

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Topic/Discussion	Action
<p><u>Call to Order</u> 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><u>Approval of the Minutes of the November 16, 2016 Senate Council Meeting</u> Minutes were approved as written.</p>	Approved.
<p><u>Items of New Business</u> No items of new business were raised.</p>	None raised.
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</u></p> <p>Chancellor Gallagher distributed his written milestone report to the Senate. He reflected on the end of the Fall semester, and wished students well on papers, exams, and faculty the best on closing up the semester.</p> <p>The first update from the Chancellor was to keep Senate Council abreast of actions of the Board of Trustees. There are a few notable items: the budget Committee voted on authorizing the university to issue taxable bonds. This is significant because if it proceeds, the way university facilities are funded moves from tax-exempt to taxable bonds. The advantage is that the university will have full latitude to use resources. The Development Committee has been looking at Pitt for Life and revising some of our giving activities.</p> <p>The Chancellor also introduced the state budget topic. He stated that this is going to be a rough year. The budget deficit at state level is still there, and has grown. The election results at the national and state levels are in, and the legislature now has veto-proof majorities in both houses. There will either be a major breakthrough on this revenue balance, or a bad budget year. This will be factored into work of the Planning and Budgeting Committee. A state cut is something we will have to contemplate. The opposite side of the coin is also being promoted as well – to grow the economy and education.</p> <p>The Chancellor then provided his end-of-year reflection and next-year projection. Two days after the election, he shared themes with the community about the election via a memorandum. He noted that the issues that drove people to vote do not go away at the end of the vote. The things we are facing as a nation are big issues: social justice, race, gender, globalization, trade, role of government, economy, healthcare, climate change, etc. These are monumental issues that require serious engagement. The things we espouse at the University related to impact and working on relevant issues, and disseminating information and engaging involvement, are going to be vital to making progress on these issues. His letter reflected a different feeling in the country after the election that exposed profound differences – the feeling was negative, personal, acrimonious, and often carried out through demeaning personal attacks. That dynamic made the election feel different and made emotions of all of us raw. His letter said that we will all need to engage. He noted that a month after the election, it still feels different. Headlines are different, about fake news, misinformation, role of social media, conflict, not of much substance, uncertainty, and these are difficult in our environment, and are thus playing on peoples’ fears. In some sense, this external environment is a challenge to us. We face a stark choice – we either succumb to this and do the same things or we fight against it and maintain our environment where people</p>	No comments were raised.

come together in a substantive way and not delegitimize those with different views. The media hype will want to do the opposite. This is a key moment for our University. It will say what kind of community we are and what impact we could have. The right answer is to double-down on what makes us a great university to tackle the issues head-on to study them have dialog and debate, and teach and persuade. If we do that and demonstrate that we can, we will have the greater impact. The answer lies in our core purpose and values as the university. The Chancellor shared a personal observation that the number of requests and demands that come across his desk for position statements is at an all-time high. He noted that a Chancellor wears many hats. The core one is to protect and advance the university and its mission and everyone who is part of the university community. If you think about what makes a university different than other institutions or corporations – in many cases the institution takes a position (ex. government) and then an action occurs. On issues, a university can have people on all sides of an issue. It is people within the institution that take the positions, not the university itself. That is a good thing -- that people are unencumbered to move forward and make a difference. The Chancellor fights for our ability to take these positions. The rights of our university community are to do that. We need to be careful to know that the administration is not the antagonist, but there are limitations on what the administration can do – we want the faculty and staff to be the ones to act.

To end on a positive note, and in the spirit of doubling-down on what we do best, the Chancellor stated that we will create a forum for engagement – seminars, panel discussions, teach-ins, debates, etc., on the big issues we are dealing with to allow us to have people be thoughtful, constructive and substantive in advancing the dialog and the issues. We should be the example of how people with different thoughts can come together and reason to try to find a solution. This is what we should focus on. The Chancellor wished everyone well during finals season and with their family/friends this holiday season.

Report of Senate President, Frank Wilson

President Wilson reported that everyone should read the last few issues on the University Times, and look at the reflective sections on how we feel individually and as a Pitt community on these changing times. Many of the issues the Senate has been dealing with have been contentious, but this is not a bad thing. He reemphasized to the students that activism is rising, and he is encouraged by that, meaning that we are at a place that can shape us in the future. He reminisced about his college days and how they helped to shape him and made a difference, and that this is how he feels the environment is where we are today. It is a very important time in the world and the times are changing the way we teach and act. It is also a frightening time for us individually. He noted that he is going to do all he can to follow the suggestions of the Chancellor as we move into the next year.

