

Senate Council Meeting Minutes  
 October 10, 2018  
 2700 Posvar Hall

<b>Topic/Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<u>Call to Order.</u> President Chris Bonneau called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.	The meeting began.
<u>Approval of the Minutes of the September 12, 2018, Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Bonneau asked for approval of the minutes of the September 12, 2018, Senate Council meeting.	The minutes were approved as written.
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> President Bonneau asked if there were any new items of business to be brought forward.	No new items were brought forward.
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Patrick Gallagher.</u></p> <p>The Chancellor gave the following report:</p> <p>The winner of the UPSIDE (University Prize for Strategic, Inclusive and Diverse Excellence) award is the Office of Human Resources' Career Transition Project. The selection committee looks at innovative approaches to increasing diversity &amp; inclusion, creative and inspiring plans for future initiatives and a record of successful diversity and inclusion efforts. This year's winner is the Office of Human Resources, their competition included 25 other applicants. One of the reasons it was chosen was due to its breadth of programing and services and its significant outreach and partnerships.</p> <p>Homecoming was last weekend, it was great to have alumni back on campus. The fall meeting of the BOT was the week before. We issued our budget request to the state, we requested a 6% increase. We released a master plan draft for a possible future for the Pittsburgh campus. Creating a better student experience, having an outwardly focused university, we have been engaged to a lot of outreach with our stakeholders. We also announced last week the Panthers Forward program. It embraces a pay it forward philosophy, provides seniors up to \$5000 dollars to offset a federal student loan balance. We ask recipients to morally pledge to pay it forward over time. It's students and alumni helping each other. We are in unchartered territory; no other university has done this.</p> <p>We also introduced Pitt Commons, part of the Provost's personal educational initiative. It's a digital hub for mentoring and networking open to students, alumni, faculty and staff. It's also the Year of Pitt Global, spotlight on the global experience on campus, students and faculty participation abroad as well as Pitt's Global partnerships.</p> <p>In our Community and Governmental Relations department, it's been a busy year with our Be a Good Neighbor program by hosting neighborhood block parties. On Oct. 18 we will be opening our first Community Engagement Center in Homewood. It's an extension of the University and designed to be a full partnership.</p>	The Chancellor's report was accepted.

Academic Highlights, our newest School (School of Computing and Information) SCI received approval as a first year admitting school and will begin admitting first year students in the fall 2019 semester. SCI welcomed its inaugural class of Army War College Fellows: Lt. Colonels LeRoy Carr III and Anthony Newton. SCI also received approval for a redesign of the Master of library Information Science Program.

Big Athletics weekend, congrats to the dance team, band, cheerleaders, athletic teams, etc. We unveiled Pitt Studios at the Petersen Events Center. We will be operating the studio with NEP but also through our Film and Media Studies Program.

A lot to brag about, our faculty are getting many accolades, note Pitt Bradford has been named a College of Distinction for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year; U.S. Department of Education has given three centers Asian Studies, REES, European Studies (housed in UCIS) six awards representing more than \$5.1 million in funding over four year.

Neuroscientists at the Brain Institute earned a three year, \$5 million grant from the DSF Charitable Foundation – a brain atlas program to map the brain. From the faculty, Professor Emerita Toni Carbo received the Association for Information Science and Technology award of Merit, Emily Elliott from A&S is the recipient of the American Geophysical Union’s 2018 Sulzman Award for Excellence in Education and Mentoring, Tomas Hales, A&S received a three year grant from the Sloan foundation, Donna Naples, A&S has been elected as a Fellow by the American Physical Society. Alison Langmead was awarded \$223,000 from the Getty Foundation to conduct Digital Humanities workshops, this is the first gift we received from the Getty Foundation. Dean Valerie Kinloch earned the 2018 Advancement of People of Color Leadership Award from the National Council of Teachers of English. Maureen Porter is a recipient of the David Portlock Outstanding International Educator Award, Jeanette South-Paul, SOM, has earned the America-Japan Society’s second annual Kentaro Kaneko Award. Ann Thompson, SOM, earned the 2018 Leadership Award for an Individual from the Group on Women in Medicine and Science. John Wallace, Social Work has been named a Fellow of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare.

Our students are certainly also keeping up. The Robotics and Automation Society won three of six awards including highest overall score at the American Venue of AUVSI Foundation’s International Aerial Robotics Competition.

Catalina Pineda Molina a postdoctoral associate in Bioengineering, earned the 2018 Mary Ann Liebert Outstanding Student Award at the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society World Congress.

