keep pushing Administration to remind them that we are here as shared governance and see all steps small or large as positive. He is appreciative of Assembly, and Committee Chairs and their work. He noted that he could not have done it without the support and friendship of Lori Molinaro. She has worked around-the-clock to make the Senate work. He thanked everyone for their hard work and help.

## Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:29 PM

Faculty interested in signing up for announcements on this should sign-up at:
http://signup.cisefaculty.org

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:

Alarcon, Baker, Bircher, Burkoff, Cauley, Costantino, Dahm, Donihi, Erickson, Flynn, Fort, Frank, Frieze, Gaddy, Goodhart, Groark, Guterman, Horvath, Hravnak, A. Jones, Kaynar, Kear, Kearns, Kovacs, Labrinidis, Leers, Mauk, McKinney, Molinaro, Munro, Novy, Riccelli, Savinov, Schmidhofer, Scott, Skledar, Smitherman, Spring, Sukits, Tananis, Triulzi, Weinberg, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Ataai, Caldwell, Clark, Cohen, Falcione, Fusco, Gibson, Gleason, Gold, Helbig, Hughes, Irrgang, R. Jones, Karp, Kaufman, Lewicka, Lin, McLaughlin, Mulcahy, Nelson, Olanyk, Poloyac, Shafiq, Smolinski, Soska, Stoner, Weiss
*Excused attendance:

Beck, Buchanich, Dewar, Evans, Hartman, Miller, Morel, Ramsey, Savoia, Vieira, Yarger

Others attending/guests:

Balaban, Barlow, Fedele
*Notified Senate Office

