Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes 2700 Posvar Hall June 5, 2012

Topic/Discussion	Action
<u>Call to Order.</u> President Michael R. Pinsky called the meeting to order at	The meeting
3:00PM	commenced
Approval of the Minutes . President Pinsky asked for approval of the Faculty	The minutes
Assembly Minutes of May 1, 2012	were approved
	as written.
Introduction of Items of New Business.	
No New Business	
Report of the Senate President Michael Pinsky	
This will be my last report to you as Senate President. I've been elected	
Vice President of the University Senate twice and President of the	
University Senate three times. It's been my honor privilege to serve as	
your president and I thank you, and the faculty in general, for allowing	
me to serve in this role for the past three years.	
 It's not been a quiet three years: 	
 The Mayor trying to tax student tuition 	
 City bus routes cut, limiting access to the University for students and 	
staff	
 The G-20 Summit Meeting and its associated campus disruptions 	
 Two rounds of budget cuts by the Governor on State support of 	
Higher Education	
 And recently the bomb threats 	
 We have endured and continued growing stronger as a public/private 	
research institute of Higher Education.	
 We also had a faculty handbook revision to specifically list that 	
community service, if it resulted in durable knowledge, would count	
toward academic advancement. This chance was central to the	
University – wide development of community service related programs	
and the creation of CERTS (Community Engagement for Research and	
Teaching thru Service)	
 The threats from outside the University have created a greater strength 	
of camaraderie across school lines. Still, the forces of change and the	
world's economic realities demand that we remain diligent, proactive as	
we strive to sustain collegial shared governance.	
 We also need to focus on the forces from within, making sure that due 	
process, followed by collegial disclosure remains for all discussions. It is	
my sincere hope that we continue to work directly and proactively with	
the administration and others to sustain the gains we have realized.	
 I still maintain that the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh is the 	
University's most prized resource. We must have internal obligation to	
maintain academic freedom, academic conduct and academic	
responsibility.	
 There are two brief reports: Tenure and Academic Freedom 	

Committee and Benefits and Welfare Committee

- Sadly our good friend and colleague, John Close, faculty assembly representative from the Dental School died unexpectedly at home last month. We wish his wife Donna strength and courage in the months that follow. His passing leaves a hole in the Faculty Assembly that will not easily be filled. I would ask that we have a respectful moment of silence in John's name.
- Finally, with summer upon us we will not have a Faculty Assembly or Senate Council meetings in July or August. When we do reconvene in September it will be with Professor Tom Smitherman as President, Professor Jim Becker as Vice President and continuing as Secretary Professor Linda Frank.
- I want to thank my Vice President, Pat Weiss, for two years of capable service and wise council. I also wish to thank Linda Frank, our Secretary, for our year together and wish her good fortune next year when I take on the role of Immediate Past President.

Comments/Questions

No comments

Continuation of Unfinished Business

Continuation of discussion of suspension of 3 graduate programs in Arts & Sciences: Chaired by John Baker who will give a brief report; reports by Chairs Edwin Floyd, John Lyon, and Linda Penkower; followed by discussion

Report of John Baker

- Background report (distributed) drawn heavily from AAUP letters sent to University Times and Provost.
- On April 5, 2012 the administration of the Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences suspended admissions to graduate programs in German, Religious Studies, and Classics at the University of Pittsburgh. This has been well documented in newspaper articles, letters, and petitions. (Handout lists 12 such articles.)
- The Pitt AAUP letters document that the A&S Deans decision to suspend admissions graduate programs in German, Religious Studies, and Classics was made without any prior consultation with the chairs of these three departments and without specific review and approval by the Arts & Sciences Planning and Budget Committee, by the Dietrich School Graduate Council, or by the University Planning and Budget Committee.

