

Senate Council Meeting Minutes  
2700 Posvar Hall  
Wednesday, September 21, 2016

<b>Topic/Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<p><b><u>Call to Order</u></b> The meeting was called to order by President Frank Wilson. New members of Senate Council were welcomed.</p>	The meeting commenced at 3:02 pm.
<p><b><u>Approval of the Minutes of the May 18, 2016 Senate Council Meeting</u></b> Minutes were approved as written.</p>	Approved.
<p><b><u>Items of New Business</u></b> No items of new business were raised.</p>	None raised.
<p><b><u>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</u></b> The Chancellor welcomed members of Senate Council, new and current. The Chancellor noted that there are new positions in his administration, and highlighted the new Development administrator position. He reviewed events of the summer, including Arrival Survival, which touches nearly 7000 students moving back into the City of Pittsburgh. A record-setting class was welcomed in achievement and diversity. We welcomed 4700 new students, from 44 states and 30 countries. Average SAT score was 1309, the highest we have ever accepted; the Admissions Team was recognized for all of their efforts. Activities and achievements were distributed in his "Report to the University of Pittsburgh Senate," highlighting the achievements of faculty and students, institutional recognition, facilities and business, grants and gifts, community and governmental relations, diversity and inclusion, athletics, and alumni association. The Chancellor noted specific highlights: Dr. Jeremy Berg being named editor-in-chief of <i>Science</i>, Lynn Emanuel being awarded the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize from the Academy of American Poets, and John Jakicic being appointed to Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans Advisory Committee by the US Secretary of Health and Human Services, and student Marissa Calligan being named one of 12 recipients (from a pool of 3000 applicants) for the Distinguished Chapter Office Award by Kappa Delta Pi (international). He noted that Pitt in collaboration with UPMC, will receive an NIH grant for participation in the Precision Medicine Initiative, which is personalized medicine. Pitt is a player in this largest research effort since the human genome project. Dr. Levine noted that another 25 million dollars was awarded from the NIH as of September 20, 2016. Chancellor Gallagher recognized Dr. Levine for his leadership in the Health Sciences Schools. Looking ahead, the Chancellor noted that on October 13<sup>th</sup>, Pitt will host the President Obama, for his last scheduled activity prior to his transition from the White House. It is an event for Pitt and CMU as a center of innovation to host his visit. Pitt launches 2016 at the Year of Diversity, with support of the Provost, and continuing and new events are occurring in this area. This is an issue we can discuss and expand across the University. The Chancellor challenged everyone to take part in these activities over the upcoming year.</p>	No comments were raised.
<p><b><u>Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson</u></b>  President Wilson welcomed everyone back to campus. To add onto the acknowledgement of achievements highlighted by the Chancellor, President Wilson noted that Pitt Johnstown's Engineering Program received a \$2 million grant to enhance its chemical engineering program, and that Pitt Greensburg received a \$2.1 million from Department of Education to develop programs and for institutional development, both of which are the largest grants that these campuses have ever received.</p>	No comments were raised.

He noted that it has been a productive summer for the Executive Committee of the Senate. They have set their agenda, had good interactions with University leadership, and he stated that it will be a reasonable year in shared governance. The Senate Committees are already at work, and they are dealing with substantive matters. October 17, 2016, is the Expanded Executive Committee meeting where Senate Officers meet with all Committee chairs to share agendas and approaches. We are encouraging committees to collaborate and establish working groups to address issues in-depth and collaboratively. The optic of the Senate Plenary has been decided, and Vice-President Kear reviewed the content of the Plenary for the upcoming Spring of 2017. Vice-President Kear reported that it is an understatement to say that metrics are used somewhat in faculty evaluation and tenure and there are differences between departments and in methods. A year ago, the Leiden Manifesto was published, which contains 10 principles to guide research evaluation, and is available at this link: <http://www.nature.com/news/bibliometrics-the-leiden-manifesto-for-research-metrics-1.17351>. Earlier this year, a faculty council in Bloomington, IN, adopted a policy on research metrics based on this publication. The Spring Plenary will be on research metrics and faculty evaluation. A planning meeting group is being assembled, and this is a good chance to get ahead of potential issues and establish discipline-specific research metrics and best practices. Vice-President Kear also updated on another issue: she noted that the University Senate now has a Twitter account: @PittSenate (#PittSenate). President Wilson continued his report and noted that the topic of the Plenary will feed into the work of several committees related to student and faculty evaluations, evaluation of teaching, new policies about end-results of evaluations (e.g. salary reductions), and other ongoing works.

