

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Topic/Discussion	Action
<p><u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order by President Frank Wilson.</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:01 pm.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the May 20, 2015 Senate Council Meeting</u> No changes were submitted.</p>	<p>The minutes were accepted as written.</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u> No new items were raised.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</u></p> <p>The Chancellor welcomed President Frank Wilson to the Senate Council. He also welcomed the student representatives to the meeting. The Chancellor is beginning a new tradition of sharing a written summary report with the Senate, and he highlighted a few key items. The full summary will be available on the Senate Website.</p> <p>Regarding grants and gifts, it was an active summer for the university at-large. The grants and sponsored research programs are doing very well. Notable achievements are a \$20 million grant from the Institution for Transfusion Medicine (ITxM) for the University's Vascular Medicine Institute and the Hemophilia Center of Western Pennsylvania; a \$25.6 million five-year grant from the National Cancer Institute to the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI); and an \$18 million grant for the Graduate School of Public Health in partnership with UPCI, from the National Institutes of Health.</p> <p>Program achievements recognized in the Princeton Review 2016 included Pitt as one of its best 380 universities in the nation for undergraduate education. The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford (UPB) and University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ) were recognized specifically in that report on its list of "Best Colleges in the Northeast." This is the 12th year and 11th year, respectively, that UPB and UPJ have made that list.</p> <p>Our students and faculty have continued to prove that they are among the best in the world including student achievements in engineering, national security education, and dissertation completion honors, and faculty honors in cancer research, emerging writer prizes, fellow selections, and service, foreign language, and cultural scholarship distinctions.</p> <p>The University lost three key people who left a lasting and powerful impact on the University: Helen Faison, Elsie Hillman, and John Petersen. Their legacy and giving back can be found in facilities, research programs, education programs, scholarship, civic forums, and sports programs.</p> <p>This is a new academic year and our Convocation was a great success along with Arrival Survival. A total of 200 new faculty were welcomed to our campus. In the Convocation, diversity was a focus, and getting student engagement as strong as possible as well to Pitt and to Pittsburgh. We have 4,825 new undergraduates, with students from more than 40 states and 20 countries, with an average SAT score of 1298. We are launching the <i>Year of the Humanities</i> in 2015, and this will be a year-long theme across academics, athletics, community outreach, and research with events and discussions across campus.</p>	<p>No questions were raised for the Chancellor.</p>

<p>Regarding strategic planning, work continued over the summer and continues actively right now. The culmination was in June with identification of strategic goals. Next, we have to create the implementation plan for these goals. This is where it can get challenging, and where we can all get involved and be active. A website is available called IMPACT (www.pitt.edu/impact) that will contain the latest information, with a special session to be held on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at 3pm in Alumni Hall. Campus changes have occurred as well, with two key renovations including transformation in David Lawrence Hall (increased faculty-student interaction environment and increased access to technology), and the new Research Pavilion in Salk Hall for Dental Medicine and Pharmacy (new research and collaboration space). Facilities staff were thanked for all of their efforts. We are now looking at the capital needs of the University as it relates to strategic planning. There is no budget update at this time for the upcoming year, with ramifications across the state. There is broad and bipartisan support that more monies need to be directed to higher education; the issue will be the size of the increase and the tax basis and revenue stream to support that.</p> <p>A report is underway that the University was a part of for the last year. We must work together to address sexual assault and violence on-campus, as it is a critical issue here and across the country. Everyone plays a role in this: students, faculty, staff, administrators and the community around us. We need a protected culture. Pitt joined a group of 27 other universities from the AAU to participate in a survey on the sexual assault environment on-campus. The survey was administered to students related to their environment. Within the next week, the national survey findings will be released, and Pitt will also release its own data. The Chancellor is not sure if the other universities involved will release their data. There is going to be a lot of media attention on this, and since it is a multi-university study, there may be focus on comparing facilities. This is not the most important issue; Pitt does not look different from other universities. What is most important is how far away we are from zero. We need to take a hard look at ourselves to improve this. We need to take this as a <i>call to action</i> to address this. It will take everyone to get involved. We have already done a number of new actions this past year, and will continue to implement new actions. We are here to learn, not here to get hurt. This is vitally important. We will talk more about this as the report comes out and continued actions will occur.</p>	<p>President Wilson noted that it is appreciated how seriously these survey data are being taken, and how important it is that we are transparent and respond with action. Faculty, staff, and students can come together on this issue.</p>
<p><u>Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson</u></p> <p>President Wilson reflected on what he calls his “initiation phase” as the new Senate President, and he reported that this has begun as a stimulating and enjoyable experience, one that was neither expected nor imagined just seven months ago. He noted that even before taking office on July 1st the indispensable one—Lori Molinaro, and experienced, talented, and trusted colleagues—Irene Frieze, Sue Skledar, and Michael Spring quickly brought him up to speed and continue to be people ready to give advice, offer support, and handle their responsibilities without hesitation.</p> <p>President Wilson noted that Provost Beeson and Chancellor Gallagher reached out to him over the summer and made it clear that their doors were open and that they shared his goal of modeling a version of strong shared governance. Pitt is facing challenging times well positioned to seize opportunities and make serious advances. He stated that he feels we are at an excellent place of shared governance with hope this will continue.</p> <p>The central constituent bodies of the Senate—our standing committees—have quickly organized themselves and begun to get down to important work. Much will be accomplished in the months ahead. Of special note is our newest committee—the Research</p>	<p>No questions were raised for President Wilson.</p>

