

**Senate Council Meeting Minutes
(Hybrid format)
Thursday September 14, 2023**

I. Call to Order

President Robin Kear called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and asked those on zoom whose names do not appear on screen to use chat for the roll.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Past Senate Council Meeting

On a motion duly made (Songer) and seconded (Rodzwicz) the minutes from the Senate Council meeting on May 18, 2023, were approved as written.

III. Items of New Business

No items of new business were raised.

IV. Report of the Chancellor, Joan Gabel

Hi everyone, I am delighted to be here and for this means in terms of getting started, and what this means in terms of shared governance and working together. I'll ask for some indulgence this first time, if I don't cover something you were hoping for. Please give me feedback on how you would like me to do these reports and we can work together on how to make the best use of this time.

I would like to start by thanking all of our different shared governance groups which have already been partners in several things we have been working on. We are very grateful for the help in starting the Provost's search. We are working together on the search for a new permanent secretary to the Board. We have received lots of guidance from students faculty and staff on the place, the opportunities, and the things we can work on together.

Some examples of the things we have been working on together:

- We had an abrupt change in the Board of Trustees leadership, with Chair Browning stepping down unexpectedly for unanticipated personal reasons. There have been a lot of conversations across different stake holder groups about what this means.
- The second week I was here we brought a budget to the Board for approval. Normally that would have been done before I arrived but because of the delay in the legislature the process was delayed. That budget was approved by the Board. We are still awaiting action from the legislature and we are working very actively advocating in Harrisburg, both in the aggregate and with a lot of one-on-one time by me and other members of the team, and government affairs. We are hoping they will come through for us very soon.
- The ACC went through conference realignment. The way that things have unfolded means that things will only change moderately for Pitt, with a lot of attention paid to the student athlete experience. The effort in making these changes took quite a bit of time.
- We faced a decision from the Supreme Court that fundamentally changes the way we do admissions. There has been some incredible work by the admissions team in anticipation of this decision and now, with it beginning in real time. There has been a lot of analysis and consternation about where else this might impact the work that we are doing on campus; the parameters or limitations of that work, while being committed to continued efforts on diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility.
- . We had Welcome Week. We brought back a large and historically diverse first year and transfer class. We had all of the fun traditions including what felt like very positive energy.

- On my first day I sent out a link to a survey. We received about 1500 responses before we closed. We were not very scientific about it: there were no restrictions on who could fill out the survey and the questions were not phrased in a very scientific way. We wanted it to be a way to start the conversation. A lot of lovely things came through this, along with some opportunities to improve. There was a lot of pride from many stake holders on where the University is, how it has evolved and its potential for the future. There was a lot of pride in the connection and engagement with the community. There was a lot of discussion on making sure it's an employer of choice, whether that be faculty or staff, we think of what it means to be excellent. It was helpful and similar questions are being asked as I continue with one-on-one meetings during the onboarding process.
- In my first few weeks I was able to join 14 other university leaders in the Campus Call for Free Expression. This is an effort that is facilitated by the Institute for Citizens and Scholars and is a public commitment to the importance of critical inquiry and civil discourse on university campuses. This is a commitment to helping students learn what they need in order to be part of solutions, particularly in divisive and provocative challenges. It also amplifies the important role that universities can play in creating communities of engaged, civic-minded leaders. A lot of this work was happening through the Provost office through the upcoming Year of Discourse and Dialogue, and additional events are being planned. The other campuses will be hosting speaker series, courses and other events on these topics.
- That is how we are approaching the new strategic plan – the Plan for Pitt – which was developed through a robust shared governance process. I am looking at it to see if there is anything I can add, or reframe, without diminishing any of the work that has gone into it. This is something that was discussed a lot during my candidacy and I am very excited about it. Plan for Pitt shows a lot of the quality of the work we do, the aspirations of where we would like to be, the strengths in where we are now and some of our challenges and opportunities. Now is the time for us to make sure that this is tied to action in ways that we can assess and measure the outcomes. Generically, University strategic plans are quite similar in terms of student wellbeing and success, research etc. But there is a difference in thinking strategically about this institution and what is unique about it and its connection with the community. I think of strategic planning as having three legs of a stool: 1) they should provide the architecture for story telling about what the institution does; 2) they should be inspiring to excite people to want to belong and 3) they should provide a mechanism for accountability. If you have those three things you start to see the plan take the shape of the Institution that created it. This is what you will see from me as we move forward with the Plan for Pitt. The plans can give us permission to double down on what we are good at and also give us a change to take some moonshots in the right proportion. The thing I really like about Plan for Pitt right now is that it is 100% leading into values, and I want to retain all of that. The intention is to take the content of the Plan for Pitt and start thinking about these legs of the stool. There will be a series of conversation back and forth as we go forward until we are happy with it. I will be looping in the Board at the appropriate times and will be explaining this to them at the next Board meeting later this month. I intend to do strategic plan presentations, with information provided in advance to people can think about the issues. I'll have some more content for October 4th at Faculty Assembly, and I'll talk to Staff Council On October 16th