The essential facts are listed

- On April 2, A&S Deans Cooper and Carr met with the 3 department chairs to inform them that graduate admissions to their departments for FY 12-13 might be suspended in a few days. The chairs had no idea that their departments were being reviewed by the dean's office. When they asked for an explanation they were given a copy of the Arts & Sciences document "Focusing for the Future: Strategic Plan for FY 2013" dated March 30, 2012. No justifying data for the suspensions was given.
- On April 5, deans Cooper and Carr met with the chairs individually to inform them that no new students would be admitted to their graduate programs for the foreseeable future. For the first time the chairs were

- shown some data about their departments that the deans used to evaluate their doctoral program and suspend graduate admissions to it. They had limited opportunity to refute the data or defend their respective programs.
- April 19, the Arts & Sciences document "Focusing for the Future: Strategic Plan for FY 2013" dated March 30, 2012 was distributed to Arts & Sciences department chairs. It revealed that Arts & Sciences was planning to focus resources on a smaller number of its best doctoral and master of fine arts programs and asserted general criteria for doing so (parts cited in handout.)
 - "the graduate education choices we must make require consensus as to appropriate criteria, processes for judging programs according to the criteria, and timelines for implementation.
 - the criteria we are adopting are as follows: scale of program, as measured relative to National Research Council criteria; cost of the program relative to the graduate education goal; whether the program generates high levels of net tuition revenue; quality of the program as judged by quality of incoming students; graduation rate; student honors; student placement; strategic national placement of the program; external perceptions of the quality of the program as evidenced in peer evaluations and popular rankings such as US News."
 - "The next step will be for the deans to review relevant programs and determine which must be suspended. This will happen in the next few weeks so that applicants for the current admissions cycle can be informed well in advance of the decision date of April 15th."(Note: this document was distributed to Arts & Sciences chairs on April 19th two weeks after letters had already been sent to applicants to the three affected departments informing them that admissions to these departments had been suspended).
- April 20 Dean Carr sent a memo to graduate students in the 3 affected departments telling them that over the past semester the Arts & Sciences Graduate Office had been reviewing all doctoral programs and evaluating them according to several criteria. He listed essentially the same six criteria as above. Dean Carr's memo also stated that these criteria and other related issues were substantively discussed at several meetings of the Dietrich School Planning and Budget Committee, at the Dietrich School Graduate Council, although there was no specific articulation of the general terms of evaluation with individual departments. The Dietrich School Deans made the final decision to suspend admissions.
- On May 8th, Dean Cooper sent a letter to Arts & Sciences department chairs stating that, "Last week (May 1) I shared with you data that the deans considered in applying those criteria (listed above), especially on costs over the past 5 years of all of our doctoral majors in terms of years of base budget support per doctoral degree granted, information on numbers of doctoral degrees awarded across the 5 year period, and qualitative facts related to certain programs. Those data have been also

- shared with the Planning and Budget Committee which endorsed how the criteria had been implemented."(**Note**: Thus the Arts & Sciences department chairs did not see the specific data used to evaluate doctoral programs and suspend admissions to the 3 graduate programs until May 1. Dean Cooper also omitted that consultation with the Arts & Sciences Planning and Budget Committee was also *ex post facto*).
- May 17: In her May 17 response to the Pitt AAUP letter in the University Times, Provost Beason stated that specific language for the annual planning document regarding allocation of resources from graduate programs that did not meet specified criteria, some quantitative some qualitative, was agreed to at the March 16th meeting of the Dietrich School planning and budget committee. No specific programs had been discussed at that point. But at its April 27 meeting the committee reviewed data that the deans of the school had developed and used to suspend admissions to the three programs. The PBC formally confirmed at that meeting that the deans had appropriately applied the agreed upon criteria in moving forward to implement the reallocation strategy (Note: Provost Beeson admits that the consultation with the Arts & Sciences PBC on the specific data used to suspend admissions to the 3 graduate programs in Arts & Sciences occurred on April 27).
- The lack of significant faculty involvement in the decision to suspend admissions to the 3 graduate programs in A&S is alarming because it is not only a serious lapse in shared governance at the University but also a disregard of and failure to follow key important established policies and procedures of the University.
- The 1995 Guidelines for Review of Academic Planning Proposals require that all planning proposals must be reviewed by the appropriate academic units and academic responsibility centers as well as by the responsibility center's planning and budget committee and relevant departmental PBCs. These requirements also apply to planning proposals arising from outside the normal planning process due to unforeseen circumstances.
 - Section 1-A of the guidelines (in handout) lists 10 steps and many sub-steps that must be included in proposals. They include such things as a three year budget, how it's going to affect the departments.
 - Section 1-B: Termination of Majors, Degree Programs, Academic Programs have similar requirements. (See Handout)
- Suspension of graduate admissions to programs certainly qualifies as a substantially modified program. Yet none of the required planning steps was followed in the case of the 3 graduate programs in A&S whose graduate admissions were suspended April 5. Time constraints and budget considerations undoubtedly played some role in the administration's failure to follow planning guidelines.
 - Working conditions on campus last spring were also trying due to the numerous bomb threats and disruptive building evacuations that occurred.
 - The State had announced a likely 6.8 million midyear rescission on