Committee—which is already far down the road to addressing several serious issues and to finding its place as a link between the various task forces, working groups, and committees already focused on research. The Administration has been open, available, and participative. Some issues will be ones we can predict, and other issues will be taken one at a time as they come. The new merged committee for Student Admission, Aid, and Affairs is defining its charge as well.

The Senate’s ad hoc committee on “Current Guidelines for Evaluating Tenured Faculty and Associated Salary Decisions,” which began its formal investigation during the past Spring semester presented a thorough and professional report with recommendations at last week’s Faculty Assembly meeting. The Administration and Faculty will now jointly work to move forward on those recommendations, and will assemble a small group of faculty and Administration to further define these recommendations. Our ad hoc committee on Non-Tenure-Stream (NTS) Issues will present its report with recommendations next month. Substantial action has occurred and more work will continue.

Using the video facilities on each of our regional campuses, a meeting between our Faculty Senate officers is scheduled for next Thursday, September 24th. This experiment is intended to explore ways we can share concerns, increase our active participation in the Senate, and engage in collaborative projects.

Immediately before this Senate Council meeting today, President Wilson met with the new officers of the Staff Association Council (SAC). Former Senate President Michael Spring and Rich Cowell personified a close working relationship between the Faculty Assembly and SAC over the past two years. President Wilson noted that his commitment is to do his best to build on that solid base this academic year. Synergy and collaboration is a focus this year.

The Senate Plenary is set for the Spring term (March 30, 2016). The focus will be on the meanings of academic freedom today. Seth Weinberg, faculty from the Dental School, is heading the effort, and is now putting together an organizing committee, with full support of our Administration. The hope is that we will have a series of smaller events leading up to the Plenary. More details will be available soon.

President Wilson noted that he attended New Faculty Orientation, and that he was able to meet Kenyon Bonner, and the student leaders as well. He also served as Chief Marshall at 2015 Fall Freshman Convocation, and noted that at Greensburg it is ~400 students, but at the Peterson, there were 4000 students, including a laser light show, and a “selfie” with the Chancellor. The students’ energy is welcomed.

Report of Student Members of Senate Council

College of General Studies Student Government (CGS)

Julia Helgert, President

Julia reported that the CGS is very happy with the arrival of our new McCarl Center Director, Mr. Adam Robinson. All CGSSG members had the pleasure of getting to know him at their meeting last night, and are excited to work with him.

