

Senate Council Meeting Minutes  
2700 Posvar Hall  
Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Topic/Discussion	Action
<p><u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order by President Michael Spring at 3:01 PM.</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:01 PM.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the October 15, 2014, Senate Council Meeting</u> Asked for approval of the October Senate Council minutes.</p>	<p>The minutes were approved as written.</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u> No items of new business were brought forward.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</u></p> <p>Jerry Cochran announced his plans to retire at the end of next month. His impact at the university has been remarkable. In his 20 years, he helped to spearhead over \$2 billion in capital projects to transform our campuses, which included the addition of nearly 3.6 million gross square feet of new space to serve our academic, research, student, and security needs. The Board of Trustees passed a resolution renaming the University’s Public Safety Building as the Jerome Cochran Public Safety Building. Art Ramicone will be taking on Jerry’s role moving forward, in addition to his current duties. I wanted to thank Michael and the Senate for organizing a timely and outstanding Plenary on Managing Research Data. The keynote speaker and panel of experts were excellent, and Plenary follow-ups are underway.</p> <p>As an example of the importance of data and information, the NIH last month awarded the University an 11-million dollar grant to lead a big data-to-knowledge Center of Excellence to learn how to better analyze huge amounts of data to discover more biomedical knowledge and improve patient health. The new PITT Center of Causal Modeling and Discovery includes researchers at PITT and CMU and the PITT/CMU, Yale and national team is part of this elite national team to receive this. Yesterday, the Katz School of Business was ranked 35<sup>th</sup> nationally; 13<sup>th</sup> in the Bloomberg ratings. Last year, we were not ranked.</p> <p>Regarding community service: Last week, we concluded the University’s United Way campaign and the unofficial total was over \$442K this year. This is students, faculty, staff, regional campuses, etc., participating in the campaign and supporting it with great volunteer efforts. There is “Pros in Motion,” a senior level marketing class, structured like a marketing agency, where Pitt CBA and SHRS students designed a marketing campaign for the United Way campaign this year. The Thomas Boulevard Soup Kitchen effort, the Pitt Spire facility management work team, and the “Yinz Give T-shirt” project are examples of proceeds and efforts contributed to the campaign. The Day of Caring occurred – we send thousands of volunteers into the communities. This year, over 250 faculty, staff, students, and alumni spent the day at 15 different communities in the Pittsburgh area working on 40 different projects. The Chancellor thanked all for their efforts. For Pitt Make-a-Difference Day, over 3000 students on 74 buses volunteered their time on a Saturday morning at 115 sites in the Pittsburgh area. This is a student-organized event. At Pitt Bradford, students provided 5000 hours of service hours; 266 students provided service of over 700 hours at the Titusville campus. It is great to see the commitment to service and the University giving back to the communities that we are part of.</p> <p>Key partnerships: The School of Public Health announced a million-dollar collaboration with</p>	<p>No additional comments or questions were raised.</p>

PA Department of Health to increase physical activity (walking, jogging, biking) across several communities served by several large schools. The School will work with local community leaders to mark safe and accessible walking routes and establish walking groups. The work with the Center for Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure to do walkability assessments to improve pedestrian egress and transportation and infrastructure planning for multimodal access for users.

There has been significant emphasis and passion on innovation in teaching. The SEA (Science Education Alliance) efforts in advancing genomics and evolutionary science received a 3.2 million dollar, 5-year grant to grow a laboratory-based biology research course initiated here at Pitt for freshman undergraduate research opportunity. It was formalized here at Pitt in 2008 and is now held at over 80 universities across the country and is growing nationally. Today, about 2000 students per year benefit. Over 4000 new bacteriophages have been cataloged, and the project work has co-authored over 10 scientific journal articles. A 2.9 million NSF grant has been received for undergraduates, to establish the Quantitative Undergraduate Biology Education Synthesis (the QUBES) project – to bridge the gap between teaching and biology for undergraduates to make sure they are prepared. The University Center for International Studies (UCIS) competed and received US Department of Education grants of 6.9 million dollars. Pitt has four centers recognized in this program: Center for Latin American Studies, Russian and East European Studies, the European Studies Center, and the Global Studies Center, and with those awards, Pitt now ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the country in the international area of study. Additional awards and grants were mentioned.

Observations: We celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition (CNBC). The White House has recognized this Pitt and CMU neuroscience research. This started with a gift from the Richard King Mellon Foundation over 20 years ago. Remarkable progress is being made. The 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University of Pittsburgh Jazz Seminar. Our students can learn from and hear the most talented jazz musicians in the world. A Pitt freshman in Bioengineering, James Misner, a tenor saxophonist, was recognized to win the Pitt/BNY Mellon jazz scholarship. Homecoming was a wonderful event. Alumni legacy laureate dinner celebrated lives of distinction for 10 outstanding alumni. The Career Fair and Prep Week at the Pete was a great success for hundreds of employers and students. Great energy there. I was able to talk to companies about why Pitt students are different and special. The program gets bigger every year. Also, the Salk Sustainability Symposium which launched an active year in sustainability, celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jonas Salk’s birth and tied well to our theme of sustainability and public health. I want to recognize SAC and the officers and staff organizations for their work.