- its FY12 appropriation to Pitt.
- Gov. Corbett proposed a 40 million dollar or 30% cut in Pitt's FY13 state appropriation.
- o The State cut is capital project appropriation by 20 million.
- These committees were working under very bad conditions; I think we all agree to that.
- In her May 17 response to the Pitt AAUP letter in the University Times, Provost Beason wrote, "At this point, admission to the graduate programs has only been suspended while the dean's office engages in conversations with the chairs and other members of the faculty concerning the future of these programs. Any proposal to close programs that results from these discussions will undergo appropriate review in accordance with both the Guidelines for Review of Academic Planning Proposals and the Planning and Budgeting system."
 - Thus the Provost agrees to follow the University's planning guidelines if the 3 graduate programs are closed and also states that conversations will occur with the chairs and faculty concerning the future of these programs.
- This conversation in A&S needs to occur because it is not at all clear that
 the data the deans used to suspend graduate admissions to German,
 Classics, and Religious Studies considered all of the relevant factors and
 therefore may have been incomplete.
- I think the criteria the deans used are criteria that you would want to consider if you were going to evaluate a program. The issue I was trying to raise in the steps that follow is that those criteria may have been incomplete. (See handout thru page 6)
- Perhaps the most important question of all is whether Pitt can continue to be a world class public university without graduate programs in Classics, Religious Studies, German, and whatever other graduate A&S programs that may end up being eliminated as a result of these reviews.

<u>Dr. Pinsky:</u> What we hope to do now, we've been informed by the senior administration that they are going to be following this policy and doing open discussion with all the different departments going forward and so nothing is cut in stone, so to speak. But at this point we felt it was appropriate in this forum to allow the three department chairs to come and present.

Report of John Lyon, German Chair

- President Pinsky has asked that I summarize briefly how these suspensions will affect our department and concerns for the future.
- History
 - Our department put its PhD on hiatus in the 1990s and reinstated it in Academic Year 2001.
 - We produced our first PhD in AY2008. Additionally in 2008 we had 3 TA/TF lines cut and we were given the direction to focus more on our PhD program, which we did.
 - Since then we no longer admit terminal MAs, we enforce graduate student milestones strictly and we have significantly reduced time to

degree.

- Data trends demonstrate the important changes in our program since 2008, yet these were ignored in a decision based on aggregate data from 2005 to 2011. There was no consideration of how things had changed during this time.
- This history contextualizes current successes of our graduate program which have increased dramatically since 2008. Suspending admission at this time impairs future successes.
 - Regularizing the production of PhDs to an average of one per year,
 which is respectable in a department with only 8 slots
 - Having our graduate students present regularly at national conferences and publish papers
 - In 2008 Zsuzsa Horvath, our graduate students received, the Flaherty Prize from the Goethe Society of North America.
 - In 2010 Boryana Dobreva won a dissertation fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies, one of only two students in German Studies nationally to do so.
 - Our students regularly win fellowships at Pitt and in recent year these have included the Mellon, the Irvis, the Cultural Studies Fellowship, the European Union Center of Excellence Fellowship, and the Berringer Excellence in Teaching Award.
 - In addition our program has attracted highly qualified students in a competitive environment.
 - Current students have turned down offers from the likes of Stanford, the University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina, and other top rated schools in our field to study at Pitt.
- Suspending our graduate program would phase out a program that is just reestablishing itself as an important PhD program in its field.
 - Suspending the graduate program will also harm our undergraduate program, which is strong.
 - Not only does it show sustained strong enrollments but it shows an overall increase in majors, certificates, and minors as an aggregate over the past decade.
 - Our beginning and intermediate language students beat national average on standardized language tests. This is due to the strength of our TAs & TFs and their coordinator.
- To replace TA/TF with non-tenure stream faculty would damage our language program. Currently this program is staffed primarily by TAs & TFs who, as part of their training meet weekly with the coordinator.
 - Such coordination would be difficult with NTS faculty, which would negatively impact the consistency and continuity of the language program which gives it its strength
 - There is a limited pool of candidates who would accept an NTS position and unlikely to be the most qualified in the field.
 - Such disruption to the continuity and consistency of the program would imperil the successes we've achieved.
 - Suspension of the graduate program is also certain to impact the faculty makeup of our department.

