

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
November 15, 2017

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>Call to Order</u></p> <p>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 October 18, 2017 Senate Council Meeting</u></p> <p>Minutes were approved as written.</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u></p> <p>No items of new business were raised.</p>	<p>No items</p>
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</u></p> <p>For the first time this year, I start my remarks without mentioning the state budget! Thank you to everyone for making efforts toward resolution. Pitt had the fewest negative votes, and collective advocacy here in Oakland and around regional campuses was critical to this success. We will likely be dealing with this again as we move forward, but for now, thank you.</p> <p>Yesterday I was in DC and visited our representatives in the House and Senate. The bill for tax reform is very negative toward higher education. It simultaneously removes incentives for higher education and additional increases liabilities to universities, such as tax exempt status. This drives up our operational costs which now effects tuition increases. A third area is in our fund-raising efforts. The changes in how endowments are handled and tax write off for philanthropy may create large deficits in donations. We need to pay attention to these issues as a community. The tax reform bill is not revenue neutral. It is likely to add \$1.5 trillion to the deficit. Non-defense discretionary funding is often hardest hit --- student loans, funding for higher ed --- so we may be deeply impacted.</p> <p>Patty Beeson is stepping down as Provost and moving to her faculty position. Her role has been tremendous as an administrator for the last 20 years, working with a passion and love for this University. Substantial successes --- new school, incoming students with increasing rigor and success, graduates, expanding teaching excellence. This will be a yearlong celebration of her achievements. We will also begin to search for her successor, including Senate in the process. Thank you, Patty for everything you have done --- I'm still looking for new ways to draw on her expertise.</p> <p>Dean Larry Davis (School of Social Work) is stepping down at the end of the academic year. Larry has helped move the school to national prominence and he has been awarded lifetime achievement awards from three major professional and academic organizations.</p>	<p>No discussion</p>

<p>This is a time for change, but our core purpose and mission remains our bedrock.</p> <p>UPMC has announced a \$2 billion investment for three hyper-specialty hospitals (see handout)</p> <p>Don Yealy elected to the National Academy of Medicine (see handout).</p> <p>Ranking season – Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings names Pitt best public university on the Northeast, compared with Harvard --- ranking based on outcomes (see handout)</p> <p>10th Pitt Make a Difference Day – 4,200 members of the Pitt community were involved. This is a way we share with our community that we care and are full members (see handout).</p> <p>Question/Discussion: None</p> <p>Refer to Chancellor’s 11/15/17 Report (handed out)</p>	
<p>Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson</p> <p>Never thought I would live in a time when higher education was being held in such disrepute. Politicians are attacking higher education --- and we need to accept this a new reality that we need to address/counter. Frightening for faculty and students. This is a difficult and complicated time, especially at the national level through tax reform and additional funding. We need to pull together as a community. On Greensburg campus, we’ve come together to discuss these issues as colleagues --- we encourage others to do the same. The Senate will try to assist in that process.</p> <p>Updates:</p> <p>Pitt Principles: even more important now as we face these challenges. We need to draw on these basic principles to guide our actions. Forums and committees continue to discuss these principles, as good exercise to consider our priorities.</p> <p>University Times Advisory Board: has been reactivated; members have been invited through the Chancellor; will work with Times staff and senior administration to evaluate and consider next steps for action.</p> <p>Socially Responsible Investing: group members have been selected and invited; will begin to meet and consider options and alternatives to consider. There will opportunities for input and discussion. This is important also in the larger financial picture for the University to best understand and explain our investment strategies.</p> <p>Senate Plenary: Focus on teaching as an important aspect of the University mission that creates a worthwhile investment for students and communities. We will be seeking volunteers from Senate and collaboration with the Provost’s Office.</p> <p>Question/Discussion: None</p>	<p>No discussion</p>