Provost Search:

It is getting ready to launch. I want to extend my appreciation to the officers who have started the election process so that we can form the search committee, and to Anantha Shekhar who has agreed to

chair the committee. The search consultant has been retained and once the committee is formed the process will begin. It is full national search and all candidates, internal, external will be considered.

Dean searches:

There are three open Dean searches: Education, Engineering and Law. The search for the Dean of Dental Medicine is winding down and you will see some announcements about that coming soon. We are trying to sequence all of that so that the incoming Provost can participate in the selection of these Deans, and this will require some adjustment but that is the goal.

Deadlines are coming up;

Panther Forward applications are open for 10 more days. This is an innovative program that greatly reduces student debt for 150 graduating seniors through a “pay it forward” concept.

Chancellor’s distinguished awards nominations in teaching research and public service are open until October 13th and I invite you to nominate someone for these.

Some achievements to highlight:

Two students from the Friedrich Honors college were awarded the Obama Chesky Scholarship for Public Service, also known as the Voyager Scholarship. This is \$50,000 in aid over two years to support travel and networking for students who are working towards social change

The University of Pittsburgh School of Education’s Doctor of Education (EdD) program was selected as the 2023 Program of the Year by the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate. The EdD faculty were commended for encouraging commitment to centering equity and social justice for future educational professionals.

Pitt Center for Governance and Markets in GSPIA was awarded the Outstanding Civic Engagement Project Award from the American Political Science Association. The Center’s Afghan Asylum Project helped more than 6500 Afghans who approached the Center for assistance and raised \$100,000 for scholarships in Ukraine.

Pitt was awarded the prestigious WK Kellogg Foundation’s Community Engagement Scholarship Award by APLU for the Pittsburgh Study, co-developed by Pitt scientists and local parents, teachers and students. This study will follow 8000 young people from birth to adulthood to better understand what children need in order to thrive. We are one of 4 who receives this award and this makes us eligible to compete for the national C Peter Magrath Community Engagement Scholarship Award which will be announced in the national APLU meeting in November.

Any questions for Chancellor Gabel?

Stoner: I want to encourage you to work with the shared governance athletics committee to see what the impacts of the changes in the ACC will have on student athletes. A bigger comment was to have the people in your office and around the university with longer institutional memory to bring you up to speed on how we, as a community have struggled with the concepts of civility and freedom of expression. It is something that past Senate Presidents have attempted to tackle. One of the clear challenges that we are facing is when the political arguments make students feel unsafe. This was some of the critique of recent events on campus. I would encourage you to try and find a way out of this.

Kear: we have talked with the Chancellor about these issues and we will working on solutions. Thanks for raising that John.

V. Report of Senate President, Robin Kear *(submitted in written)*

Welcome to our new Faculty Assembly Members and our new Senate Committee members, chairs, and co-chairs. Welcome back to our veteran members.

The officers and I held our annual transition meeting in July and continued working on various items over the summer. But it was relatively quiet. I took a real vacation, meaning there were no meetings I just had to squeeze in, and also got COVID again. I hope that you had a chance to relax and rejuvenate yourself for the year ahead. I have heard of some COVID transmission now that we are all back together, and it seems it will become endemic and one more thing to guard ourselves against.

This year we are continuing the hybrid option for Faculty Assembly and Senate Council. We would appreciate if you try and use the Zoom option only if necessary; it is nice to see you in person. If you are on Zoom, please raise your hand if you want to contribute, and don't use the Chat function, not everyone can see that discussion. We will be asking anyone presenting information to Assembly or Council to do so in person.

I have a few topics to update you on:

New Leadership

- Here is one area where it was not quiet this summer. I am happy to be working with our new Chancellor and new Interim Provost. We are off to a great start. Please remember to stay for the Chancellor's reception after Senate Council.