Regarding the Faculty Assembly meeting last week, we had a second serious discussion about the new consensual relations policy for the university. The policy did not pass. There was no disagreement in the serious and thoughtful debate that took place, and all agreed with the intent of the policy. There was an aspect objected to, related to due process and appeal. In the week that followed the Assembly meeting, we have had a lot of interaction to figure out what do to next, and he noted that this is not a breakdown of shared governance, but it is a bump in the road and actually shows how shared governance can work. A policy will be passed that makes sense, and we will be able to say the road was bumpier than we thought, but it made us think about other issues that go along with our policy and process. This is a good thing. We are also thinking of other aspects of or policy review process and other policies in a different way. There will be the new consensual relationships policy will come for a vote in January of 2017. We will have another action n to consider that is an

No comments were raised.

<p>example of smooth change related to the research policy, that we will address later in the meeting today.</p> <p>President Wilson also mentioned the second-annual academically based community engagement event was held for those who do community-based applied research. The range of research is dramatic and sharing experiences was very good. The meeting also focused on community engagement centers, a new idea from the Senior Vice-Chancellor’s Office for engagement, and defining these Centers will be a focus of this session and upcoming year. The University presence can make a difference in people’s lives. This is a very positive development at Pitt. He also mentioned that the Provost’s Senate committee for core values has started to work on a core values statement for the University. The group felt this is really important to do this now, especially with what is going on in the world. We need to be more sure of what we share as our core values for a public university. Faculty at Pitt Bradford have already begun this process, and reaffirmed their core values at their last Faculty Assembly and Senate Council meeting. Schools and Departments need to be focusing on this also.</p> <p>Lastly, President Wilson wished everyone a happy and rejuvenating break.</p>	
<p><u>Report of Student Members of Senate Council</u></p> <p><u>Student Government Board (SGB)</u> <i>Natalie Dall, President</i></p> <p>Natalie updated that Board Member Sam Jankowitz and Academic Affairs Chair Ricky Hollenbach spent the first three evenings back from Thanksgiving Break tabling in Towers Lobby and Hillman with information on extended hours for all of the libraries on campus. On Wednesday, November 30th, they held the first Panthers and Politics event of the year. They hosted four people from the Mayor’s Office, Councilman Gilman’s office, a local political consulting firm, and a state Senator’s office to discuss how students can become more engaged in local politics. On Saturday, December 3, Natalie reported that she had the opportunity to meet with the newly selected members of our Communications Department, which was recently created by our Communications Director Kara Boutselis. These students specialize in all forms of media ranging from video content to writing press releases, and will play a large role next semester during elections season to get students engaged with SGB process. At their last Public Meeting, they introduced a bill from the Elections Committee to update the Elections Code and Committee Bylaws in preparation for their election season next year. That bill will be voted on at their first Public Meeting of next semester, and this year’s SGB campaign will begin February 1st with election day on Tuesday, February 21st. After receiving 30 applications and interviewing 18, SGB selected 11 first-year students to make up our new First Year Council. These students will have the opportunity to work closely with our Committees and Board Members over the next semester, and will help bring a fresh voice and source of brainpower to the office. They will be meeting with the full Council for the first time next semester to orient them all to SGB and our ongoing initiatives.</p> <p><u>College of General Studies Student Government (CGSSG)</u> <i>Jessica Sevcik, President</i></p> <p>Jessica reported that here have been several changes that have occurred within CGS that have affected CGS SG. She updated on student government changes, current student success stories, and then brought to our attention the unfortunate situation of a fellow CGS student struggling to reach the finish line.</p> <p>The McCarl Center in CGS recently received news that director Adam Robinson will be</p>	<p>No comments were raised.</p>

leaving the University. This unfortunate news deeply affected CGS SG as he was not only our staff oversight, but our mentor and friend. Taking his place will be graduate intern, Elyse Okwu and her supervisor, as well as the support of Associate Dean Christina Ruggiero. Their next mandatory meeting with all SG members will be held on Wednesday, January 4th @4:30 PM. This will allow every member to become familiar with the new staff and reconvene at the start of the Spring semester. Recently CGS SG put together brown bags filled with bottled water, NutriGrain bars, lunch and study tips to help CGS students stay nourished before finals. This is always a great success before finals and brings students into the McCarl center.