<p><u>Reports of Student Members of Senate Council</u></p>	<p><u>Student Government Board (SGB)</u> <i>Max Kneis, President</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Good afternoon everyone and thank you so much for having us here today. I can't believe how fast the semester had gone and were already at the November Senate Council meeting. Also want to thank Provost Beeson for her great working relationship with students and student government. II. Updates: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A few weeks ago the Board passed a resolution calling upon the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to strengthen laws and procedures for the victims and survivors of domestic violence. We specifically are urging the passage of PA SB 196, which would give the judiciary the power to require electronic monitoring of individuals with a PFA filed against them, and the renaming the bill "Alina's Law". We are joining the voices of the community, along with Alina's parents, to call for the renaming of the bill to honor Alina's life and make sure her memory continues in perpetuity. b. The Pitt Food Drive Challenge will be kicking off Monday, November 27th as a partnership among SGB, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, the Resident Student Association, the Blue & Gold Society, and the Office of PittServes. This two week competition will pitch the residence halls against each other to see who can raise the most food, with multiple prizes awarded to the winning hall. Collections will also take place at the annual Cathedral Ball, and both the men and women's basketball games on Saturday, December 9th. Donations will benefit three Oakland foodbanks, including the Pitt Pantry. c. We have continued to foster student engagement with the campus master plan in a variety of ways. Last week focus groups took place specifically on campus recreation and student unions that SGB attended and helped advertise to the study body. Yesterday I, Board member Callahan, and our Facilities, Technology, & Transportation Chair James Oosten had a 1.5 hour discussion with the consultant team focusing on space usage. We will 	<p>No discussion</p>
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	<p>continue to provide input and solicit feedback from students as planning progresses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. 8 members of Student Government Board attended the ACC Advocacy Days from October 22-24th in Washington D.C. We were able to engage with federal legislators on a variety of issues important to students, including the rising costs of college, federal financial aid, research funding, and a long-term solution to the DACA program. The trip also offered a great opportunity to learn from student governments across the ACC. We will continue to advocate on the tax reform issue as mentioned by the Chancellor today. e. In our continued effort to solicit student input regarding the Pitt Principles, we facilitated discussions at the semesterly Dialogue with Dean Bonner in late October. Working in small groups, students gave great feedback on the prosed document, and all these thoughts were submitted through the Senate website. f. SGB and the Office of Community & Governmental Relations hosted the Off-Campus Student Rental Workshop last week. Students heard from a panel comprised of campus and community representatives, including city and Pitt Police, CGR, the Office of off-campus living, and Oakwatch. Topics covered included signing a lease, housing policies, trash & recycling regulations, and staying safe off-campus and were all generated by questions students who have gone through moving off campus recently submitted in advance of the event. g. Additionally, we are working on a variety of initiatives focused on academics, wellness, student empowerment, and campus student organizations, and I'm looking forward to sharing progress on those in future reports. <p>III. Thank you for having us and this concludes my report.</p>	
	<p><u>College of General Studies Student Government (CG SSG)</u> <i>Jackie Gross, President</i></p> <p>We will miss Provost Beeson --- you've been a wonderful person to work with for students and student government representative.</p>	<p>No discussion</p>

	<p>We had our second public general body meeting of the semester on 03NOV17. We broadcasted our meeting via Skype, and advertised a link for our constituents to join our meeting remotely. Similar to our last meeting: our effort to advertise it, and integrate Skype for business was effective. In this last general body meeting, we experienced greater general body member attendance, both in person and via Skype. Working to further refine the structure of the meeting to increase participation.</p> <p>During the second week of November, the 6th through the 10th, the College of General Studies Student Government Board (CGSSG) observed National Non-Traditional Student Week (NNTSW). In recognition of our non-traditional student body members, who make up roughly two-thirds of our CGS constituents, CGSSG provided refreshments, coffee, snacks, and pizza to all of our students. This multi-day celebration, provided a nice reprieve to our student body (in the middle of their semester), and provided CGSSG ample opportunities to engage with our constituents. This effort was extremely successful, and our student body gleefully enjoyed the free coffee, snacks, and food provided for them.</p> <p>Representative at the University Master Plan meeting and look forward to continued participation. We participated in the focus groups and look forward to continued engagement.</p> <p>Through continued successful efforts such as what we did with NNTSW and Skype integration, CGSSG is increasing our constituent participation. This can only allow us to serve our student body better, and provide even greater programing and services to our unique student body.</p> <p>Thank You, and Hail to Pitt</p> <p>College of General Studies Student Government Board, President</p>	
	<p><u>Report of Graduate and Professional Schools Student Government (GPSG)</u></p> <p><i>Christopher E. Staten, President</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been a pleasure ro work with Provost Beeson and thank her for working with us • SAGE Fall Summit – Pitt GPSG hosted the Student Advocated for Graduate Education Fall Summit from October 26-28th with great help from Jen Walker and Dr. Urban. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The SAGE Coalition represents over 140,000 graduate and professional students at the leading public research universities across the country. ○ Nine membership schools from the Association of American University were represented by over 20 graduate & professional students from across the 	<p>No discussion</p>