The first event of the semester, the Welcome Back BBQ is on Friday, September 25. The BBQ will be hosted on the back patio of Posvar with games, food, and karaoke! We are hoping for great weather and a great turnout.

No questions were raised for the student leaders.

The CGSSG has a new group of Student Ambassadors this year. The Student Ambassadors reach out to new CGS students through email to answer any questions they may have and let them know about upcoming CGS events. The CGSSG has become more active on our Facebook and Twitter over the summer and hope to increase this activity even more this fall. All CGSSG members are going to submit posts to our secretary, Macy, and she will periodically post them on our social media pages. This way, the voices of all CGSSG members can be echoed on our pages.

CGS is launching a "Quote Project" for this academic year, which will be featured on the CGS Facebook page and the CGS e-newsletter. The quote project features a picture of a new student with a quote about how they came to CGS, their biggest supporters, the number one thing they hope to get out of their time at CGS, etc. This will put the spotlight on our students and their journey here at Pitt.

They are also looking forward to our CGS Homecoming event on October 9th at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association.

Report of Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG):

Joe Kozak, President

This summer was busy at GPSG. Our goals from last year included the development of a mobile phone app specifically for graduate students, update of our website, develop a mentorship program between graduate students and undergraduates, change to Pitt emails, and expand programming. This summer, Joe met with a number of individuals throughout the university on expanding GPSG's partnerships. These include Library services, CSSD, Pitt Alumni Association, Community and Governmental Relations, and more. The GPSG has changed to the Pitt email system, and GPSG can now be looked up in the university listserv. They have also integrated their own ideas into the Pitt Mobile App instead of creating their own app. The Pitt app It offers many services, and GPSG has uploaded their events calendar to the app, and are hoping to include an individual GPSG tab by the end of the year.

Joe reported that he has talked with the undergraduate SGB and is excited to work more closely with them, especially with the idea of a graduate/undergraduate mentorship program. On August 24th, the Graduate Student Orientation/Resource Fair was held. Overall, it was a success and nearly 500 students in the O'Hara Student Center attended. An approximate 13% of new student population came to the event. A survey administered at the event found that over 72% of students would like to attend Professional Development, Social and Academic programming. Ninety-five percent of students prefer to be contacted via email. Before arriving on campus, most students felt "neutral" in how easy it was to access information, but over 50% felt it was "easy" after arriving to campus. In addition, survey results showed that students would like more of a formal orientation. With these data, GPSG is focusing efforts to match what graduate students would like, including hosting a financial speaker from outside the University in November, and talking with CGR to host additional financial talks for graduate students. Also, they are looking to host a career networking and professional development as career services and financial services were the two highest requests from incoming graduate students.

Since the orientation, GPSG has hosted a number of events and their first board meeting. Through their events planning committee, they have reached roughly 618 unique graduate students or approximately 6%. This is on target to reach 20%-25% unique graduate students by the end of the year. Some other notable items are: Congratulations to the Pharmacy

School's class of 2017 (P3). They won the "Script Your Future" national competition that aims to improve patient medication adherence. Pitt received the highest award, as well as a special award for the Most Innovative Interprofessional Project; an act of kindness to share comes from the members of ANKUR, our Graduate Indian Association-- This summer, members of ANKUR hosted 70 incoming Indian students for a week as they searched or waited to move into apartments. This is one example of the strength of the graduate community and overall Pitt community, to support one another in times of need.

To conclude, Joe noted that although the GPSG has had some growing pains with a completely new executive board, they are moving as quickly as possible to achieve their goals. Joe thanked the individuals who have taken their time to meet with him and provide insight to having a successful year as GPSG works to help graduate students have the best experience possible.

Dominique Johnson, School of Arts and Sciences GSO President

Dominique reported that 10 research and travel grants have been established and these will be available this year. They also did an end-of-year survey of how the Graduate Student organization can serve the students and student satisfaction, and the survey will be used to restructure how the GSO is functioning for graduates. They hope to establish improved environment for the students and more collaboration with other GSOs.