Safety

- Faculty Assembly heard a very informative update from Ted Fritz about safety improvements made for Pitt over the summer. I encourage you to catch up via the University Times if you were not in attendance. At the CUPS (the Senate committee that includes Safety) meeting this week, they indicated that they would continue to monitor these and other improvements and concerns.

Faculty Representation on Provost Search Committee

- I gave a detailed account of the process for electing faculty to the Provost search committee to Faculty Assembly that I won't repeat. The new developments from last week are that the nominating committee met on Tuesday and we decided on the slates. These were sent out yesterday in a Read Green to all faculty along with instructions on how to submit a petition candidacy. Thank you to those who agreed to run.
 - Thank you to the members of the nominating committee for their brief and important role. John Stoner and Dawn McCormick for A&S; Matt Burton and Ben Bratman for the Professional Schools; Alejandro Almarza and Tom Songer for the Health Sciences; and Adam Cilli from Greensburg for the Regionals.

- A note about faculty eligibility, the Senate Office confirms the HR coding of any faculty who are being considered for the slate. The coding for the faculty member is maintained at the unit level, the Senate Office does not make that determination.
- On Sept. 26th faculty who are eligible to vote will receive a link directly in their email alerting them to the election they are eligible to participate in. **Please vote.** Faculty only vote in their respective area. There are two representatives elected from A&S, two from the Professional Schools, one from the Health Sciences, and one from the Regionals.
 - We will again run approval voting. “Approval voting: For each candidate listed you must click either APPROVE or NOT APPROVE in order to submit your ballot. You may select APPROVE for as many candidates as you would like.” Approval voting is more likely to select consensus winners.
- There is an incredible amount of administrative work behind the scenes that is done by Lori Molinaro and Linda SantaCasa to make this process work. Thank you.
 - We are also being assisted this year by Mary Jo Race and Laura Winters in the Chancellor’s Office. Thank you.

Summer Access to Services by Part-Time Faculty

- I heard of no major issues this summer. The new process for keeping ID access through the summer has worked great. I hope this has made a small, meaningful difference for our part-time and adjunct faculty. Thanks again to Pitt IT, HR, and the Panther Central Office for working with us.
- Thank you to Pitt IT, Panther Central, Human Resources and all others who worked to make these improvements.

Graduate Student Healthcare

- I discussed these changes last week in Faculty Assembly, as well as with Staff Council and with the GPSG President. I know there are mitigation measures in place, such as the [Pitt Student Health Insurance Medical Hardship Assistance Fund](#) and a new Task Force out of the Provost’s Office. Interim Provost McCarthy has agreed to add shared governance representation to that task force. For the long-term, the Chancellor has agreed to add the discussion of student health plans to the longstanding Medical Advisory Committee, which has traditionally discussed non-represented faculty and staff health plans. The Senate’s Benefits and Welfare Committee will also be discussing this issue in the near future.

University Policy Open for Comment

- There is one University Policy open for comment. [Access to and Use of University Computing Resources](#) - Available for comment from 9/13/2023 through 10/10/2023
 - This policy will be going through the Senate Computing & Information Technology Committee before coming through Faculty Assembly and Senate Council.

Interim Policy Edits

- There is an interim policy on Research Data Management that will be discussed in the Research Committee tomorrow at 1 pm.

Thank you all for your service and dedication to shared governance.

Any questions or comments on my report?

No questions.

VI. Reports of Student Members of Senate Council:

A. Student Government Board (SGB), Ryan Young

Hi everyone! My name is Ryan Young, I use he/they pronouns, and I serve as this year's Student Government Board President.

I am joined by our Vice President of Operations Sarah Siddiqui, Vice President of Initiatives Katie Fitzpatrick, Vice President of Policy Sarah Mayer, and Board Member Braydan Issermoyer.

I am very excited to be here in person today with our new Chancellor and new Interim Provost and am excited to see so many people in the room today!

I want to reiterate President Kear's remarks on COVID: many students are testing positive! I am recently out of my own quarantine.

Launched a new, streamlined website supported by University Communications to better and more easily handle open positions, allocations, updates, and more

Renovated our office to make it more accessible, especially for students in wheelchairs, and to accommodate our expanded Cabinet of Committees

Collaborated with the Frederick Honors College on a student-led project to install sunscreen dispensers around campus at highly trafficked areas.

Coordinated with the Students for Sensible Drug Policy group on an initiative with the Allegheny County Health Department to install Naloxone repositories around campus.

