

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2018
2700 Posvar Hall

Topic/Discussion	Action
<u>Call to Order.</u> President Chris Bonneau called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.	The meeting began.
<u>Approval of the Minutes of the May 16, 2018, Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Bonneau asked for approval of the minutes of the May 16, 2018, Senate Council meeting.	The minutes were approved as written.
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> President Bonneau asked if there were any new items of business to be brought forward.	No new items were brought forward.
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Patrick Gallagher.</u></p> <p>The Chancellor gave the following report:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>New Provost</u> Our new Provost, Ann Cudd, officially started on September 1. She comes to Pitt from the University of Boston, where she served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. There, she oversaw all strategic decisions related to the college's academic, financial, and administrative direction and growth.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Before going to Boston University, she served for 25 years at the University of Kansas, where she held various roles including Director of Graduate Students and Director of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies; and Associate Dean for Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">She holds three degrees from the University of Pittsburgh: A Doctorate in Philosophy, a Master of Arts in Philosophy, and a Master of Arts in Economics. Provost Cudd mentioned that she is delighted to be here at Pitt and looks forward to working together.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>We selected a new Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.</u> Hari Sastry has been selected to serve as senior vice chancellor and chief financial officer. Since 2014, he has served as the director of the Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance Resources at the State Department. In this position, he is responsible for managing all aspects of the \$37 billion foreign assistance budget for the State Department and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), including planning and implementing the budget, as well as program performance. Sastry holds a Master of Public Policy from Georgetown</p>	

University, a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University of Michigan.

His nomination goes before the Board of Trustees at the end of the month, and if elected, he will begin in October.

We made a structural change when Amy Marsh retired, Our new Chief Investment Officer, Greg Schuler, is officially on the job. He comes to Pitt from BJC Healthcare, one of the largest nonprofit health care integrated delivery organizations in the United States. He managed investment activities covering \$8 billion in assets and oversaw treasury activities related to debt, derivatives, and cash management.

NEW TREASURER

Paul Lawrence is officially in his new position as Treasurer. He has served as Pitt's Managing Director of Investments since 1999 and as assistant treasurer, a Board-elected position, since 2000.

SUMMER TRANSITIONS

The following administrators started new positions over the summer:

- Interim President of Pitt-Bradford and Pitt-Titusville Larry Feick;
- Three new deans have started, School of Social Work Dean Betsy Farmer;
- Swanson School of Engineering Dean Jimmy Martin; and
- School of Law Dean Amy Wildermuth.

Lots of new faces in our incoming freshman class

The Class of 2022 is the most academically accomplished and diverse class in Pitt's history. The 4,218 students posted higher test scores than any previous incoming class in Pitt's history. They also hail from all 50 states and territories as well as 22 countries.

FACILITIES PROJECTS

Several construction and/or renovation projects across our campuses were recently completed:

- On our Pittsburgh campus: Classroom renovations in Posvar Hall, a major renovation of the Hillman Library's fourth floor and a redesign of Schenley Quad.
- On our Bradford campus, we opened a new residence facility – the Livingston Alexander House—and wrapped renovations on the Frame-Westerberg Commons Dining Hall.

- On our Johnstown campus, we kicked off construction on a chemical engineering addition to the Murtha Engineering and Science Building.

PITT SEED PROJECT RECIPIENTS

We announced our first-ever Pitt Seed Project awardees. The 23 projects support Pitt’s strategic goals and come from across the University. They were selected from 171 applications and by 125 faculty and staff. For a full list of the projects and more information, visit Chancellor.Pitt.Edu.

Budget News

We had a highly successful budget cycle with the state last year. A 3% increase to the State related universities, which allowed us to hold almost all in state tuition at last year’s levels. That normally is not enough to cover inflation. We are getting ready to start next year’s cycle. It will be different than last year.

Campus Safety

The Attorney General was here on campus a few weeks ago. They rolled out a campus safety report. It was to be used as a benchmark. We are using it as an opportunity to identify gaps in what we are doing. It is important that we always stay focused on this.

INSTITUTIONAL MILESTONES

Pitt set an all-time record on research funding, \$808 million.

Fundraising has been one of our best three years on record.

The Chancellor concluded his report, asking people to review the Chancellors Update for additional updates and milestones. President Bonneau asked for questions or comments; no comments were offered.

Report of the President of the Senate, Chris Bonneau

President Bonneau gave the following report:

Welcome to the start of another academic year. The first few weeks have, unsurprisingly, contained the usual flurry of activities for students, faculty, and, of course, shared governance.

