# Senate Council Meeting Minutes 2700 Posvar Hall October 9, 2013

	pic/Discussion	Action
Cal	l to Order. President Spring called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM	The meeting
		commenced at.
<u>Ap</u>	proval of the Minutes of the, September 11, 2013 Senate Council Meeting.	The minutes were
President Spring asked for approval of the minutes.		approved as written.
<u>Int</u>	roduction of Items of New Business. No new business.	
Re	port of the Chancellor of the University, Mark A. Nordenberg	
•	At the Senate luncheon meeting, Michael Spring filibustered through the lunch	
	meetingalways up to these types of challenges	
•	Continue advocacy efforts of staff, students, faculty and friends	
•	Into the second week of shutdown of Federal government with the debt ceiling	
	crisis looms	
•	Chronicle of Higher Education: after 1 week federal shutdown already taking a	
	toll on higher education; article touched on different ways impact being felt;	
	more than 94% of the employees of Department of Education have been	
	furloughed; just one of the departments that has impact on what Pitt & other	
	universities like us do.	
•	Opportunities for effective advocacy have become more pronounced. Time class	
	of 2025 "How they'll learn and what they'll pay"; special section in middle by	
	Carnegie Corporation and Gates foundation: "US research Universities: the	
	Nation's edge" research universities power US innovation and prosperity; article	
	by Phyllis Wise, Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	
	discussing need to invest in these institutions to fuel future progress; in a way	
	it's a condensed version of national research council report from last year that	
	was discussed in the senate	
•	Sidebar from article "Products that have improved our lives traceable to	
	university research" - laser cataract surgery, UCLA, 1988; internet, MIT, 1965;	
	GPS, Johns Hopkins, 1959; polio vaccine, University of Pittsburgh, 1955	
•	Went to football game at dukeso many of our young graduatesthey all came	
	over to indicate how important the university of Pittsburgh was to them	
	<ul> <li>Young graduates chanted: "we cured polio"</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Over timepride in inspiring achievements.</li> </ul>	
•	Font page article today in Tribune review involved a report on a Pittsburgh	
	appearance of the federal reserve bank of Cleveland (our regional federal	
	reserve); entire thrust of article on how Pittsburgh has emerged from great	
	recession in far better than most other cities; she credits "transformation to	
	industries that require human capital; health care, high tech, professional,	
	financial & business services have been the key to job growth and resiliency of	
	local economy. This is the Pittsburgh success story. Pittsburgh now looks more	
	like Boston or Seattle in terms of knowledge workers and less like a troubled	
	Midwestern manufacturing city." She credited CMU and Pitt for the regions	
	highly educated workforce which helps attract employers to the region.	
•	Tribune Review business section, " 2 hotels considered for tech center."	
	developers' interested in 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue location because site is home to Pitt and	
	CMU research facilities and laboratories	
•	Nathan Davis feted for Pitt and the entire community in 43 years of service and	
	founder & driving force for jazz program and jazz conference & concert	
•	Post-Gazette: Shaun Eack, faculty member from school of social work, 2013	
	chancellor's distinguished research award. Article describes ways in which he is	

- using cognitive therapy to improve every day social interaction of persons suffering from autism
- Add these to UT headline; we need to keep up advocacy faculty students, alumni, friends; need to be adaptable to changing world; need to keep doing the good work that distinguishes us in the "real value" of the products of institutions like the University of Pittsburgh
- Number of new examples of work of impact of the university of Pittsburgh
  - McGowan institute, principally Rocky Tuan, department of orthopedic surgery, will co-direct a 75M program to aid wounded warriors.
     Program exists under the auspices of armed forces institute of regenerative medicine
  - Team of faculty from school of education received grants from National Science foundation to further develop systems for monitoring quality of classroom instruction
  - Pitt group under leadership of distinguish professor of chemical engineering, Anna Balazs, partnered with colleagues from Harvard and Illinois to develop 4 D printing of adaptive materials, printed products are adaptable to the circumstances as they change
  - Everytime you turn around someone at Pitt is doing something new and remarkable
  - o Highest forms of recognition from outside agencies and organizations

## Homecoming

- O Dedication of the memorial garden on 5th Avenue lawn of Cathedral of Learning to Wangari Maathai, graduate and Nobel Peace Laureate. Not many universities can claim a Noble Peace Prize winner from within their alumni group. In this case this is a winner who traced in very direct ways the impact of the Pitt experience in shaping her and providing the platform for the work that she did and ultimately delivered to her what most of us consider to be the highest honor in the world.
- o Place was packed with alumni.....there was fun
- Even while world around us is presenting challenges we're continuing to move forward

# Report of the President of the Senate, Michael Spring

- Oversight of the Planning and Budget Process, The University Council on Graduate Studies has received the reports on graduate department closings and suspensions from the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences. The SBPC has been monitoring the process and is in the process of preparing a final report.
- Revision of the COI Policy, After consultation with the Senate Representatives to the University Research Council and the Conflict of Interest Committee, the Executive Committee endorsed on behalf of the Senate a revision to the policy on conflict of interest. The primary focus of the changes was to "facilitate commercialization of University Intellectual Property." In the process of reviewing the document, it occurred to me for the second time this year that none of our standing committees were directly focused on research issues, which is why I consulted with the Senate appointees to the two University committees.
- The Chancellors Search. On September 12<sup>th</sup>, the executive committee met with the Chair of the Search Committee and Provost Emeritus Maher. I think the best summary to present of that wide ranging conversation is that I left the meeting confident the Ms. Tansky Blum and Provost Emeritus Maher would

conduct an informed and exhaustive search that will give us a very good chance of coming up with an outstanding individual to serve as the next Chancellor of the University.