- Future hiring will be difficult to attract topfaculty if we cannot offer them the chance to teach/supervise graduate students.
- This suspension will also impact our collaborative endeavors with other programs and departments at Pitt, such as,
 - o An annual Pedagogy seminar with French and Italian
 - An annual Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory seminar with French, Italian, and Slavic
 - Together with these departments and Hispanic we offer an annual Job Market and Preparation Workshop
- Other programs at Pitt also depend on a strong graduate program in German as we work closely with the European Union Center of Excellence, the European Studies Center and to suspend the graduate program in German would make it more difficult for them to qualify for Title 6 and similar grants.
 - The recently established PhD in Film Studies at Pitt is structured as a union of programs in national films of independent programs. There is no PhD in film alone but only in film and respective cultures.
 Removing German from this program would limit the breadth of its appeal and would harm the Film Studies program.
 - The German Department recently established a reciprocally funded graduate level exchange with the University of Augsburg in Germany.
 - To suspend the graduate program in German also send a message about Pitt's commitment to German and European studies
 - The fact that the three programs are humanities programs sends a message the Pitt does not value the humanities
- The justification for the suspension is financial. Yet the financial impact of the suspension is not significant enough to outweigh its detriment. After hiring NTS faculty to replace TA/TFs any excess funds will be allocated to other departments. To cut it will not increase efficiency.

Report of Edwin Floyd, Department of Classics Chair

- It is, to my mind, there is a certain, I would say, slightly deceptive rhetoric that's been used by the administration in this: it is an ongoing process, everything in on the table now, nothing is definite.
- Actually the suspension of admission to a graduate program is pretty definite: it impacts the program now, it gives a very bad message to the current graduate students. Examples of student reactions:
 - "Will I be allowed to continue?" The official answer is, "Of course, all commitments to current students will be maintained."
 - "I'm afraid that I won't be able to finish my PhD here."
 - That's going to impact me negatively. I'll be a graduate of a defunct program. I'll be a graduate of a program that has been labeled by its University to be very poor."
 - "I will go elsewhere."
 - Two points that John Lyon made that I will simply reiterate as being the same in Classics, with variation.
 - The connection with other programs; in the case of Classics there is an important joint program in Classics, Philosophy, and Ancient

- Science sponsored jointly by the three departments, Classics, Philosophy, and HPS which is unique in the United States
- In Classics, as in German and Religious Studies also, the program is actually cost effective.

Report of Linda Penkower, Religious Studies Chair

Before I begin that I would like to say a few words about the field of Religious Studies in general.

- In our opinion religion is important. It is meant as a sociological observation, a fact about history, and a view of culture and society
- It is not a theological claim or a normative judgment but important in virtually every culture and society in the world, it is a vital part of both the humanities and the social sciences and has long been debated in relationship to the natural sciences and therefore should be studied objectively in a research university.
- The study of religion is moreover multidisciplinary by design
- We are one of the most collaborative departments within the Arts & Sciences, crossing departments in humanities and social sciences.
- Some would argue that religion has become less important in today's commodity culture and thus there is less of a need to produce future scholars and teachers who can talk and write about religion in an objective and contextualized fashion. Perfunctory look at any newspaper tells us otherwise, whether in the Middle East, Asia, Latin America or right here in the United States.
- The Department of Religious Studies at Pitt is the only secular institution of higher education to offer a graduate program in Pennsylvania, except for Temple and University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and in Ohio.
- Our program has significant value to the region and the diversity of religious groups present in Western Pennsylvania through its migration history makes the region a laboratory for advanced research.
- The suspension of our graduate program not only effects the training of religionists but also impinges on the drive for excellence in other departments and programs in both the humanities and social sciences at Pitt, which is the centerpiece for the state admission of the University.
- The suspension of the graduate program in Religious Studies would negatively impact the future prospects for Title 6 in uses.
- As a smaller department we have addressed perceived problems.
 - Beginning 7 years ago we have taken measures to strengthen our program that have begun to bear concrete results.
 - Redesigned graduate program around thematic rubrics which have resulted in greater diversity among students enrolling in seminars.
 - Made hires that enhance expertise areas increase national profile.
 - Strengthened our relationship with Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with whom we have had a 30+ year program called the Cooperative PhD Program in Religion that is now also defunct
 - Worked hard to recruit faculty interested in religion at CMU to officially affiliate with the department.
 - We have installed measures to improve timely progress to the PhD