Our first Faculty Assembly meeting last Tuesday contained the highest attendance ever. Period. That may or may not be true; but we don’t know that it is not **not** true. So we’ll go with it.

The President’s report was accepted.

I view Faculty Assembly as serving two primary purposes. First, it is a forum for faculty to discuss issues important to the well-being of the University. We both discuss proposals from the administration and make proposals to the administration. Second, it is a place where faculty can receive information about certain things and pass that on to their constituents. I believe that we should provide time to any colleague who wants to bring a matter to our attention. We also should be sure that our deliberations and decisions are based on empirical data whenever possible, and thus I support and encourage the liberal sharing of data and factual information during our discussions.

Our first meeting fulfilled both of these purposes. Faculty Assembly dealt with two very timely and controversial issues. First, we heard an update from the Research Committee on the new assignment of intellectual property rights that was rolled out by Senior Vice Chancellor Rutenbar in August. This memo came without any faculty discussion or input and appeared to violate the hard-fought agreement we had reached back in 2014. Over the past several weeks, the administration has met with concerned faculty, the Research Committee, and myself. In response to this, the administration has suspended the new policy and I believe we are very close to agreeing on a short-term policy that both fulfills the university's legal obligations and protects faculty ownership of their intellectual property. In the long-term, SVC Rutenbar has informed us that he is going to constitute a committee tasked with overhauling the IP Policy at Pitt more generally. We look forward to working with him on that process.

Second, we also heard a presentation from representatives from the Union of Pitt Faculty. Three members came and presented their arguments for why Pitt faculty should unionize as well as fielded numerous questions from members of faculty assembly. Based on several questions from colleagues, subsequent to this meeting I shared some University reports that provided much of the data that was discussed at the meeting.

Moving forward, we are looking forward to presentations next month from both the Title IX office and Provost Cudd. Additionally, our committees are beginning to meet and begin their work for the academic year and I am sure we will have much to report going forward.

President Bonneau concluded his report and asked for questions or comments. No comments were made.

Report of Student Members of Senate Council.

Student Government Board

President of the SGB, Maggie Kennedy, gave the following report.

Introductions of SGB members. We are currently going through

The SGB report was accepted.

interviews to fill vacant spots on our committees. We received over 90 applications for all of those positions. During orientation week, we co-hosted Panther Gold retreat in connection with Student Affairs. About 75 student leaders from across campus participated.

We are continuing the collegiate readership program, every undergrad student can log on for web access to the NY Times. We are continuing our contract with the Pitt News for our student events calendar. We are in the midst of our civic engagement week. Focusing on voter registration, all about voting, know where and how to vote in November. Also working on neighborhood block parties in connection with Pitt's Governmental Relations Office. We have our annual fall Safety Fair on Sept. 18. Lastly, we have been preparing for October's Mental Health Awareness month. We have over ten events planned for the month.

College of General Studies Student Government Report

CGSSG President Dave Levine, was not in attendance. No report given.

Graduate and Professional Student Government.

Rachel Coombs, GPSG President, gave the following report.

We have five members on our executive board who are voted in to represent University wide all of the graduate and professional students. Our Executive Board mission statement "We are here to represent the interests and concerns of graduate and professional students by improving communication and establishing an assertive voice within the University's shared governance system."

We're interested in improving communication, we're interested in identifying policies and practices that undermine gender equity, diversity and inclusivity that impacts graduate and professional student's success. We're interested in advocating for change on these policies and practices. We have put together a committee to look at these issues. What is happening at programs and how can we make changes?

Orientation events, we have an awesome incoming group and they want to be involved in shared governance. In May, the Executive Board of GPSG voted unanimously to support the efforts of the graduate student unionization. We are interested in having this conversation within the shared governance system. One of the primary concerns that has been repeatedly raised and discussed is that the University has hired a law firm Ballard Spahr to contest graduate student unionization. We are very concerned about the cost and how many of our shared university resources are being used to impede the graduate students right to vote to decide if they want to unionize.

Arts and Sciences Graduate Council

Gary Mills, was not in attendance. No report given.

The GPSG report was accepted.