	<p>nation. We shared best practices from each graduate & professional student board, lobbying strategies, and discussed legislation that can affect graduate & professional students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The main issues we covered were research funding, student debt, and more recently more of the discussion has been around the reform bill that can directly affect graduate & professional students, TA and GSRs. ○ We look forward to partnering with departments and resources on campus to ensure graduate and professional students are aware of the implications of this bill and equipped with action steps to advocate against this bill. ○ Formed a subcommittee to consider how to advocate in DC --- next Day on the Hill ● GPSG conducted a panel with Dr. Nathan Urban, Ms. Katie Pope and Dr. Darlene Zellers to expose our AB to the various resources that protect and improve the graduate & professional’s student experience. ● Collaboration with Pitt Career Services Consortium and Student Affairs to offer headshot for graduate & professional students as a part of our professional development initiative ● Working with Dr. Darlene Zellers to create a comprehensive calendar ● \$29,626 in travel grants, \$16,078 in supplemental funding for GSOs and programming ● Fall Formal – Carnegie Music Hall on 11/17 from 7-Midnight 	
	<p><u>School of the Arts and Sciences Graduate Students</u></p> <p><i>Amber Griffith, President</i></p> <p>Our GSO meeting was held on November 7th, the topic of the Tax reform was brought up in the meeting and graduate students are concerned about the outcome if this bill is passed. Some students are getting together to reach out to state representatives to voice their concerns about the bill. Also came up in Dean’s Hour --- do we have a “what if” plan at the University? We have a group of students getting together for advocacy related to the budget.</p> <p>We briefly discussed the Pitt Principles/Core Values statements and one main question that was brought up was “what is the statement for and</p>	<p>Comments</p>

	<p>how is it going to be used?" Some students were asking if it will catalyze policy changes within the University. When and how will they be used? Where is the Forum for discussion? --- on Senate homepage. Comments are facilitated by Lori to remove identifying information.</p> <p>The Committee for Diversity and Inclusion will be having their meet and greet on Wednesday, November 15th from 3-6pm in Panera. We are hoping for a healthy turnout to this event. In addition, we sent out the survey report to the graduate students, we are hoping to work with Mario Browne to host a facilitated discussion on the report sometime in early January. We are also planning at least 2 more programmed events (difficult conversations and diversity fair) through the CDI for the spring semester. Working with the Dean to assure the curriculum options for student preparation for professions, career guidance, and online career development resources.</p> <p>Provost Beeson: Vice Provost Urban is looking into tax reform impacts for graduate students; also looking for assisting with resources with you for graduate students.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Council (SaC)</u> <i>Andy Stephany, President</i> <i>Alex Toner, Vice-President of Public Relations</i></p> <p>Good afternoon President Wilson, Chancellor Gallagher, and members of the Senate Council. The University of Pittsburgh Staff Council congratulates Provost Beeson on her announcement to rejoin Pitt’s faculty after eight years of dedicated service to the University as its Provost. In particular, we thank you for your willingness to engage with Pitt staff throughout your administration of the Office of the Provost in a meaningful way, and look forward to continuing to work together to strengthen our Pitt community by supporting the professional and personal well-being of its students, staff and faculty.</p> <p>Staff Council acknowledges and commends the work of the Student Government Board in their resolution to support PA Senate Bill 196 and to rename it “Alina’s Law”. Our leadership wishes to support SGB in any additional effort they may pursue to continue to safeguard against such tragedies.</p> <p>Application periods for two of our annual awards recently closed: Our Endowed Book Fund, benefiting non-freshman children of Pitt staff members currently attending the University, received 37 completed applications this cycle, including seven from our Johnstown campus and two from our Greensburg campus. Following review, five chosen recipients will each receive a \$500 scholarship to use towards books and/or supplies. Awardees will be publicly announced at the Chancellors Award’s ceremony in December.</p> <p>We are pleased to report that our inaugural Staff Mentor Award received 78 applications, which are currently under review. The recipient of the award will be</p>		<p>No discussion</p>