- degree and this year graduated 3 PhDs with a median time to degree of 7 years.
- In 2008, the last time there was a major overhaul of TA/TF allocations, then Dean Constable awarded us with an additional slot bringing our total number to 5 where most departments were actually cut.
 - At the end of 2011 she further converted \$10,000 worth of tuition remission, which was part of a 1980s agreement to establish the cooperative program in religion and was of very little use to us in today's economy, and converted it into two tuition remission slots.
 - These very small investments in our graduate program have made a world of difference and have allowed us to begin to make multiple year fellowship packet offerings to entering students
 - Our students have proven highly competitive in internal and external funding including Mellon's, FLAS Awards, Chancellor's Fellowships in Chinese Studies, Mitsubishi Awards, Fulbrights, Louisville Foundation Fellowships in Religion, publications.
- It also creates a two tiered system within a research institution that will affect our ability to attract and keep the caliber of faculty that Pitt wants and needs. I worry about our endowed chair, my midlevel faculty who are well established and desirous of graduate students, and of my tenure-stream faculty
 - Another concern is the impact on the undergraduate program.
 AY2012 was typical of the past 7 years; the faculty, which numbers 10 with the assistance of only 5 TA slots, serviced 1,849 undergraduates filling 93.4% of our total seating capacity and averaging 49.9 students per section.
 - In my estimation we more than pay for ourselves with the tuition generated by teaching more than 5500 undergraduate credit hours.
 - A suggestion has been made by Dean Cooper that TA slots may be replaced by a non-tenure-stream faculty
 - if we had 1 NTS slot, I do not understand how we replace or split up larger courses into smaller sections which currently involve courses such as Religions of Asia, Religions of the West, Religions in Modern America, Early Christianity, Orthodox Christianity, Philosophy of Religion, Religions of India. Adding NTS to replace Tenure/Tenure Stream faculty goes against the stated mission of excellence in teaching at the University, it lacks consistency
- In closing, even before the suspensions were announced the department was thinking seriously about how to redesign a new direction for the program based upon budgetary concerns and the interdisciplinary nature of the current educational scheme.
- We also appreciate the financial restraints the University is under and are more than willing to do our part. Suspending a graduate program, however, has repercussions to the department and to the University that well may outlast the current fiscal crisis.
- And while we do not doubt that the dean gave serious consideration to his decision we would have hoped that there had been a larger

discussion both in print and in a public forum that not only addressed procedure but addressed what a liberal arts education means in a public institution.

<u>Dr. Pinsky:</u> So that we're clear, what we are concerned about is the process by which the decisions were made and the feeling we have that the administration didn't follow in our opinion, based on what Prof. Baker showed, the due process that was necessary. I hoped by your giving of your descriptions that, this is the argument you'll have to make within the Arts & Sciences, not to us. Comments:

Are there Tenure Stream Assistant Professors who are going to impacted by the closures

 Assurances have been made by Dean Cooper that the tenure stream will not be affected.

<u>Prof. Muenzer:</u> While we're certainly aware that the process is still ongoing and while we properly urge that all decision-makers follow procedures and allow faculty governance to play its role in that process. None the less decisions that have been already made whether called temporary or not have immediate, and long lasting impact on our departments. If that suspension continues through the fall we will have entered yet another year without graduate admissions and thus are already killing those programs.

<u>Dr. Pinsky:</u> I've invited Dr. Juan Manfredi from the Provost's office who's with the A&S Graduate program and I would ask him if he wouldn't mind commenting on the process by with one would reinstate a program or not and how we are going to go forward.