Additionally, CGS SG is in discussion with Kevin Zedack from the Pitt Program Council in regards to developing a financial agreement between CGS SG and the Pitt Program council to allow our CGS students to attend their larger events. This will be a benefit for our students because they will have more opportunities to attend other events that may work better with their busy schedule. Moreover, this will be an opportunity for CGS SG to assist in other school events that might not have been thought of. The CGS recently spotlighted Joseph Kosky. Joe is currently majoring in Media and Professional Communications, and he is also a graduate of the Dean Institute of Technology's HVAC program in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology. Like many other CGS students, Joe works a part-time job and maintains membership in Pitt activities. In his future plans, Joe would like to work for Pitt.

Finally, Jessica shared a story about a fellow CGS student, Chastity West. She is currently on her second try at Pitt, but despite her nearly 4.0 GPA, is unable to financially remain as a student. Chastity is a single mom with two kids working part-time at Barnes and Noble and does her best to make ends meet. Due to recent changes in her personal life, Chastity will not be able to afford the additional expenses that come with being a student such as; books, transportation fees, and school supplies. As a member of the Pitt Sustainability Group, this issue hits home for me because this is a critical element of sustaining a future for nontraditional students. In my experience from talking to other nontraditional students, the most common detriment to their motivation and dedication to graduate is a financial challenge that they cannot overcome.

Jessica ended her report by noting that Spring Semester will essentially be a new beginning for CGS SG filled with bright opportunities that they look forward to.

Report of Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG):

Vice-President Salim Malakouti attended the meeting and reported for the all GPSG officers listed below:

Justin Saver, President, GPSG

In November, GPSG hosted their annual formal. This year the event was themed "Casino Night" and around 400 students attended. GPSG is working with their Event Planning Committee to plan programming into the coming term. Additionally, over the winter break, they will begin to plan for the annual climate survey that they hope to distribute to graduate students in late-January. Additionally, they are planning for the research symposium at Pitt Day in Harrisburg in March. At the beginning of the year, they will be working with Community and Governmental Relations to reach out to all 14 schools to find cutting edge research projects and posters for the event that will be able truly show the legislators what a great research institution Pitt is. Over the break, they will also be renovating one of their rooms in the William Pitt Union. By outfitting the room with new furniture, they hope to provide GPSG organizations a useful working space.

GPSG is excited to announce a new partnership between GPSG and the Pitt Program Council. Graduate and professional students will now be able to attend PPC programming. They are very excited to offer students an expanded selection of programming. This month, GPSG awarded 19 travel grants totaling \$7377. As a mid-year check, they have spent 38% of their total budget, including subsidiary cultural groups spending. Additionally, this month, GPSG launched a portal to help facilitate feedback between the student body and graduate student representatives serving on University-wide committees. This form allows committee representatives to submit questions asked by their committees and solicit feedback from students. They are excited about this opportunity for growth and to work towards one of our long-range goals of opening channels of communication between students.

Their cultural organizations are also busy planning events for next semester. GOSECA, the eastern European student organization, is working to plan their annual conference in the Spring. Additionally, next Saturday, the Iranian Student Association will be celebrating the longest night of the year and the winter solstice. This traditional holiday is known as Yalda Night. To conclude, GPSG is excited for the upcoming events across the graduate schools and are looking forward to what the new year will bring.

Corbin Powlus, Schools of the Professions

During the end of November and the beginning of this month, the Professional Schools have been wrapping up this semester's efforts and gearing up to have a successful Spring term. Even though this is a hectic time of the year for everyone, the Professional students have remained tenacious in holding academic events, networking opportunities, and community building fundraisers since they last met. Rather than give a blended overview of what the schools have done, efforts of each Professional School individually were highlighted.

Respecting alphabetical order and the program he is a student of, the report began with the School of Business. As mentioned during our previous session, Katz held an International Friendsgiving event, in the spirit of the Year of Diversity. The food was incredible and the event was a success, and raised over \$300 that will be donated to The Education Partnership, a local education-based non-profit. More so, through The Education Partnership, the Business school has adopted the Pittsburgh Oliver Citywide Academy in the North Side, meaning they have pledged to donate \$2,500 to the school within the next year. The School of Engineering held recently held a game night at Benedum Hall to help students relax before final exams. Additionally, the Engineering school is in the process of electing new student board members who will serve the school throughout the 2017 Spring and Fall semesters. At the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, they have finalized their student board positions. As their first initiative, the new board members held an Ugly Sweater happy hour. Additionally, GSPIA has finalized their Funds for Student Initiatives planning, and is introducing eight new student groups in the next year. Staying in the social spirit, the School of Information Science organized a networking event with the Computer Science and Biomedical Engineering departments. With the announcement of the School of Computing and Information that will merge the CS and IS programs, this mixer was dedicated to providing students an opportunity to meet their new colleagues, as well as discuss new joint-research opportunities. The Law school has also been involved in fundraising, holding an event at Alex and Ani's jewelry store in Shadyside recently. The School of Social Work plans to hold an end-of-semester happy hour once finals are over, allowing students to get together and celebrate the passing of another successful term. As they approach the end of a yet another semester, it is inspiring to reflect on all Pitt has achieved this Fall. The Schools of the Professionals are dedicated to helping Pitt continue to make strides in this upcoming Spring term.