President Wilson updated that at the end of last year, there was a Senate Council special “group” that made recommendations about diversity and inclusion. One recommendation that has been implemented was naming this upcoming year as the Year of Diversity. Also, the “group” was asked to expand its membership, determine if there should be a permanent advisory committee for Pam Donnelly’s office, and work on the university core values statement. Many activities are already occurring across campus, and they will continue throughout the year. The biggest issue for this group to work on is the creation of an institutional statement of core values for faculty, staff, administration and students.

President Wilson recommended that everyone read the University Times on-line, which is now being sent to all faculty inboxes. The address for direct headline sign-up is available at [www.utimes.pitt.edu](http://www.utimes.pitt.edu). The article on the Faculty Assembly and Senate Council just published reflect the activities going on at the University. There are questions fundamental to everything we do, starting with research, organization of research, and much more. There is an upcoming search for a Senior Vice-Chancellor of Research, including upcoming open forum meetings with Administration and faculty/staff about the duties of this new position. Evaluation of faculty is an ongoing issue. The idea to create an adhoc committee to look at the university divesting from fossil fuel companies was suggested at the end of last academic year at Faculty Assembly, and President Wilson is in the process of asking people to serve on this committee. This issue has been raised in the past by students as well. The Board of Trustees is the final decision-maker on this issue. President Wilson also noted that his work is ongoing with SAC and is going well. A key issue raised has been staff membership and participation at Senate committees and on search committees. Staff will be able to do leadership training on committees they serve; this is already in place. He also noted that interaction with the student groups has been good and will increase further over the year.

**Report of Student Members of Senate Council**

Student Government Board (SGB)

*Natalie Dall, President*

Natalie introduced her fellow SGB members: Member and Executive Vice President Sydney Harper, and Board Members Arlind Karpuzi and Justin Horowitz. Additional board members recognized (not in attendance) were Vice-President and Chief of Finance Max Kneis, Vice-President and Chief of Cabinet Rohit Anand, Samantha Jankowitz, Joseph Kannarkat, and Alyssa Laguerta. The SGB is technically not in operation during the summer vacation, but Board Members and Committee Chairs all worked throughout it to plan and prep for the school year. All of the Committee Chairs and the majority of our Standing Committees were filled in the last month of this past semester. Interviews were held two Sundays ago to fill the Elections Committee with eight new members, and also were held this past Sunday to select two incoming Freshmen to complete the Allocations Committee for the 2016-2017 year.

There are many projects that were worked on over the summer and this past month. The Community Engagement and Voter Registration project involves neighborhood block parties with CGR. The Pitt Community Forum – Thursday night 9.22, 7-8:30pm, with participation from City Council President Bruce Kraus, Pittsburgh Chief of Police Cameron McLay, University of Pittsburgh Chief of Police James Loftus, and Vice-Chancellor for Community and Governmental Relations Paul Supowitz. This event is an opportunity for students to discuss and ask questions about issues affecting campus and the community via a panel Q&A. The SGB is running a PittVotes campaign encouraging students to take advantage of their Collegiate Readership Program to become educated on the ongoing election through reading the New York Times and USA Today, as well as encouraging students to register to vote. They also are working with Community and Governmental Relations on the planning of the Everybody votesPA event that is taking place Tuesday, 5pm-7pm at Alumni Hall on 9/27 with the Pennsylvania Department of State. Another effort has been focused toward encouraging campus safety. Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Wellness and Safety Fair from 10am – 2pm where students can learn about wellness resources on campus, be trained on how to properly use a fire extinguisher, and interact with representatives from other departments. Mental Health Awareness Week is October 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, and Board Members Kneis and Horowitz have been working on this event. Activities include speaker Jordan Burnham who is affiliated with Active Minds. He will be coming to speak about his experiences struggling with keeping a good mental health in college and high stress academic environments; continuing on the “Stories Untold” Gallery where students can submit pieces that focus on the general topic of mental health; and conducting a Self-Care Fair with tables providing information on the several resources available around campus and in the Pittsburgh Community for anyone seeking help.