<p>announced at the Chancellors Award’s ceremony in December.</p> <p>The 2017 Food Drive Campus Challenge, benefiting the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, came to a very successful conclusion this past Monday, with over \$15,000 raised and hundreds of food and household items donated between the Pitt and CMU campuses. When considered in terms of \$1.00 equals 5 meals, the combined campus efforts will lead to roughly 75,000 meals for Food Bank customers. Thank you to everyone who donated in this year’s drive, positive momentum we hope to build on next year.</p> <p>In partnership with the Office of Human Resources and TIAA CREF, Staff Council will be hosting a November 28 Brown Bag presentation by the Chief Investment Strategist of Nuveen Investments on financial market development and investment strategies.</p> <p>[This concludes our report]</p> <p>Staff Council website: www.staffcouncil.pitt.edu</p>	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate</u></p> <p>Community Relation Committee: Resolution to Pursue the Carnegie Community Engagement Voluntary Classification Paul Harper and Tracy Soska, Co Chairs</p> <p>Pleasure to be here to move this community engagement agenda along. As we reflected, we looked at PittServes office and community centers engagement initiative --- this moves our service mission forward. This has been endorsed at Faculty Assembly to seek this voluntary opportunity for recognition.</p> <p>The committee sees this as a benchmarking process for our work.</p> <p>Written report and additional comments: At its initial fall 2017 meetings, the Senate Community Relations Committee discussed the upcoming 2020 Carnegie Community Engagement Voluntary Classification and process. From these discussions, the Community Relations Committed moved unanimously to present the following, resolution for discussion and action by the Faculty Assembly, and, based on action there, to the Senate Council for the University to consider applying for the Carnegie Community Engagement Voluntary Classification.</p> <p>The University of Pittsburgh has established a history and growing capacity of university-community engagement including such initiatives as a HUD and university-funded Community Outreach Partnership Center and, more recently, establishing student office of community engagement and services, PittServes, and a long-term initiative for Community Engagement Centers that underscores the university’s commitment toward its strategic goal of “Strengthening Our Communities.”</p>	<p>Passed unanimously</p>

This strategic goal and our establishment of key offices and initiatives to enhance community engagement through the work of faculty, students, and staff represents a strong foundation upon which to consider applying for the Carnegie Community Engagement Voluntary Classification, which would demonstrate our commitment to making community engagement a center of excellence at our university for integrating our service mission with our missions of teaching and research.

The Carnegie Community Engagement Voluntary Classification, established in 2008, provides a process whereby universities can benchmark, monitor, and access their institutional progress and collective impact toward excellence in community engagement. Many leading public and private, research-intensive universities are already participating among the 360 campuses that have applied and reapplied for this Community Engagement Classification, which now opens on five-year cycles. These include several campuses in our Athletic Coast Conference – North Carolina, North Carolina State, South Carolina, Clemson, Duke, Notre Dame, Wake Forest - as well as other Division I research universities in Pennsylvania – Penn, Penn State, and Temple.

The New England Resource Center for Higher Education, which administers this classification, defines this work thusly: “Community engagement describes collaboration between institutions of higher education and the larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchanges of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity. The purpose of community engagement is the partnership of college and university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching, and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good.”

The University of Pittsburgh through its University Senate has on several occasions conducted Plenary Sessions that examined, advanced, and recognized community engagement as fitting the teaching, research, and service work and missions of this university. Our university has now made significant progress in institutionalizing our community engagement efforts.

Therefore: We request the University of Pittsburgh explore and make every effort to apply for the 2020 application cycle for the Carnegie Community Engagement Voluntary Classification and that this would include a cross-divisional team be assembled/appointed for the purposes of data collection and application writing as required in this application process.

*Respectfully Submitted on Behalf of the Community Relations Committee
Paul Harper and Tracy Soska, Co-Chairs, Community Relations Committee*

Wes Rohrer: Do you see any obstacles for going forward with this? This seems a “no brainer” to move forward. **Soska:** This is the stage now to pursue this now --- our capacity is now available to demonstrate this as we move forward. We are confident

in a favorable outcome. Beeson: Is this for Oakland only or the University at large? Soska: Oakland only. Beeson: It may make sense to see if this might apply for other campuses as well.	
<u>Unfinished Business or New Business</u>	No business
<u>Announcements</u> President Wilson: It's been a pleasure to work with Provost Beeson --- we've had differences but we have moved constructively together. I look forward to new arguments as economist and sociologist.	
<u>Adjournment</u>	Adjournment at 4:pm

University Senate website: <http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/senate-council>

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:

Balaban, Becker, Beeson, Betru, Bonner, Czerwinski, Fall, Fort, Gallagher, Goldberg, Griffith, Gross, Horne, Humphrey, Kear, Kent-Smith, Kneis, Levine, Loughlin, Lyon, Manem, Molinaro, Muenzer, Mulvaney, Munro, Phillippi, Rigotti, Rhorer, Rutenbar, Scott, Smith, Spring, Staten, Stephany, Tananis, Toner, Washington, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Bilodeau, Bonneau, Bratman, Brodt, Clark, Deitrick, Dewar, Gaddy, Haley, Jones, Kanthak, Kory, Morel, Mulcahy, Nelson, Sukits, Swanson, Thorpe, Van Nostrand

*Excused attendance:

Bromberg, De Vallejo, Harries, Henker, Kiselyov, Perry, Weikle-Mills

Others attending:

Connelly, DiPalma, Dostilio, Farwell, Fike, Harding, Henderson, Hitter, Kirsch, McClain, Solomn, Soska, Supowitz, Walker, Wilds

*Notified Senate Office