- **Senate websites**, both public and access controlled are up and available to faculty. I encourage you to visit the sites and provide us with feedback. I have talked with a couple of people about trying to pull together some level of history about the origins of the senate as well as some level of history about major events in the development of the senate.
- Ad hoc Committee on NTS Faculty. This committee has been formed.
- Regarding Standing Committees, I have had an opportunity to meet with six of the Senate Standing committees Tenure and Academic Freedom, Commonwealth Relations, Community Relations, Benefits and Welfare, Libraries, and Budget Policies. Besides my assigned liaison committees, I hope over the coming months to attend at least one meeting of each of the standing committees. I recently talked with the senior staff about my interest in having meetings of the standing committees of the Senate covered by the University times where possible. I will be asking the chairs of the Standing Committees for their input next week.
- Senate involvement in Research Policy, Faculty Assembly began an early discussion on whether there is any need for a Standing Committee on Research. It is also my intent to discuss the matters at the upcoming expanded executive committee meeting later in October. I have extended an invitation to Vice Provost Mark Redfern and the Senate appointees to the two University committees to discuss these issues and the state of research support at Pitt with the faculty assembly at an upcoming meeting hopefully as early as our next meeting.

This focus on research is an outgrowth of a discussion with the Chancellor and his leadership team to discuss possible foci for Senate Activity over the coming year. The meeting was very collegial and we discussed areas such as research, assessment, faculty issues, educational policy issues, operational productivity and research. We will be discussion these same issues with the Standing Committee chairpersons. Further, we have invited faculty comment through the website and through the University Times Senate Matters column. I welcome the comments of the Assembly members as to what you see as the important issues

# Report of Student Members of Senate Council.

#### Student Government Board: Gordon Louderback, President

- Working with Penn Hills High School on Pittsburgh High School student government conference
- Pitt make a difference day October 26....registration filled with over 4,000 students; 3 weeks in advance
- Entire week before...focused on service
- Reviewing Panther Prints seeking feedback on transitioning current yearbook into another format
- Passed 2 resolutions
  - Advocates Pitt adopting Google Docs for Education for email & collaboration platform
  - o Implementation of Office of sustainability for student organizations

- SGB elections are upcoming
- Public meeting; "go Pirates!!"

Humphrey: looking for faculty/staff to work with the students

Chancellor: launch of Pitt's United Way Campaign, Renny Clark has been co-chair since arrival; had 300 employees participate in the United Way Day of Caring

### SGB – CGS: Brady McCormick:

- Peer Mentoring Workshop had over 30 students in attendance
- Next workshop is today
- 130 first year SGS students assigned to their mentor
- CGS, hosted annual homecoming reception @ PAA; over 100 in attendance
- In a significant planning stage, to create new projects (service days, supporting soldiers overseas; weekly arts students
- Teamed with CGS Admin planning national non-tradition students week 1<sup>st</sup> week in November

## Graduate and Professional Student Assembly: David Gau

- Viewing of Lion King, gathering after @ Olive or Twist
- Cookies and colloquium: 3 students presented; encourage graduate & professional students to discuss their research; Eric English "Barry Goldwater's rhetorical unification of the conservative movement"; Michael Lipshultz "Dynamic adaptation of representations to learners skill in conceptual physics learning"; PJ Dillon "Information delivery in tether-less healthcare"; well attended by students from 7 of 14 graduate & professional schools; next session 6pm October 23 @ Nordy's Place screening of "Girls Rising", welcome others to join the sessions
- Advocacy, 9 out of 14 schools will join GPSG November 12 trip to Harrisburg, each school will showcase research project and how they impact Pennsylvania and the US
- Working with AAU neighbors to do a similar project in DC in spring
- Trailblazers (Graduate tour guides), 8 students from 6 of 14 G&P schools, event with School of Education open house November 6<sup>th</sup>
- Pitt Night-311 Pitt faculty, staff, & students; this number can be increased by spreading the word to G&P students; will be working with Pitt Arts to advertise Cheap Seats/Pitt Night to graduate students

### Schools of the Professions:

# Arts and Science Graduate Student Association: David Peterson for Michael Lipschultz

- Second meeting of the semester, filled all of our committees
- Express concerns regarding closing of programs in Arts and Sciences

# Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC), Rich Colwell

- Introduced Lindsay Rodzwicz, Vice President of Communications/Engineering
- Engaged in membership drive, working as a team
- Staff council participated in Day of Caring

### Announcements:

Go Bucs!

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN
Senate Secretary
Associate Professor of Public Health, Medicine, and Nursing
Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

# Members attending:

Beeson, Butterworth, Cochran, Colwell, Cordier, Costantino, de Montmollin, Flynn, Frank, Frieze, Gau, Gibson, Humphrey, Juhl, Levine, Lewicka, Louderback, Lyon, McCormick, Molinaro, Nisnevich, Nordenberg, Ramicone, Rodzwicz, Shafiq, Sharon Smith, Smitherman, Song, Spring, Supowitz, Tananis, Vieira, Wilson, Withers

### Members not attending:

Beck, Brause, Caldwell, Chiarulli, Clark, Clermont, Gleason, Hughes, Jabro, Karp, Kory, Majumdar, Mulcahy, Munro, Savun, Slimick, Smolinski, Sukits, Tisherman

# \*Excused attendance:

Burkoff, Cauley, Erickson, Gaddy, Lipschultz, Lunsford, McKinney, Neft, Rosen, Skledar, Sallie Smith,

### Others attending:

Balaban, Barlow, Bonner, Clark, Frisch, Harding, Hoogendoorn, Moore, Petersen, Sahni, Wilds

\*Notified Senate Office