Statement by Dr. Juan Manfredi, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies

- I want to say that we are at the beginning of a process. The admission of new students has been suspended. As I understand now the Dean and the Chairs are discussing future options. As the Provost said in the University Times article, we are committed to and expect to follow the guidelines in full detail. No decision will be made without following the process described in the planning and budgeting system and the guidelines for review of academic programs.
- Prof: Bartholomae: I've been in the English department since 1975 and chaired the department for 14 years. I know these departments and I know their quality and importance and centrality and I would confirm everything that the three chairs said when they talked about what it would mean to have a significant humanities program at a major research institution. But I want to make a different argument and the crucial thing is that we preserve the quality of our undergraduate programs. And as I look at the state institution, many of them are balancing the books by raising enrollment in required lower division undergraduate classes. And I've been very proud to be able to report that that hasn't happened on my campus.

<u>Dr. Bircher</u>: I'd like to thank or colleagues for coming in and presenting to us today because not all of us have the luxury of knowing these departments well but I wish to commend them for their scholarly efforts and furthermore for the vigorous defense of those scholarly efforts in this particular context. Just looking through Prof. Baker's report it is striking to see a paragraph quoted regarding "choices we must make require consensus" followed by an edict about how that consensus will be formed. In my view that is a striking misstep with respect to shared governance. Hopefully the Provost will be able to steer this process back to a process which actually does require consensus in the formation of criteria, one, and two for decision making.

<u>Dr. Pinsky:</u> Thank you. I can say that this is within the school of A&S, so this is not university wide, but that I was told that collegial following the procedures and open discussion is absolutely what's going to happen going forward. And my personal hope on my side is that whatever is done is done in the balance to make sure that the entire A&S accomplishes what it wants without sacrificing the humanities.

Special Committee Reports

Budget Policies Committee: Chair John Baker

- Senate Budget Policies Committee is a very active committee. Many of our meetings are reported in the University Times. We do a number of things that are quiet important. (Mission Statement - see written report.) We make a budget recommendation to the Chancellor which was done at May 21 meeting in closed session and was reported in the University Times.
- The very useful tool for looking at the financial health of the University and its major responsibilities is the revenue and cost attribution study.
 - This is compiled for the University Planning and Budget Committee.
 It calculates revenues and costs for each of the University's major responsibility centers.
- One of Budget Policies biggest concerns the last few years has been
 whether Pitt's annual salary increase pools are adequate enough over
 time to allow most new assistant professors to reach the higher average
 salary levels of Pitt associate professor then full professor as they move
 up the academic ranks over their career at Pitt. I had a "Senate Matters"
 column on this February 3, 2011. It looked at the effects of three types
 of raises.
 - It shoed that an assistant professor who started at year one (1995) at the average salary for the rank (\$44,000.)
 - If they received the full allotted amount of Pitt's annual salary increase pools every year for 15 years to 2010, they would end up with a salary in 2010 of \$68,638 dollars which is below the average salary for an assistant professor in 2010.
 - This analysis was criticized for being too simple and flawed and it's
 probably true so I think those are valid criticisms but this did lead to a
 confidential cohort analysis on faculty salaries at Pitt which was done
 by the Provost's office and was shared with Senate Budget Policies in

a closed meeting (the study remains confidential)...

- The second Tenant (see handout.) To achieve our goals we have 3 different annual reports that are prepared by the administration.
 - An Annual Report on Mean and Median Salaries of Full Time Employees discussed February 20 and reported in the February 23 University Times
 - An Annual Analysis of Salary Increases for Full Time Continuing Faculty, sheduled for our March meeting but interrupted by a bomb threat and discussed in closed session at May meeting.
 - An Annual Report on Average Salaries of Faculty and Librarians: a Peer Group Analysis which will be discussed this fall.
- Two other tenants of the Planning and Budget system (see handout) deal with the topic of today's agenda, the suspension of graduate programs, because Budget Policies is charged with
 - Responsibility of reviewing whether PBS processes are followed
 - Whether all constituencies are provided with adequate opportunities to participate in the process
- So Budget Policies will monitor whether the Dietrich School Deans follow all the required planning steps in the 1995 Guidelines this fall when they review these programs.

Comments:

Are there routine checks for compliance?