Board Members Jankowitz, Harper, and Laguerta have created the **Student Empowerment Task Force, which is** creating a list of initiatives and passive programs that can be carried out to encourage students to feel better about themselves and their Pitt experiences. Current ideas include running a body image positivity campaign throughout the year and creating different mentoring structures that will allow upperclassmen student leaders to network with and encourage younger students to get involved around campus. The SGB has approved 11 undergraduate Research Travel Grants so far this semester. Each recipient earns \$250 towards travel to and from a conference where they are presenting their research. It is a rolling application for us to a total of 20 grants. SGB is continuing to evaluate the policies in order to make sure we are benefitting as many students as possible through the program.

No comments were raised.

This summer, SGB was awarded Formula Group Status by Dean Bonner and the Division of Student Affairs, and will now be receiving 2.0% of the Student Activities Fund for each fiscal year. One of the main reasons this was done was to give SGB more flexibility in programming, as the outgoing Board would no longer have to create a budget that would dictate how the incoming Board spent its money. The recommendation made to Dean Bonner has been posted on our website if you're interested in reading more about this change. Natalie also updated that she will be flying down to Atlanta tomorrow morning to attend the ACC President's Conference at Georgia Tech, and she is excited to bring the few projects mentioned today in addition to the myriads of other initiatives our office is working on to get feedback and hear what other schools are doing.

#### College of General Studies Student Government (CGSSG)

*Jessica Sevcik, President*

This summer, CGSSG devoted a substantial portion of their monthly meetings to brainstorming new and creative ways to effectively promote the college and bring awareness of events to fellow CGS students. Additionally, they also hope to attract new CGS members by way of promoting upcoming meetings on social media and engaging more with other students in classes.

CGS is currently preparing for their upcoming event which is scheduled for this Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm outside Posvar Hall. The Back-to-School BBQ is for CGS students, family and alumni. This is traditionally one of the most attended events and they expect this year to be no exception. They will be incorporating a diversity project in every event this year, beginning with the BBQ. For this event, they plan to have a map of the world for people to write their name on the location they are from. They hope that this will show the diversity and beauty of the individuals at Pitt. Following this event, their next focus will be on Homecoming scheduled October 7<sup>th</sup> at the PAA.

The goal this year at CGSSG is simple: to do the very best they can to support our fellow peers and provide them with workshops, events and mentors that can provide educational assistance. They are doing this by way of expanding our mentorship program with the support of CGS alumni Bruce Mountjoy. They plan to have a more developed list of Alumni in the coming weeks.

#### Report of Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG):

*Justin Saver, President, GPSG*

*Kathryn Bress, Vice-President of Programming*

This summer was very busy for the Graduate and Professional Student Government, full of planning and collaborating, which Justin noted is setting them up for an extremely successful year. In May, the Executive Board worked to create their Long-Range Plan for the 2016-2017 year, which guides their work throughout the year. Their aim is to empower the nearly ten thousand graduate and professional students at Pitt to maximize their opportunities and impact by fostering a sense of community within both the University of Pittsburgh and the local community. They strive to foster a sense of unity within the University by promoting the interests of the student body, and they want to support the diversity amongst our students. This summer, Justin reported that he was able to meet with a lot of key stakeholders at Pitt to share GPSG's mission and goals. The feedback he received was crucial in shaping GPSG actions going forward. He also met with a number of university