Collaborated with the sexual misconduct prevention team in the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion on their new SEED grant and on Welcome Week programming.

Began planning for several major upcoming events

- Planned a "Teal Gallery" with the new Support, Advocacy, and Prevention Committee to spotlight the art and writings of survivors of sexual assault
- Planned our "Fall Safety Fair" to educate students and staff about safety resources and healthy habits at Pitt.
- Began our annual planning of Pitt's October "Mental Health Awareness Month", coordinating events between 19 participating student organizations
- Began planning a new "Democracy Week" with a number of participating student organizations leading up to the November election to celebrate civic engagement

Hired two new student Civic Engagement Fellows in collaboration with the Office of PittServes to support our work promoting civic engagement on campus

Worked with the Office of Involvement and Student Unions to digitize the Allocations process on the new ExperiencePitt student organization management platform

Assigned and managed student storage and office space in the William Pitt Union and O'Hara Student Center for over 60 student organizations

Co-hosted the Forge Student Leadership Conference which brought together around 40 student leaders for networking and professional development

Released a statement outlining our concerns and calling for certain commitments from the University in the wake of the Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action and met with Vice Provost Marc Harding to discuss addressing these issues

Released a joint statement with Pitt College Democrats and Pitt College Republicans encouraging students to reach out to their representatives to support the passage of Pitt's annual appropriation in the Pennsylvania General Assembly

Authorized new Permanent Conditional Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees, and Task Forces

- Authorized a new permanent Support, Advocacy, and Prevention Committee working to prevent sexual misconduct and support survivors. This committee will serve as an It's On Us chapter at Pitt and we are very excited to partner with them.
- The Disability Resources Ad-Hoc Committee, originally authorized last year, aims to advocate for the needs and common goals of students with disabilities at the University of Pittsburgh.
- Also originally authorized last year, the "Renters First" Ad-Hoc Committee aims to address renter's issues and to educate student renters about tenant rights, responsibilities, and resources, increase awareness of the unaffordable, low-quality housing problem in Oakland, and advocate for policies/laws that improve the student-tenant experience.
- The "Students of Color in Solidarity Ad-Hoc Committee" will work to build a network amongst communities of color at the University of Pittsburgh.
- The "Single-Use Plastics Task Force" will work to reduce and eliminate the use of single-use plastics at the University of Pittsburgh
- The "Pitt Workers United" Ad-Hoc Committee aims to empower and uplift the voices of student workers, and all workers, at the University of Pittsburgh
- Finally, the "Future Planning" Task Force shall deliberate on and recommend updates to SGB's structure, policies, and procedures to better and more efficiently achieve the goals of the organization.

We just closed our First Year application, which includes two spots reserved on the Allocations committee and our 15 person First Year Council.

B. College of General Studies Student Government (CGSSG), Skyler Cheevers

Hi everyone, good afternoon! To reintroduce myself, my name is Skyler Cheevers, and I am the President of CGS SG!

I wanted to start off by thanking everyone for your continued support in the College of General Studies Student Government; as always, any efforts to advance our organization are greatly appreciated.

So far this semester, CGS SG has put a lot of work into trying and get our name out there, and up our representation on campus. In August, we tabled at the Student Activities Fair, where we were able to recruit four new members to our board, which we are extremely proud of.

I also had the opportunity to hand out goodie bags to CGS students during their first week of classes. It was great to see students stop by the McCarl Center, get to ask them questions about their classes, and again, get CGS SG's name out there to students!

Next Friday, September 22nd, we will be hosting our annual Welcome Back BBQ outside on the Posvar Patio (if the weather permits) from 3:00pm-6:00pm. There will be a catered menu, music, games, and raffles, and CGS SG is looking forward to hosting! An email was sent out to all CGS students on Monday regarding the event, and it looks like we are going to have a great turnout!

Looking forward, next month we will be hosting a "College: Expectations vs. Reality" event for Mental Health Awareness Month on October 25th in the William Pitt Union. It is going to be centered around the idea that a lot of stress and anxiety in college students (especially underclassmen) stems from the idea that college is going to be this amazing place right off the bat, and that students will easily be able to balance their school, extracurricular, and social lives right away. While this is absolutely possible, we recognize that for the majority of students, this is not the case. That said, CGS SG will have a panel of students speaking on their own personal experiences, faculty member Sean O'Connell will give a presentation pertaining to the topic, and, of course, we will provide refreshments! We are really looking forward to this event, and are hoping it leads to great discussion!