Jacob Kantorowitz, Schools of the Health Sciences

Jacob's report provided the introduction that he is a student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and has been newly elected by the GPSG Assembly Board to represent our Schools of Health Sciences. He reported that numerous Schools of the Health Sciences have put a profound effort towards fundraising and outreach campaigns. The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences planned a fundraiser around a Guatemala trip and raised a total of \$600.00. The School of Medicine had a fundraiser for the local free Women's Clinic and raised an impressive \$3,000.00. Additionally, The School of Pharmacy is currently working on an awareness campaign with Port Authority involving posting information regarding Diabetes on the buses themselves. The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences additionally have a spring open house to recruit new students.

Many Schools of the Health Sciences are preparing for their respective internal elections and outreach events for the following calendar year. Biomedicine is currently preparing for its interview season in January. Additionally, they are planning the next research symposium looking forward into the following calendar year. The School of Nursing graduate organization and the Nursing doctorate organizations are combining so that they may more easily work together towards common goals; additionally, there has been a reduction of nursing doctorate students (6 to 3 students), so they mutually felt the lack of need for two separate representative organizations. Even with exam season approaching, the Schools of the Health Sciences have found time to blow off some steam with an assortment of exciting social events in and around campus. Schools in the Health Sciences have recently had bowling nights, ice skating events, interdisciplinary social gatherings, and open houses to foster a positive moral through to the holidays.

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

Andy Stephany

At the end of the semester, SAC reflects on the accomplishments of the past term and looks forward to the next. Andy reported that SAC would like to thank the staff members and Council here for a great semester, but there is still work to be done. Staff will be here next week and, some over recess, to make sure campus is clean, safe, and facilities continue to operate. Thank you to the staff whose Winter Recess is not quite the respite that others get to enjoy. SAC also would like to thank the University for following through with the salary increases that were offered to come into compliance with FLSA regulations. Employees elsewhere were not all as lucky – some of our closest neighbors had their offered salary increases withdrawn once FLSA was stalled.

SAC hosted two Brown Bag events since the last meeting: one on Intermediate Level Reporting in November – Cathy Lewis from FIS presented. It was very well-attended by staff members eager to learn and improve their job capabilities. SAC really enjoys getting to facilitate staff education and professional development. They welcome any suggestions for education topics or opportunities to gather their passionate staff. The second Brown Bag discussed Holiday Cultural Traditions with the discussion based on Pitt's own Nationality Rooms. Michael Walter presented. SAC thanked both of their speakers.

SAC would like to acknowledge a couple of staff-initiated movements on campus: 1) a Department Manager work group has been meeting and discussing ways to streamline usage of the record-keeping and reporting software that is utilized differently by different schools and departments on campus 2) a self-motivated group of staffers (Jennifer Weaver, Nancy Harter, Tom Berkhoudt, Elly Bresz, Yvonne Brewster, Jean Zak, Holly Gergely) is working to establish the Committee of Research Administrators (CoRA) to help fellow research