departments to create connections and share GPSG goals. These departments included the University Library System, Community and Governmental Relations, Pitt Alumni Association, Office of Student Conduct, Office of International Services, Office of Academic Career Development, and more. As a result of these meetings, GPSG special initiatives were born. This year GPSG will focus on expanding graduate and professional student awareness of Title IX, providing our students the outlet to make an impact on the community around them, raising awareness of mental health related topics, and supporting the “Pitt for Life” motto by increasing the alumni networking and career opportunities available to graduate and professional students. On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, GPSG hosted their annual Graduate and Professional Orientation. Overall, the event was highly successful. They hosted over 600 students - approximately 20% of the new graduate and professional student population - in David Lawrence Hall. The event began with a keynote address from Dean Bonner and Vice-Provost Sbragia. The event included breakout sessions highlighting Title IX and mental health and also included a student resource panel discussion. They surveyed the attending students on their desire for certain services and the results are still pending. As part of GPSG orientation, they held a resource fair with 37 different University departments and organizations attending. The event concluded with a Welcome Picnic in Schenley Plaza with Roc the Panther, the cheerleaders, Dean Bonner, and Dr. Sbragia in attendance. Their Events Planning Committee has been formed by our VP of Programming, Kat Bress. The over 20 members of the committee are hard at work planning GPSG’s events for the year. Last week, they hosted their annual Hofbrahaus Welcome Event which was a success, with a sell-out of all 700 available tickets. The next event organized by the Events Planning Committee will be a Halloween-themed social event planned in October. GPSG has also partnered with Community and Governmental Relations to participate in “Pitt Make a Difference Day” coming up in October. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, GPSG will host “Pies and Politics,” featuring an informal lecture from Professor Kris Kanthak from the Department of Political Science as well as delicious pizza and pie. GPSG has partnered with the Stress Free Zone to host a mindfulness and meditation event on October 19<sup>th</sup> as part of our initiative to increase mental health awareness among graduate and professional students. GPSG is also partnering with It’s On Us and Students Engaging in Conversations about Consent and Sexuality (SECCS) to facilitate greater knowledge about available resources and provide educational opportunities for graduate and professional students. GPSG is excited to announce that our VP of Communications Rena Jiang has been accepted to attend the official TED Conference titled TedWomen in San Francisco this October. By attending this conference, the joint TedXUniversityofPittsburgh event put on by GPSG and SGB in the Spring will be able to obtain a license to allow more than 100 live audience members. The 41 of 43 committee seats open to graduate and professional students have been filled by our VP of Committees Aliyah Weinstein. Thirty-one of the committee seats are filled by students who have never served on a university-wide committee before. The representatives hail from 10 of 14 schools at Pitt. This shows the expanding reach of GPSG information into more schools throughout the university and GPSG is working to increase participation from the remaining four schools. Committee member orientations are taking place this week. In the future, they are happy to appoint graduate/professional students to any new committees that may form as this representation allows GPSG students to participate in shared governance and express their ideas. GPSG has awarded 40 travel grants this summer with many still in review. This totals to over \$11,000 issued to graduate and professional students to support their presentation of their work across the world. The GPSG Assembly Board has voted to elect our new VP of Finance yesterday and will announce the results in the coming days. GPSG students across our Graduate Student Governments and Graduate Student Organizations have also been hard at work across their 14 schools to plan introductory events, elect their new boards, plan for the coming year. The Schools of Engineering, Information Sciences,

