

FACULTY ASSEMBLY AGENDA
Tuesday, October 29, 2013, 3 p.m.
2700 Posvar Hall

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Faculty Assembly Minutes of October 1, 2013
3. Introduction of Items of New Business
4. Report of the President, Michael B. Spring
5. Reports by and Announcements of Special and Standing Committees of the Senate

Anti-discriminatory Policies Committee
Professor Claude Mauk, Co-Chair

Budget Policies Committee
Professor John J. Baker, Chair

6. Unfinished Business and/or New Business

Questions related to research from Faculty Assembly
Michael Spring

At the next meeting of Faculty Assembly, Vice Provost Mark Redfern and some of the Senate appointees to research related committees will speak to Faculty Assembly. The discussion will be about the current state and future of research at Pitt. This is particularly important as Pitt continues its efforts to increase its recognition as a research leader. There are no particular items scheduled for discussion or presentation. Assembly may wish to identify issues they are interested in or concerned about. Here are some initial thoughts:

- Are the procedures for obtaining reagents from other universities optimal?
- What would make commercialization of technologies more attractive to faculty?
- Can we improve the process from award notification to research account creation?
- Can the process of various certification and conflict of interest attestation be improved?
- Is information about opportunities adequately distributed?
- etc.

Questions and thoughts about open and executive session meetings

Michael Spring

From time to time, the meetings of Faculty Assembly, Senate Council, and the Standing Committees of the Senate are held in Executive Session instead of their normal mode, which is open to the University Community. Section 4 of Article IV states:

Standing and Special Committees of the Senate shall meet regularly and report to the Faculty Assembly and Senate Council on matters in areas of their responsibility. They shall provide the Senate Office with the minutes (including the attendance lists) of their meetings, as well as with the dates and brief agendas of their forthcoming meetings. When a Committee meets in Executive Session, a statement of any decision reached and its supporting reasons must be provided to the Senate Office. Five members shall constitute a quorum. Section 7 states:

All meetings are normally open to members of the University community, although Standing Committees may meet in Executive Session when necessary and appropriate for dealing with confidential matters. The question for assembly is this. What are the implications of holding meetings in executive session?

- What gets reported and in what form?
- Who is allowed to stay and who must leave?
- What are members of the committee allowed to talk about?
- etc.

7. Announcements

8. Adjournment

FUTURE SCHEDULED MEETINGS

2700 Posvar Hall, 3 p.m.

Senate Council	Wednesday, November 6, 2013
Faculty Assembly	Tuesday, November 26, 2013
Senate Council	Wednesday, December 4, 2013