The Chancellor concluded his report. President Bonneau asked for

<p>questions or comments;</p> <p>Mercer (SGB) asked about the increase in tuition for our out of state students. Is there any plan to avoid that?</p> <p>The Chancellor responded affordability is an essential concern. We have to do a lot to hold costs down, we are going to have to look into reducing systematically institutional costs.</p> <p>The other side is value, you can make Pitt really cheap, but no one would want to come, that is not desirable. We have to make sure the investment that is made to come to Pitt is the absolute best for our students. When it comes to the out of state students, we use the published tuition as our proxy. Our out of state students look like a private institution because there is no state subsidy for them. The number of students that pay the full sticker price of out of state students is not many. We are not providing enough need based aid for students. The gross tuition is going up, but the net tuition is coming down.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Senate, Chris Bonneau</u></p> <p>President Bonneau gave the following report:</p> <p>We have another busy and informative Faculty Assembly Meeting last week. Before reporting on that, I need to respond to some rumors circulating around: there are no 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment removal procedures for University Senate President, despite what is being reported in the Fake News.</p> <p>Faculty Assembly received the newest version of the IP agreement that Senior Vice Chancellor Rutenbar developed in consultation with University Legal Counsel and the Research Committee. Members seemed satisfied that this was a good temporary band-aid. Questions were raised about what is going to happen to the old agreements. While there is a clause in the new agreement that states the new agreement supersedes any previous agreement, there were concerns raised about how faculty would be made aware of the new agreement. Specifically, let's say I signed the old agreement but do not have any grants activated so I don't need to sign the new agreement...is the old agreement (which was more broad) still binding? Or will those be torn up? SVC Rutenbar, working with the Research Committee, has said there is going to be a short "Revocation Form" along with instructions on the website. I am hopeful this will address the lingering concerns that were raised at the meeting last week.</p> <p>Most of our committees have organized themselves and begun meeting. I want to highlight some issues they are going to be working on and that will likely come before this body in the near future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Tenure and Academic Freedom Committee is working with Tom Hitter, who heads up the policy office in the Office of Legal Counsel, on developing an Academic Independence Policy, which would address situations where a potential</li> </ul>	<p>The President's report was accepted.</p>

<p>donation to Pitt is contingent on the donor having some say on academic matters (curriculum, hiring, etc.). As you may know, this is an emerging issue in higher education with institutions like George Mason and Florida State coming under fire for allowing contributors to have a say on curriculum and hiring. I am glad to see Pitt thinking about this issue in advance of a specific case arising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Educational Policies Committee will be addressing the issue of student evaluations of teaching. The empirical evidence on the biases in these instruments is clear, with women and racial minorities scoring worse on them, other things being equal. While it is clear that we value good teaching at Pitt, we also need to value evaluation of that teaching that is as free from bias as possible. Using student evaluations of teaching for promotion and tenure decisions is highly problematic and we need to examine a way to do this better and fairer.</li> <li>• You may have read in the Pitt News that the Student Government Board is interested in taking up the issue of a tobacco-free campus. This caught my eye and I met a couple of weeks ago with leaders of the Student Government Board (SGB), Staff Council, and Lori Molinaro (who served on a committee that drafted a tobacco-free campus policy). There was widespread support around the table for such a measure. In terms of next steps, I have referred it to the Benefits and Welfare Committee. My hope is to have Benefits and Welfare make a recommendation to Faculty Assembly sometime this semester. We have broached this with some members of the administration and they also seem supportive. There are over 2000 campuses that are smoke-free and over 1800 that are tobacco-free. It is well past time that Pitt joined them.</li> </ul> <p>We also heard a presentation from Katie Pope, the University's Title IX administrator. Several questions were raised about the existing policy and how it is being enforced. Specifically, faculty raised concerns about being compelled to report conversations with students to the Title IX office and the due process protection that are in place regarding those accused of violations. Colleagues also expressed a desire for more regular and widespread reporting of the activities of the office. These are issue we will examine going forward.</p> <p>Finally, in terms of our plenary, the topic this year is Free Speech in the Modern University. There are few issues more central to the purpose of a university. You will be hearing much more about this in the coming weeks and months.</p> <p>President Bonneau concluded his report and asked for questions or comments. No comments were made.</p>	
<p><u>Report of Student Members of Senate Council.</u></p> <p><u>Student Government Board</u> President of the SGB, Maggie Kennedy, gave the following report.</p>	<p>The SGB report was accepted.</p>

We held our first town hall on Sept. 22, regarding facilities feedback, attending were Jim Earle, Kenyon Bonner, Abdou Cole (Sodexo), Allie Chornick (WPU) and some other faculty. In November we will have a second Town Hall regarding University Policy with Tom Hitter and Dr. Bonner. We are also working on civic engagement, we worked with students regarding voter registration. October is Mental Health Awareness month; we have 15 different events for the entire month. Please check our Facebook page.