Social Work, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Public and International Affairs, Law, Medicine, and others held back to school picnics and socials in the last few weeks. The School of Education is working to survey the needs of both their PhD and EdD students. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, the School of Pharmacy is hosting “Rock the Block” in Squirrel Hill aimed at expanding their community health initiatives. The Biomedical Graduate Student Association in the School of Medicine hosted their annual Summer Career Seminar Series and other career development events this summer focusing on science communication, administration, careers in biotechnology and pharma, and interviewing strategies. The School of Nursing doctoral and graduate student governments are working together to better collaborate. ANKUR - the Indian Graduate Student Association - hosted India Day earlier this month to celebrate the birthday of India and are working collaboratively with Carnegie Mellon’s Graduate Student Association. The Chinese Students and Scholars Association hosted an orientation aimed to help acclimate new international students to life in Pittsburgh. CSSA is excited to host the mid-Autumn festival and top 10 singer’s competition next month. The Graduate Organization for the Study of Europe and Central Asia hosted a social hour to recruit future members. The Iranian Student Association (formerly Persian Panthers) hosted a picnic in Schenley Park and is planning a concert for 600 students. The Turkish American Student Association planned a meet and greet with CMU’s Turkish Student Association and has a movie screening coming up. I also want to introduce Corbin Powlus who has been selected by the GPSG Assembly Board as the Professional Schools’ representative to the Senate Council. Corbin is a Katz MBA student. The Schools of Health Sciences representative has yet to be selected.

In conclusion, Justin reported that the GPSG student body has been very busy planning a myriad of exciting events across all 14 schools as well as events aimed to bring schools and even Universities together. The Executive Board is working hard to get situated in our roles and are moving as quickly as possible to achieve our goals. He thanked the individuals who have taken their time to meet with them and provided insight to having a successful year as they work to help graduate and professional students have the best Pitt experience possible.

*Dominique Johnson, President, Graduate Student Organization, Arts & Sciences*

The A&S GSA met in September. There is a new Vice-President for the upcoming year, who will be serving on the Diversity and Inclusion Council as well. The GSO A&S website has been completely updated and all of the GSOs will be combining their information together in one place. New program proposals include a graduate student conference on scholars and additional social activities. A list of workshops and seminars related to Title IX are being developed. We have a professional development series for graduate students who are on the job market. It has been successful so far with a series of workshops completed and planned. Program proposals for the year are incoming and those will be announced at upcoming meetings.

**Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC):**

*Rich Colwell, President*

*Lindsay Rodzwick, Member*

SAC website: [www.sac.pitt.edu](http://www.sac.pitt.edu).

Rich updated that the Staff Association Council has been working diligently throughout the summer months on a variety of items. Over the summer, SAC officers were able to meet with Provost Beeson, Chancellor Gallagher, Senior Vice Chancellors Humphrey and Scott, and Senate President Wilson individually. Salary administration was a topic of conversation in all of these meetings. He noted that the Staff Association Council, appreciate the 1.5% salary pool in light of 1% across the board budget cuts. They also appreciate the attention given to low end salary staff with their additional 0.5% increase. There are also several areas where

Comments noted at end of this section.

things can be improved. There needs to be a better comparison to the annual Cost of Living increase. Pitt needs to have better resources to retain professional staff. There should be improved communication between staff, faculty, and administration about the salary pool distribution process. They look forward to participating and improving next year's budgeting process with our participation in the University Senate, Board of Trustees, and University Budgeting & Planning Committee. The voting structure of the salary pool issues was reviewed by Mr. Colwell, in addition to differences of how the 0.5% increase was managed between departments. They are hoping the communications on this can be better moving forward.

