

University Senate Student Admissions, Aid, and Affairs Committee (SAAA) Meeting via Zoom
Meeting Minutes, October 20, 2021

Called to order 3:00pm

Attendance

Elected Members

Nancy W. Glynn, Co-Chair, Graduate School of Public Health, Dept of Epidemiology

Uma Satyavolu Rau, Dietrich School, Department of English

Sybil Anne Streeter, Co-Chair, Dietrich School, Department of Psychology

Susan Wesmiller, School of Nursing, Health Promotion & Development

Student Representatives

Madeleine Detwiler, College of General Studies

David Gau, University of Pittsburgh Postdoctoral Association

Harshitha Ramanan, Student Government Association

Staff Council

Tricia Connell, Institutional Advancement

Chancellor's Liaisons

Kenyon Bonner, Vice Provost for Student Affairs

Mark Harding, Vice Provost for Enrollment

Penny Semaia, Senior Associate Athletic Director for Student Life

Guests

Tyler Tenney, Office of Policy Development & Management

Kathleen Buccigrassi, Office of Policy Development & Management

Agenda:

1. VP Marc Harding: Update on first-year enrollment
2. Kathy Buccigrassi and Tyler Tenney (Office of Policy Development & Management):
Vote on Policy and Procedure on Campus Crime Awareness (documents attached to email)
3. Review Mission Statement and Pro Tem members
4. New business

Agenda items:

1. Presentation from Vice Provost Harding on High Student Enrollment at Pittsburgh Campus (see powerpoint presentation)
 - a. Record numbers of enrollment due to several factors: Fall 2021 enrollment change of 14.6% (Fall 2020 = 4301 students). GPA, URM, Pell recipients, out of state, and in state students are all up this past enrollment year.
 - b. What are some contributing factors?: campus visits have been largely unpredictable, smaller MELT (4% less), test optional, and yield increase (2020 admitted = 12% of

deposited students didn't show up, in contrast in 2021 = approximately 7% didn't show up to campus).

- c. Headcount has been relatively stable over the past 5 years. Slow and steady growth is the key to success.
 - d. Things to keep mindful of this year: a bigger waitlist, with admissions being more conservative. Additionally, 50-60% of deposits come to Pitt within two weeks of May 1st deadline.
 - i. Potential for reversion back to norm once things are "normal" post-pandemic and confidence is gained. Tour numbers are up from pre-pandemic times.
 - ii. Potential for test optional switch to have trickle down effects? There is not too much variability between test and non-test (right now).
 - e. What is being done on campus to help with additional student load?
 - i. One of the biggest strains has been housing, and we are accommodating students in lounges, in freshman dorms on campus
 - ii. Overall, there has not been a large additional strain on Pitt resources.
 1. UCC (counseling) is still operating similarly to before
 - iii. Biggest strain is from the immediate impact of Covid
 - f. Takeaway: **It is important to sustain the momentum of the progress achieved, even with a potential for decline on the horizon.**
2. Pitt Police: Crime Alert and ENS Presentation from Tyler Tenney and Kathleen Buccigrassi
 - a. Policy draft with the Pitt Police and Emergency Notification System (ENS)
 - i. To address transparency issues and resolve potential conflicts as the policy was not open to public view beforehand.
 - ii. No comments were made on the draft, available to pitt.edu emails
 - iii. Work with Clery (safety, security, and crime statistics):
 1. Bring our system up to speed with modern times to best alert students, getting the policy more current and up to date
 2. Definitions:
 - a. Crime Alerts: immanent crime threats to Pitt campus
 - b. Emergency Alerts: not just crime alerts, but still just as immanent to Pitt (i.e. weather)
 - iv. No vote by committee due to not meeting quorum
3. Mission Statement and Pro Tem Members:

Please consider revisions in our mission statement to reflect our inclusive environment. Also, consider people outside the committee to elect to pro tem member status so that we can best hear a wider variety of views reflective of our Pitt campus. Nancy and Sybil draft mission statement revisions reflecting DEI for November meeting.
4. New Business
 - a. Issues brought from student government representatives:

Many ideas that were reiterated from last session
Clarity issues from students regarding absences from class because of sickness

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 pm