<u>Baker:</u> Budget Policies is charged to do that. We have done it periodically in the past but we don't do it every year. By checking for compliance what we do is to make sure that the committees are meeting as they are supposed to and that a majority of the voting members are elected members.

<u>Pinsky:</u> Internal audits are not done by Budget Policy committee. That's done by the University itself.

Bylaws and Procedure Committee: Chair Nicholas Bircher

- The Bylaws currently stipulate that the president produce a written report on August 1st of every year. In all candor it has been several years if not more than a decade since that has happened.
- The alternative which has evolved is the University Senate website which
 now serves very effectively not only to keep track of the minutes of the
 Faculty Assembly and Senate Council but also to keep track of the
 minutes of the committee meetings and what's going on there.
- Given that we have a procedure that's already in place, we are not particularly compliant with the stipulation. The intent of producing this written report is to provide a comprehensive description of the activities of the University Senate that is already met by the existing website
- The Bylaws and Procedure Committee reviewed the proposed amendment:
- Substitution of language in Article 6, section 4
 - "The executive committee shall report the activities of the senate to all members by posting on the senate website meeting notices,

meeting minutes, reports, newsletters and senate matters columns generated by the executive committee, faculty assembly, senate council, and/or senate standing and special committees."

- The bylaws committee has reviewed this and unanimously proposes this as an amendment to the bylaws.
- In an operational sense you could make the claim that this is an
 editorial change to the bylaws representing something that we are
 already doing but the language is substantively different so

Call to vote: Carried unanimously.

University Press Committee: Chair William Chase

- This was the 75th year of the University Press.
- The Press also put what was called the Pittsburgh Reader; selections of 75 years of titles, distributed free to funders.
- The University Press committee meets twice a year and met in October and considered 5 book projects, endorsed all of them for publication and reviewed the Pitt Poetry Series.
 - At the February meeting we considered 2 new book projects, both endorsed; reviewed the Latin American Series and endorsed under the editorship of C. Conaghan and C. Chasteen.
- During the year, I'm counting 2 books coming out this month; there are 43 titles that were published.
 - The most active series were poetry; we produced 12 titles, Russian and Eastern European studies, 8, Composition, Literacy, Culture, 7.
 - O That's an impressive number for a moderate size university press.
 - More impressive is that we won 4 awards in areas of; Modern Language Association, Alan Noble Book award committee, Central Eurasian studies, the Shelly Memorial Award.
 - One of our former authors won a Nobel Prize for Literature.
- This year Cynthia Miller, the director of the Press, announced she's going to retire in February 2013. Under her leadership
 - It has entered the electronic world actively.
 - She's been crucial to a lot of digital publishing projects
 - Worked closely with the University library systems so that digitization and print are going on simultaneously.
 - Patty Beeson has appointed a committee which is chaired by Alberta Sbragia, the Associate Provost, and there are three members of the University Press Committee as well as others.

Announcements.

 Senate council will be meeting Wednesday, June 13th at 3:00pm right here in 2700.

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at. 4:32PM

Respectfully submitted, Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN Associate Professor, GSPH Senate Secretary

Members attending:

Baker, Balaban, Bartholomae, Beatty, Beck, Bircher, Bonneau, Chase, Cohen, Constantino, Costantino, Fabian, Flynn, Frank, Frieze, Gallagher, Galloway, Harbert, Hravnak, Kear, Kearns, Kelly, Kovacs, Lunsford, Lyon, Miller, Molinaro, Muenzer, Neft, Neufeld, Pinsky, Rickman, Shaiman, Singh, Slimick, Smith, Smitherman, Sukits, Tananis, Terry, Weiss, Wendell, Wilson Withiam

Members not attending:

Barker, Bauer, Berkowitz, Caldwell, Chiarulli, Clermont, Daley, Feuer, Gleason, Greenberg, Lin, Looney, Mulcahy, Munro, Pan, Redmond, Rougeux, Savinov, Skledar, Smoliniski, Spring, Steinberg, Towers

*Excused attendance:

Becker, Buchanich, Burkoff, Chaiklin, Culley, Gaddy, Hartman, Kane, Labrinidis, Majumdar, Savoia, Sereika, Song

Others attending:

Blair, Brush, Fedele, Floyd, Hart, Manfredi, Novy, Penkower

*Notified Senate Office