Ms. Rodzicz highlighted that on July 17<sup>th</sup>, SAC hosted the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Pitt Day at Kennywood, with tickets sold-out for the third year in a row. A major thanks to Pitt Athletics and Pitt Alumni Association for helping this year's picnic be better than ever! A special thanks goes to Chancellor Gallagher for agreeing to raffle off a ride on the Phantom's Revenge to a lucky Pitt employee. The raffle helps us raise over \$1,500 for the SAC Book Fund, which benefits the children of Pitt staff enrolled at a Pitt campus. SAC also accepted 11 new members to the Staff Association Council this summer: Megan Victorson, Student Affairs; Yvonne Brewster, Surgery; ; Jeffrey Bowser, Auxiliary Administration; Emily O'Donnell, Sports Medicine and Nutrition; Jennifer Crytzer, Institutional Advancement; Celeste Misho, CSSD; Caitlin Mathis, Electrical & Computer Engineering; George Harvey, Industrial Engineering; Brian Smith, McGowan Institute; Suzanne Kroll, Student Affairs; and Daniel Stump, School of Nursing. With these 11 new members, SAC is at their maximum membership of 75, with over 20+ staff members still on our waiting list. Twelve SAC members volunteered for the United Way Day of Caring on September 16. SAC is dedicated to being active participants in the community. Pitt Oakland SAC continues to communicate with the regional SAC's to make sure that they are including their voices and offering advice for their development. SAC is also currently working on a variety of different initiatives including paid parental leave policy, supervisory training, volunteerism policy, and a Year of Diversity proposal. The SAC would like to thank the Senate Council committees for allowing additional SAC members to attend your meetings. These additional representatives from SAC are non-voting members. They look forward to another year of Senate Council and continuing our efforts with shared governance. Year of Humanities events are continuing from last year, as well as new events planned for the upcoming Year of Diversity.

As always, SAC encourages everyone to like/follow us on our social media pages: Facebook "University of Pittsburgh – Staff Association Council"; Twitter "@SACatpitt"; and Instagram "SACatPitt," as well as subscribing to their e-newsletter at [sac.pitt.edu](http://sac.pitt.edu). SAC has a new temporary administration, Mariah Dickert. She comes from Pitt-Johnstown and they are very excited to have her on board. Please send all SAC correspondence to her at [sac@pitt.edu](mailto:sac@pitt.edu). They also thanked Marcie Johnson for her two plus years of service with us, and wish her the best in her new role in Alumni Relations.

Discussion:

Chancellor Gallagher thanked Rich for bringing up the salary issue. He noted that the communication has not been good about the administration (implementation) of these decisions. Local school-by-school variability exists and his office will be communicating these messages differently than in the past. Allowing local administrative variation makes sense, but it cannot be unknown to the university. When the administration payroll funding was distributed, the holdbacks were the decision-making process. Funds for staff do not go anywhere but for staff. Who makes the decision is what is not clear. Cheryl Johnson has been hired as Vice-Chancellor for Human Resources, to look at practices across the university

related to this issue and help to do better next year.	
<b><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate</u></b>	None
N/A	
<b><u>Unfinished Business or New Business</u></b>	None
None	
<b><u>Announcements:</u></b>	
A reception by the Chancellor is being hosted immediately after the meeting today.	
<b><u>Adjournment:</u></b>	
President Wilson adjourned the meeting.	Adjournment at 4:02 pm.

University Senate website: <http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/senate-council>

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Members attending:

Beck, Beeson, Bonner, Cohen, Cole, Colwell, Costantino, Czerwinski, Dahm, Dall, Donihi, Gallagher, Harper, Horowitz, Humphrey, Jacob, Johnson, Karpuzi, Kaufman, Kear, Kory, Labrinidis, Levine, Loughlin, Molinaro, Mulvaney, Ramicone, Rodzwick, Rohrer, Saver, G. Scott, Sevcik, Skledar, Smith, Spring, Stoner, Washington, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Clark, Dewar, Gleason, Helbig, Kanthak, Kaynar, Muenzer, Mulcahy, Munro, Nelson, Schmidhofer, W. Scott, Stephany, Swanson, Triulzi, Vieira

\*Excused attendance:

Bratman, Flynn, Leers, Rigotti, Sukits, Tananis

Others attending:

Barlow, Becker, Connelly, Dornan, Fort, Kirsch, Nardone, Olanyk, Powlus, Rogers, Walker, Wilds

\*Notified Senate Office