<p>administrators test maintain their certification. SAC appreciates their dedication to the University of Pittsburgh and their fellow staffers. Their efforts deserve to be recognized and SAC wants to know about other staff members that go above and beyond as well.</p> <p>Last week, SAC announced the winner of our Book Fund scholarships at Chancellor Gallagher’s Staff Recognition Ceremony. SAC received 21 completed applications from students at four of Pitt’s campuses. Our recipients were Nathaniel Buettner (mother Amy Buettner in University Child Development Center), Richelle DeBlasio (mother Weiping DeBlasio in Education and Compliance Office), Meg Flores (Lori Flores in Facilities Management), and Patrick Germovsek and Keeley Germovsek (mother Melissa Enlow-Germovsek in Cardiothoracic Surgery). It was SAC’s pleasure to reward their hard work.</p> <p>Separately, SAC would like to congratulate and thank SAC “tenured” staff for their dedication and service to the University. Staff members with 20, 30, and 40 years of service were recognized at the event. It is amazing to think of the changes that the University has undergone during their time of employment. SAC’s Strategic Initiative ad hoc committee has wrapped up with data collection phase by completing external interviews. Members of SAC have met with several people in this room and they appreciate the time and insight into SAC role on campus. The committee will now analyze the data and produce a report by the end of January. The SAC Steering Committee has voted to establish the Elections committee that will oversee a vote on new officers in the spring of 2017.</p> <p>Regarding FSLA, the Chancellor updated that the FLSA amendment was stayed at the government level. The University noted that the HR team is actively looking at these consequences and additional changes may need to occur.</p> <p>Please send all SAC correspondence to us at sac@pitt.edu. Do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions, comments, or concerns.</p>	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate</u></p> <p>Research Committee <i>Professors Penny Morel and Pat Smolinski, Co-Chairs</i></p> <p>This is the second year of the newly formed Senate Research Committee. They meet monthly and receive information from the Vice-Provost for Research and Vice-Provost for Research Conduct and Compliance. They provide input and review new policies related to research endeavors. This is first of several new policies being presented from the new Research Committee. This is a new policy today on research integrity.</p> <p>In April 2016 the Research Conduct and Compliance Office (RCCO) established an <i>ad hoc</i> committee to review the University’s research integrity policy (Policy 11-01-01, adopted October 15, 2008). The review committee was convened and chaired by George A. Huber (Vice Provost Research Conduct and Compliance), and included Jerome L. Rosenberg (former Research Integrity Officer), and Craig S. Wilcox (current Research Integrity Officer). The outcome of the review was an updated policy that incorporates several improvements and better aligns University policy with current practice and relevant federal regulations.</p> <p>The main changes from the previous policy are: (distributed earlier, not read aloud)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allows the respondent (person alleged to have committed the misconduct) to object to the choice of the deciding official and appeal to the Provost. - Now addresses cases where the Dean (normally the deciding official) is the source of 	<p>The new policy was unanimously approved.</p>

<p>the allegation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allows any party to the proceedings to appeal the choice of the deciding official (Dean) and specifies that a different deciding official may be chosen by the Provost as needed to provide for a fair and competent inquiry. - Requires that the testimony at the Inquiry stage be recorded and a transcript be provided to the witness. - Requires that a respondent who is prepared to admit to an allegation be informed of their rights under the policy. - Explicitly states that anonymous allegations may be brought forward and they will be acted upon provided that sufficient detail is provided. - Strengthens the requirement that an audio recording record of the Investigative Board hearing be sent to the respondent. - Provides a simplified method for handling a case where the allegation is “not made in good faith”. The approach is modeled on methods commonly used at peer institutions. <p>The proposed policy was presented to the Research Committee for review at their November meeting. The committee requested some minor modifications and clarifications that were incorporated into a revised policy. The revised policy was voted on and unanimously approved by the Research Committee on December 2, 2016. This was unanimously approved by Faculty Assembly last week (week of December 5th).</p> <p><u>Wilson:</u> This comes as a motion for approval. Unanimous approval was gained.</p> <p><u>Gallagher:</u> Appreciation to the Research Committee was extended.</p>	
<p><u>Unfinished Business or New Business</u></p> <p>None</p>	
<p><u>Announcements:</u></p> <p>None</p>	
<p><u>Adjournment:</u> President Wilson adjourned the meeting.</p>	<p>Adjournment at 4:02pm.</p>

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:

Beeson, Cohen, Dahm, Dall, Dewar, Gallagher, Horowitz, Humphrey, Jacob, Labrinidis, Levine, Loughlin, Molinaro, Mulvaney, Phillippi, Ramicone, Rodzicz, G. Scott, Sevcik, Smith, Stephany, Tananis, Washington, Withers

Members not attending:

Clark, Gleason, Helbig, Johnson, Kanthak, Karpuzi, Kaufman, Kaynar, Kory, Leers, Muenzer, Mulcahy, Munro, Nelson, Rohrer, Schmidhofer, W. Scott, Swanson, Triulzi, Vieira

*Excused attendance:

Beck, Bonner, Bratman, Flynn, Gaddy, Harper, Kantorowitz, Powlus, Rigotti, Saver, Stoner, Sukits

Others attending:

Barlow, Becker, Casey, Connelly, Griffith, Malakouti, Morel, Rogers, Sahni, Smolinski, Supowitz, Walker, Wilds

*Notified Senate Office