<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Council.</u> Andy Stephany and Alex Toner.</p> <p>Good afternoon President Bonneau, Chancellor Gallagher, and members of this council, both those returning and those joining us for the first time. Staff Council is excited for the new academic year and the opportunities it presents to partner with many of the groups represented at this table to advance the University’s mission.</p> <p>Staff Council worked over the summer, and in recent weeks, to strengthen relationships across campus. Members of the executive committee met with University Times editor Sue Jones and her team, Vice Chancellor Moran, Vice Chancellor Johnson, Pitt Serves Director Chaz Kellum, President Bonneau, and GPSG President Rachel Coombs.</p> <p>We look forward to upcoming meetings with Provost Cudd, as well as SGB President Kennedy and the SGB board, and hope to continue to facilitate meaningful connections between staff, students, faculty, and administration.</p> <p>In August, Staff Council welcomed 15 new members, increasing our voting membership to 90. We continue to seek a more representative and diverse staff voice within Staff Council; members from the August cohort hail from all across the University – Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, Medicine, the School of Computing & Information, GSPIA are all represented.</p> <p>Following sustained advocacy by Staff Council, the City of Pittsburgh installed new pedestrian safety features at the intersection of Fifth and North Bellefield Avenues, including road striping, reduction of vehicle lanes, and reflective stanchions. Thanks to Vice Chancellor Supowitz and the terrific team in Community and Governmental Relations for their support, as well as our Oakland community partners and the City’s Department of Mobility and Infrastructure.</p> <p>This Fall Staff Council is partnering with the Alumni Association’s Blue and Gold Society to host Oakland Campus Tours designed to introduce campus to new Pitt staff members. The pilot tours are on September 18 and November 13, with more to come next spring.</p> <p>In partnership with the Office of Sustainability and the Student Office of Sustainability, Staff Council is hosting a Sustainable Pitt Brown Bag on Friday, October 12. We believe that the nearly 7,000 staff members across the institution can and should play a major role in advancing the University’s Sustainability Plan, and this session will introduce attendees to current initiatives, methods of engagement, and the upcoming Staff Green Guide.</p>	<p>The SC report was accepted.</p>

<p>Also in October, Staff Council is hosting a Mentoring Town Hall with Dr. Audrey Murrell where attendees can learn about effective mentoring and the positive impact mentors can make across campus. The Town Hall will also to serve as the kickoff to our second annual Staff Mentor Award, the winner of which will receive a scholarship to complete a Certificate in Organization Leadership and Ethics.</p> <p>Staff Council encourages all staff, students, and faculty to participate in the annual Pitt Day of Caring on October 19, and Pitt Make a Difference Day on October 20. We ask the University to communicate that participation in the Pitt Day of Caring, an institutional day of volunteerism, is considered a paid, approved absence, based on office needs.</p> <p>The annual Pitt Day at Kennywood was held in July, with approximately 2,000 Pitt staff and family members attending. Raffle donations will again provide support for our Staff Professional Development Award. Thank you to all our friends across campus who donated, sponsored, or participated in making the event a success.</p> <p>Finally, over the summer we settled into our new office space in B39 of the Cathedral. Our first general body meeting of the academic year is next Wednesday, September 19 at 12pm in room 102, Benedum Hall. All are welcome to attend the open portion of the meeting.</p>	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate.</u> No Reports or Announcements</p>	
<p><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business.</u> No unfinished business or new business was brought forward.</p>	No action needed.
<p><u>Announcements.</u> Please attend the Chancellor’s reception immediately following the meeting in 2501 Posvar hall.</p>	No action needed.
<p><u>Adjournment.</u> With there being no further business, President Bonneau adjourned the meeting</p>	The meeting was adjourned 3:33

Members attending:

Bachman, Becker, Bonneau, Bonner, Brodt, Chong, Coombs, Cudd, Czerwinski, Dahm, DeAngelo, Deitrick, Fort, Gaddy, Gallagher, Goldberg, Haley, Harper, Humphrey, Jones, Kear, Kennedy, Kory, Kovacs, A. Levine, Mercer, Molinaro, Morel, Rutenbar, Salcido, Scott, Smith, Stephany, Stillman, Stoner, Toner, Washington, Wilson

Members not attending:

Betru, Bilodeau, Buchanich, Conley, Harries, Henker, Horne, Infanti, Kaufman, Kaynar, D. Levine, Long, Martin, Mills, Mulcahy, Sant, Van Nostrand, Weikle-Mills, Weinberg

*Excused attendance:

Arkush, Bromberg, Denman, Kiselyov, Labrinidis, McGreevy, Tananis

Others attending:

Ayars, Chapman, Connelly, Harrell, Jones, Kirsch, Moran, Rohrer, Supowitz, Walker, Washo

*Notified Senate office