Student Government Board

Nasreen Harun, President

Nasreen Harun introduced herself and is the President of the Student Government Board, entering senior year here at Pitt and will be graduating in the spring, majoring in Marketing and Human Resources Management. President Harun was joined by Board Member and Executive Vice President Everett Green, Meghan Murphy, and Board Member and Vice President and Chief of Cabinet Natalie Dall. The other Board members are Matthew Sykes, Jacky Chen, Jack Heidecker, Lia Petrose, and one more will be joining us, hopefully in early October to fill the vacancy from when she took over as President.

The Student Government Board is technically not in operation during the summer vacation, but the Board Members and Committee Chairs all worked throughout it to plan and prep for the school year. There are many projects that are to come to fruition for the school year:

I. Mental Health Initiatives

- Board Members Meghan Murphy and Matthew Sykes have been working tirelessly on battling the stigma that surrounds mental health in conjunction with Ed Michaels, the new Director of the Counseling Center. A Mental Health Awareness Week is planned for when students are back from Fall Break, which includes:
- A TED speaker Kevin Breel, who is near student age, and is a student leader, and he battles with depression and talks about how to open up those conversations
- A fair on the Cathedral Lawn with various methods on how to cope with stress.
- An art gallery night; Students in the University Honors College have put together an art gallery called "Stories Untold" which allows anyone to submit art through

almost any medium and these pieces reflect mental health and there will be brain healthy food such as salmon and blueberries.

II. Combatting Sexual Assault on Campus

- Wellness Chair Jasmine Butler has put together a “fun run” event called the Undy 500: Race Against Sexual Assault which will be taking place tomorrow night at the WPU Patio and Lawn from 10pm-12a. Students will be doing a lap around the Cathedral and will have people tabling to inform students of the resources available to them in the unfortunate circumstance that sexual misconduct does occur. There will also be sexual violence survivors at the event talking about their experiences from the PITT and Pittsburgh community. The overall message is that it doesn’t matter what you’re wearing, you’re never “asking for it” and that this isn’t something Pitt tolerates.
- Chancellor Gallagher and many other members of the administration have an “It’s On Us” video circulating which is great. President Harun is a member of the Sexual Assault Task Force and we hope to expand the campaign further this year.

III. Be a Good Neighbor Month

- SGB passed a resolution last night declaring September 15- October 15, “Be a Good Neighbor” Month, and the work expands beyond these dates as well. The purpose of this is to work on initiatives that bridge the communication gap between Pitt Students and their neighbors, the permanent residents of Oakland. SGB has partnered with Community and Governmental Relations to get students to Good Neighbor Block Parties which have been successful. The next events are at the end of September in Central Oakland so those will definitely be very well attended, including Off Campus 101 Sessions and Stop littering campaigns.

IV. Other Initiatives

- Safety Initiatives: Hosting a Safety Fair on September 25th which will talk about home, personal, and transportation safety; people from the Food Pantry, Counseling Center, Allegheny County Health Department, any many more will be there.
- Hillman Improvements include getting new battery packs and study space was a focus last semester. The SGB is very thankful that the libraries have listened to all changes.
- Reinstating the Traditions Committee, including Revamping Pitt Spirit and the Panther Fan Experience Committee to increase PITT pride.

V. The Board Task Forces have continued to work on the:

- **Student Organization Classification Task Force** – One of the challenges faced in the allocations process is how to treat different types of organizations. The SGB goal is to create an system of categorizing things which will allow us to amend policies in order to ensure they are giving out as much money as possible to enable student organizations
- **Marketing and Brand Task Force** – To improve SGB visibility, provide easier access to student services, and make students more aware of SGB

The Provost highlighted that during Freshman Orientation, we had sessions on “Bystander Training” for sexual assault, and a video production that was one of the most effective pieces (made by the students) for this education.