Also, in regard to Mental Health Awareness Month next month, CGS SG is looking to host self-defense lessons with the Pitt Police! Some of our board members have participated in something similar in the past and really enjoyed their experience. That said, we think this would be a fun and informative way to teach students how to be safe on campus! I mean who couldn't benefit from learning how to adequately defend themselves?

We also have two other events for this semester that are still in the planning process. The first is for Non-Traditional Students Week in November; we have been working with Pitt alumni on planning a digital exhibit on the 3rd floor of the Hillman Library to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ASL/CGS SG. We are really looking forward to this event so stay tuned for updates on that! The second is just some little care packages that we will be handing out during midterms and finals for students to stop by and grab in between study breaks!

Overall, CGS SG has been working diligently on planning fun leisure events for students, and just spreading the word about our organization! We are trying our best to place an emphasis on the fact that we are here to serve the students, and are excited to continue to do so throughout the academic year!

Thank you!

No questions.

C. Graduate and Professional Schools Student Government (GPSSG), Claire Dunning
I am Claire Dunning, the executive administrator with the GPSG.

Next week we have an assembly Board meeting where we will be hosting the representatives of all the graduate schools. There will be refreshments provided and some issues that have come up for graduate students will be discussed.

We are planning a coffee hour with free head shots for graduate students. We have an upcoming Pirates Game and we have a great response for that.

No Questions.

VII. Report of the President of the Postdoctoral Association, Rachael Rush (submitted in writing)

Hello Senate Council Members, as the new president of the UPPDA and I would like to first thank you for once again allowing the postdoctoral community to be represented in these meetings. I'd also like to welcome Chancellor Gabel and state that we are excited and look forward to working with you and the rest of the community.

The UPPDA held elections this past spring, and our new board is posted on our website. We had our executive board retreat with the office of academic and career development this summer and are starting to work on some exciting projects and events.

We also co-hosted the Post Doc Data and Dine symposium with the OACD in May which had a record number of abstracts and attendees. 10 travel awards were distributed to post docs and professional headshots were also offered.

National Postdoctoral Appreciation Week is coming up next week, starting on Monday. The UPPDA will be

1. Hosting a town hall to welcome the new year, introduce the UPPDA, and go over important information for post docs including the UPMC health plan, Life Solutions, and other resources available to them through the OACD, the Provost's Office, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Office of International Services.
2. Distributing snacks and coffee to postdocs at areas around campus
3. Hosting a social hour to provide an opportunity for post docs to meet in person to network and socialize

We are also in the middle of organizing the annual postdoc picnic which was last held in 2019. It will be taking place October 4th at Schenley park.

In the year to come, we will be maintaining the work of the previous board by continuing to discuss

1. Fringe benefits
2. Retirement classifications
3. Utilizing the results of culture climate survey conducted last year to address the greatest concerns and needs of Pitt postdocs, including continuing the international postdoc mentoring program initiated by the previous board
4. Advocating that the resources developed during Covid be used to provide a more flexible and inclusive work environment for postdocs and other colleagues to thrive in while maintaining a work-life balance

New goals identified by our board are

1. Creating a post doc handbook with guidance on mentor/mentee relationships from a post doc standpoint
2. Returning to in-person programming to allow for more opportunities for community building and networking amongst our postdocs

We look forward to sharing our progress with you over the next year and we welcome any suggestions for things our postdoctoral community can do to give back to the university at large. Thank you.

VIII. Report of the President of the Staff Council, Lindsay Rodzwicz *(submitted in writing)*

1. **Welcome to Chancellor Gabel.** We're looking forward to working with you!
2. Busy Summer for Staff Council Since We Last Met at Senate in May:
 - a. Elected **Staff Council New Committee Chairs of 5 standing committees.** Thank you to our Elections Committee Chair, James Miller, and his committee, Melissa Evanko, Carolyn Falk, Jocelyn Runyon, Tristian Luchetti, and Jess Townsend for making this possible.
 - External Relations:**
 - Chair- Dianne Mares
 - Vice Chair - EJ Milarski-Veenis
 - EDI:**
 - Chair - Andy Stephany
 - Vice Chair - April Kwiatowski
 - Operations:**
 - Chair- Jessica Townsend
 - Vice Chair -Deb Whitfield
 - Staff Life:**
 - Chair - Jeremy Biroscak
 - Vice Chair- Pete Chambers
 - Vice Chair-Kenny Doty
 - Vice Chair- Sam Young
 - Staff Relations:**
 - Chair -Barb Klipa
 - Vice Chair-Recorder-Sharon Joyner
 - Vice Chair- Jess Thomas

B. We welcomed **25 New Staff Council Members** from across campus! We are excited to have them work with us in shared governance at Pitt!