Pitt Women's Leadership experience. An opportunity for undergrad women at Pitt to work closely with Dr. Kathy Humphrey. They will apply to be a mentor or mentee. Application is due by this Friday at 5pm. Retreat will take place Nov. 17-18 at Oglebay in WV.

First Eat N Greet this Friday, it's a collaboration with SGB and Sodexo a way for students to give feedback regarding University dining. It's focused on mindfulness and healthy eating.

We've been working with the Chancellor to promote the Panther Forward program. We have been working with student health regarding Tobacco free Pitt.

Question – Toner (Staff Council) asked how many respondents on the Tobacco Free survey, response- 1000 students.

College of General Studies Student Government Report  
CGSSG President Dave Levine - no report

Graduate and Professional Student Government.  
Rachel Coombs, GPSG President, gave the following report.

Our SAGE (Student Advocate for Graduate Education) conference, the top 28 AAU public schools, we send our president and anyone else we can afford. It was great to be able to meet with all of the student leaders.

Our working groups for the year, Gender Equity and Sexual Harassment, Student Health with a focus on mental health, Federal Funding especially for the Arts and Humanities, Student Finances and Information Exchange also Immigration and Visa Reform.

The Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board hearing took place Oct. 1-5, 9 am – 5 p.m. I attended about half of the hearings. The University was represented by two attorneys from Ballard Spahr, the Grad students had four attorneys from the USW. The hearing was not completed, but there will be an extension.

We want to ask the Senate Council how will graduate students or faculty unionization affect shared governance? It's a big concern with the graduate students.

<p><u>Arts and Sciences Graduate Council</u> Anthony Verardi, gave the following report.</p> <p>I'm from Linguistics, I'm also chair of the Diversity&amp; Inclusion GSO, we are compiling our data from our campus climate survey from A&amp;S. Grad Expo planning is underway for spring.</p> <p>Our goals, to expand TITLE IX resources to students whose first language is not English, to find support among their peers at the graduate level.</p> <p>Pam Connelly commented that the University will once again be participating in the AAU Sexual Climate Survey, in the spring semester.</p>	<p>The ASGC report was accepted.</p>
<p>Andy Stephany, Staff Council president gave the following report:</p> <p>September 18 we collaborated with the Alumni Association's Blue and Gold Society for our first Oakland campus walking tour.</p> <p>The second fall tour will be Tuesday, November 13. Staff Council officers met with Associate Vice Chancellor Scott Bernotas to review the most recent draft of the Facilities Master Plan.</p> <p>Staff Council is hosting a mentoring town hall with Dr. Audrey Murrell on Monday, Oct. 15 at noon at the O'Hara Student Center. This event also recognizes the kick off of the Staff Council mentorship award.</p> <p>Staff Council is hosting a Brown Bag event related to sustainable practices at Pitt this Friday, October 12 at Noon in 102 Benedum Hall. Dr. Aurora Sharrard, Pitt's Sustainability Director will also be on hand.</p> <p>The next Staff Council general meeting is scheduled for Wednesday,</p>	<p>The SC report was accepted.</p>

October 17 at noon in 102 Benedum Hall.	
<u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate.</u> No Reports or Announcements	
<u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business.</u> No unfinished business or new business was brought forward.	No action needed.
<u>Announcements.</u>	No action needed.
<u>Adjournment.</u> With there being no further business, President Bonneau adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.	The meeting was adjourned

Members attending:

Becker, Bonneau, Bonner, Brodt, Chong, Conley, Coombs, Cudd, Czerwinski, Dahm, Fort, Gallagher, Haley, Harries, Henker, Humphrey, Infanti, Kaynar, Kear, Kennedy, Kory, Kovacs, Mercer, Molinaro, Rutenbar, Salcido, Smith, Stephany, Stillman, Stoner, Toner, Verardi, Washington, Wilson

Members not attending:

Bachman, Betru, Bilodeau, Bromberg, DeAngelo, Deitrick, Horne, Jones, Kiselyov, D. Levine, Long, Martin, McGreevy, Morel, Mulcahy, Sant, Von Nostrand, Weikle-Mills, Weinberg

\*Excused attendance:

Arkush, Buchanich, Denman, De Vallejo, Gaddy, Goldberg, Harper, Kaufman, Labrinidis, A. Levine, Scott, Tananis

Others attending:

\*Notified Senate office

Connelly, Gavatorra, Harrell, Jones, Miksch, Rubio, Walker, Washo