<p>responsibility as advocates rather than just the people with the money</p> <p>VI. Undergraduate Research Travel Grants: 20 have been approved this academic year. Each recipient earns \$250 towards travel to and from a conference for where they are presenting their research. It is a rolling application so we are complete for this semester which is bittersweet, and SGB is continuing to evaluate the policies in order to make sure they are benefitting as many students as possible through the program.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC):</u> <i>Rich Colwell, President</i></p> <p>Rich congratulated President Wilson on his election and the SAC looks forward to working together to benefit the University and Oakland community. SAC has been extremely busy this summer with working with Organization Development, Kennywood picnic, and variety of initiatives throughout the committees. Our 24th Annual Pitt Day at Kennywood was record breaking with over 2,200 Pitt attendees. The SAC thanked all who attended, especially Senior Vice Chancellor Kathy Humphrey, as this was her first time to Kennywood! The 25th Annual Pitt Kennywood Day is in July 2016!</p> <p>Last week SAC welcomed 17 new SAC members to our organization, which was their 75 membership max capacity. The officers have met and decided on four goals for FY2016:</p> <p>The Year of Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete Organizational Development Project by end of FY17, which includes rework of Mission and Vision and defining the SAC Strategic Plan - Foster and improve membership development, which includes actions to improve new member experience, engage general members, increase visible committee output, and provide further professional development opportunities for members and all staff - Create detailed leader roles within SAC, including defining Officer Emeritus role, document Manageable Officer/Committee Chair roles and expectations, formalize additional leadership positions within committee structures - Participate in Year of Humanities by submitting and executing a proposal <p>The four committees within SAC also established FY2016 goals in operations; external relations; staff relations; and health, safety, IT, and transportation.</p> <p>SAC has a variety of events lined up for the fall in including a Hike in Schenley Park on September 18 (Noon, \$5.00). Registration form at sac.pitt.edu; Brown Bag with CIDDE on Tuesday, September 29 at 12noon at the William Pitt Union Ballroom. SAC also will be participating in the Day of Caring on October 2. Follow SAC on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram by searching for "SACatPitt" and as always if you haven't done so already please go subscribe to our e-newsletter by visiting sac.pitt.edu. Our next general meeting will be October 14 in William Pitt Union where we will be revealing a bench recognizing the efforts and support from the University Staff and welcome all to attend.</p>	<p>No questions were raised for Rich Colwell.</p>
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate</u> No reports were scheduled for the meeting.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business</u> No issues were raised.</p>	<p>None</p>

<p><u>Announcements:</u> The Chancellor's Reception will be held immediately following Senate Council today, on Wednesday, September 16, 2015, in Room 107, Cathedral of Learning.</p>	
<p><u>Adjournment:</u> President Wilson adjourned the meeting.</p>	<p>Adjournment at 4:05 pm.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Skledar, RPh, MPH, FASHP
Senate Secretary
Associate Professor of Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy
Department of Pharmacy & Therapeutics

Members attending:

Beeson, Bonner, Buchanich, Cohen, Colwell, Dahm, Dall, Flynn, Fort, Frieze, Fusco, Gaddy, Gallagher, Green, Harun, Helgert, Hravnak, Humphrey, Johnson, Kaufman, Kear, Kory, Kozak, Labrinidis, Leers, Miller, Molinaro, Murphy, Novy, Ramicone, Savoia, Skledar, Smith, Spring, Stoner, Supowitz, Tananis, Washington, Wilson

Members not attending:

Alarcon, Ataa, Beck, Gleason, Goodhart, Helbig, Kaynar, Lin, Mulcahy, Ramsey, Rodzwick, Savinov, Schmidhofer, Scott, Stephany, Triulzi, Weinberg

*Excused attendance:

Costantino, Donihi, Kearns, Kovacs, Levine, Morel, Poloyac, Vieira

Others attending:

Barlow, Becker, Czerwinski, Dyer, Frank, Frisch, Kirsch, Olanyk, Walker, Wilds, Withers

*Notified Senate Office