

Student Admission, Aid and Affairs Committee
2016-2017 School Year Report

The SAAA Committee was formed 2 years ago in the logical merger of the Admissions & Aid and of the Student Affairs committees. The Committee continued to define its contributions and scope this year, making significant progress in identifying important issues for the university including:

- 1) Economic mobility of graduates: national trends and identification of University of Pittsburgh data sources. The committee feels that this metric is a valuable recruitment tool and measurement of success as an educational institution. The Committee would like to pursue comparative analysis among other universities.
- 2) Needs of veteran students: The Committee felt that this group was under-focused and hopes that addition of a pro tem representative from the Office of Veteran Affairs will assist in understanding veteran student needs and aid the Office of Veteran Affairs in serving their student population, in part via interaction with other student groups represented in the SAAA committee.
- 3) Student mentoring and minority recruitment: The committee focused on mentoring of minority students with a presentation by Associate Dean Wosu of the Swanson School of Engineering
- 4) Undergraduate admissions with a focus on international students: micro-scholarships for minority diversity, holistic reviews (no SAT), international diversity. The committee is interested in pursuing international student admission, integration, and support in the current political climate.
- 5) Best practices across schools for graduate students: The committee feels that the university has strongly supported graduate students in the last year through several efforts by Dr. Sbragia's office. It would like to see further interaction amongst the graduate schools for best practices.

The committee was not tasked with request from the University Senate this year, other than review of the consensual relationship policy.

On the docket for next year:

- 1) Impact of graduate student funding in decline,
- 2) University of Pittsburgh student experience, analysis of survey (including graduate experiences),
- 3) Working with the Educational Policies Committee on best practices for mentoring,
- 4) Seeking feedback from other student groups across campus (request several undergraduate student organizations to provide feedback),
- 5) Recruiting and support of international students across schools. Applications are in decline though matriculation about the same. Focus on recruitment, Classroom acculturation, and support, with an interest in Chinese and Latin American programs.
- 6) Undergraduate admissions: success and impact of free undergrad tuition to New York residents,
- 7) Best practices for student mentoring (re-invite Dean Wosu, Swanson School of Engineering, and Mr. Hernandez, Office of Veteran Affairs),
- 8) Report from The University Counseling Center on efficacy of new staff additions and trends in student needs, coordination for veteran students, and
- 9) Student safety and activism in a politically charged climate. (Dean Bonner to present on # 8 and # 9).

Respectfully,
The members of the SAAA Committee