1. **Jason Adams**
2. **Gregory Allen**
3. **Kristin Amos- Abanyie**
4. **Matthew Bocchi**

5. **Gwen Buchanan**
6. **Karen Butler**
7. **Casey Clipper**
8. **Jennifer Cooper**
9. **Zachary Davis**
10. **Kathryn Ferguson**
11. **Shannon Fink**
12. **Sarah Fischer**
13. **Janae Gans**
14. **Marcie Johnson**
15. **Andrew Lang**
16. **Helen Kondrich**
17. **Dacia Mace**
18. **Sarah McMullen**
19. **Emily Nally**
20. **Anna Reinhard**
21. **Kelsi Schaer**
22. **Shannon Suchta**
23. **Karoline Swiontek**
24. **Lindsey Smith**
25. **Stacey Williard**

- b. **Hosted 4 great informational sessions for the Pitt community.** If you haven't yet attended a Coffee and Conversation, for an intimate discussion with a member of administration – we look forward to seeing you this fall! Or if anyone is interested in being a guest and hasn't yet gotten on our schedule, please let us know.

Staff Council Coffee and Conversations: Heather Lyke, Pitt Athletic Director

In case you missed this fantastic interview with Heather Lyke, please view below!

[Watch presentation here](#)

Staff Council Spotlight: Ted P. Fritz, Vice Chancellor of the Office of Public Safety & Emergency Management and Lt. Brad Kiefer

The Office of Public Safety and Emergency Medicine shared with us a “sneak preview” of new safety and training modules. These modules will be sent to University Communications for the Fall 2023 Semester.

[Watch presentation here](#)

Staff Council Coffee and Conversation: Dr. April E. Belback, Director of Student Success

In case you missed the opportunity to engage in this opportunity to chat with Dr. Belback, please watch the video link below.

[Watch presentation here](#)

Staff Council Spotlight featuring, Maureen Beal, CPA Associate Vice Chancellor, Financial Operations, CFO

Mureen Beal and associates discussed important topics such as new payment terms with vendors, system access forms and even Anthony travel.

[Watch presentation here](#)

- c. Thank you to the over 1500 individuals who attended **Pitt Day at Kennywood** and to all those who volunteered to make it happen. It was a great way to connect with staffers from across the University and our regional campuses. We're excited that we can already invite everyone to **Save the Date for Pitt Day @ Kennywood next Saturday, June 22, 2024.**

3. Concerns of ERP

- a. We were disappointed to hear that after 18-month assessment the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Assessment project will be put on hold until at least summer of 2024 due to changes in executive leadership at Pitt. Many staff spent countless hours on this project and it is a much needed upgrade to our outdated systems. It places a continued burden on staff, hurts morale, recruitment and retention, and creates much inefficiency at the University due to lack of a modern and integrated platform.

4. Congrats/Accolades (One individual, One unit and One University)

- a. **Congrats, McClure, Christine Lynn on her Strong Women, Strong Girls Award!**
https://www.pitt.edu/pittwire/accolades-honors/mcclure-strong-women-strong-girls-award-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=T%20815%20DPT%20hybrid%20Enceladus%20mission%20pitt%20seed&utm_content=T%20815%20DPT%20hybrid%20Enceladus%20mission%20pitt%20seed+CID_e09dcbf9ecb38a89a62f197334821f69&utm_source=CM%20Pittwire&utm_term=Christine%20McClure

- b. **Congrats to the School of Nursing on their Breast Feeding Friendly Place Award – We hope that we can bring their best practices to all of the University and all Pitt units!**

If you weren't aware, the School of Nursing was recently selected as a recipient of an honorable mention/runner-up for the 27th Annual Allegheny County Breastfeeding Friendly Place Awards for their commitment to providing a designated space and resources for parents in need.

- c. **Kudos to Pitt being named again as one of America's Best Large Employers by Forbes for 2023.** Thank you all for what you do to contribute to creating an environment that is recognized on a national scale. In the spirit of continuous improvement, we look forward to working with you all to make Pitt an even better place to work over the upcoming academic year!

5. Upcoming SC Events:

Staff Council Spotlight: Gabrielle DeMarchi, Assistant Director of Community Affairs, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs

Thursday, September 21, 2023, from 12pm to 1pm on Zoom

Here at the University of Pittsburgh, staff are eligible to receive paid time off each month to participate in community service or volunteer activities. The Office of Engagement and Community Affairs can help you and your department get matched to an appropriate opportunity in our greater Pittsburgh community, and help you discover the University's Signature Days of Service that occur throughout the year. Learn more about our next upcoming Signature Day of Service, Civic Action Week, and much more on civic engagement and how you can make a positive difference in the civic life of communities like Oakland and beyond.

Register Here: https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0c2nmcNRBncxGkK

ALSO - SAVE THE DATE FOR CIVIC ACTION WEEK IN OCTOBER (October 16 - October 21, 2023) – STAFF COUNCIL WILL BE PARTICIPATING that Friday with the in-person service events.

Staff Council Coffee and Conversations:

Join us for coffee as Sam Young, Vice-Chair of Staff Life, sits down with James Gallaher, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources to discuss his path to Pitt and goals. **September 28, 2023**, from 10:30 am to 11:00 am at Alumni Hall, Auditorium, 7th Floor.

If you can't make it, our sessions are recorded and will be posted after the event on the Staff Council website under [events](#).

Register Here: https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_09hrb5D8dioCN94

Staff Council Tailgate: Who is ready for some Panther Football?

Saturday, **September 23, 2023**- Panthers VS Tar Heels

Stop by our Staff Council tent, we'll have free food, lawn games, and t-shirts (limited quantity and for staff only w/ Pitt ID).

Tailgate Registration -->

https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8psW1ipoW7LChHU

Discounted Football Tickets --> <https://offer.fevo.com/pitt-football-vs-north-carolina-unc-7whveog-7291122?fevoUri=pitt-football-vs-north-carolina-unc-7whveog-7291122%2F>

Indigenous Cultural Festival: Stop by the Staff Council table at the mini-Pow Wow!

Wednesday, **September 20, 2023**, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Schenley Plaza!

For more festival information: <https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/events/indigenous-cultural-festival>

Stop by the **SAFETY FAIR – OCTOBER 3...we'll have a SC table there!**

https://calendar.pitt.edu/event/sgb_fall_safety_fair_and_ehs_fire_safety_day?utm_campaign=widget&utm_medium=widget&utm_source=University+of+Pittsburgh

Our next **SC General Meeting** will be on Wednesday, Sept 20 at 12 noon via Zoom.

Staff Council General Meeting: The 3rd Wednesday of every month

If you have any questions, please email sc@pitt.edu

Register Here: https://pitt.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_82jGwkUwae37XUi

All are welcome to any of our events and you can register through the Pitt Events Calendar.

This concludes our report. Thank you.

IX. Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate
None

X. Unfinished Business and/or New Business:
None

XI. Announcements
None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55.

Documents from the meeting are available at the University Senate website:

<https://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/senate-council>

Respectfully submitted,
Penelope (Penny) Morel
Secretary, University Senate

Members attending: Adams, Bell, Bonneau, Bonner, Burton, Cheevers, Cousins, Cutsumbis, Dallal, Damiani, DeJong, Fitzpatrick, Fort, Gabel, Gregerson, Jenkins, Kanthak, Kear, Lemery, Mahboobin, Mauk, Mayer, McCarthy, McCormick, Melnick, Molinaro, Morris, Murtazashvili, Parker, Reed, Rodzwick, Rush, Rutenbar, Sastry, Shekhar, Siddiqui, Songer, Stoner, Swigonova, Szypulski, Washington, Young

Members not attending: Almarza, Archibald, Behera, Jacobs, Jones, Kohanbash, Lewin, Massanelli, McCullough, Nguyen, Pitetti, Potoski, Schmidt, Scott, Shafiq,

*Excused attendance: Bratman, Morel, Tudorascu

Others attending: Amato, Ayars, Brown, Conner, Dostilio, Ducar, Dunning, Finder, Haldeman, Harding, Harris, Hitter, Issemayer, Jones S., LaBar, Lancia, Lippert, Massimiani, Panzella, Pelt, Pickett, Richelieu, Roadman, Rose, SantaCasa, Staresinic, Stonesifer, Supowitz, Suvak, Washo, Wells

* Notified Senate office