I want to recognize Irene Frieze for her award of the 2014 Iris Marion Young Award for Political Engagement. This award recognizes individual contributions to social justice and democracy by Pitt alumni, faculty, staff, or students. Irene was honored for her leadership on the gender equity issues at Pitt. She was a founding faculty member of Pitt Women’s study program in 1972, which she directed from 1984-1989 and again in 1993. The program is now called the Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Study Program. She has been an active member of steering committee. Congratulations to Irene.

Report of Senate President, Michael B. Spring

1. **Intellectual Property Issues.** Hopefully, we are near the end of the process of making the needed acknowledgements and/or assignments of intellectual property rights. There have been Q&A sessions and Professor Dennis Curran shared his

No questions or comments were raised.

perspective via a letter published in the University Times. The faculty deadline for submitting the appropriate paperwork is November 21. I have had a couple opportunities to talk with both the Provost and the Chancellor about their thoughts on our policies on intellectual property. Again, the focus will be on asking how these policies impact the dissemination of knowledge discovered by faculty, staff and students as well as examining how well our policies encourage innovation. The Senate will make every effort to make sure that we solicit the broadest possible input into this process. The scope will be even larger so PITT can lead the nation to interact with the broader society on this issue.

2. **The Fall Plenary took place on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.** We are very pleased with both attendance and the faculty reaction to the topic: “Managing Research Data: Challenges & Opportunities at the University.” I continue to have as the greatest learning lesson this last 1.5 years regarding the knowledge that exists within our own campus. While Vice Provost Redfern and I have exchanged emails on next steps, other issues arising have delayed any actionable discussions.
3. **We continue to monitor activity on the Senate Website.** Pertinent to the IPR and Plenary issues there were numerous documents placed on the Senate site that helped to inform the discussions. Out of the approximately 1200 visitors since September 1, about 375 found their way to the IPR page and about 360 have made their way to the research data management page. The IPR page has grown in visits since the recent article in the University Times.

The Plenary was streamed live and it appears that the number of real time viewers increased from the one last year to 11 this year. Since the 23<sup>rd</sup> there have been an additional 9 views. The viewers who looked at the site viewed about 90% of the video.

4. **The special working group of tenure and academic freedom** focused on academic freedom and electronic media concluded their study and made a report to Faculty Assembly last week. Put simply, they found the existing University Policies adequate in light of some recent news stories. They felt that it would be appropriate to reaffirm the University’s position on academic freedom and to provide better information to faculty about the best practices and appropriate cautions that they may want to take as they express themselves in various digital media. It was also deemed appropriate to make sure faculty understand the focus and limits of support for academic freedom in contrast to the rights of American citizens to free speech.
5. **The expanded executive committee** met with the Chancellor on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. The conversation with the Chancellor was lively and broad ranging. There were two issues that have come up in a variety of ways that were among the issues discussed. First, one of the responsibilities that the Senate takes seriously is advising the administration on matters of University-wide concern. Sometimes, matters do not reach the executive committee or the relevant standing committee soon enough for us to provide feedback. We will be thinking about ways to make sure we get the appropriate faculty involved in issues at a stage where we can provide appropriate formative feedback. Second, as we focus on particular issues, it is sometimes more

<p>convenient to form special committees to focus on a given task. This can lead to less than optimal communication between all the involved parties. We have many committees, task forces, and ad-hoc committees. We will be thinking about how we can embrace such structures without losing track of the need to communicate with the involved Senate committees.</p> <p><b>6. There are also two ad hoc committees that are active</b> – We anticipate an update in December from the ad hoc committee charged with the analysis of university policies and procedures related to non-tenure stream faculty, both part-time and full-time with an eye to adjustments that may need to be made and positioning of responsibility for consideration of these matters within the standing committees of the Senate, as well as identification of issues not currently within the purview of an existing standing committees. A second ad hoc Committee has been formed to address the guidelines in current use for performance evaluation and salary reduction of tenured faculty in the University of Pittsburgh. This committee is in the process of starting its work.</p>	
<p><b><u>Report of Student Members of Senate Council</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Student Government Board Representatives: Michael Nites</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. October 18<sup>th</sup> was Pitt Make-a-Difference Day. We had over 3000 students come together to do service within our community. It was the largest day we have had. The chairs of the committees were recognized for their efforts.</li> <li>2. I have been working with Dean Humphrey, Kenyon Bonner, members of <i>The Pitt News</i>, and members of WPTS-FM Radio to collaborate on reorganizing the fourth floor of the Union to give space to other student organizations.</li> <li>3. The Student Government Board Election Day was yesterday, and I’m pleased to say that the student body passed a referendum that would create a Student Assembly as another part of Student Government Board. This Assembly will include leaders of many of the largest student organizations on campus. So now, when we say Student Government Board, we are referencing the entity as a whole. When we say, “The Board” we are referring to the President and eight Board Members who are elected at large.</li> <li>4. It was SGB Election Day yesterday and so I am also pleased to announce the results. The 2015-2016 Student Government Board President will be current Board Member Graeme Meyer. The eight Board Members are Nasreen Harun (who is the current Chair of the Allocations Committee), Everett Green, Meghan Murphy (who is currently a Board Member), Natalie Dall (who is the President of the Resident Student Association), Matthew Sykes (a member of the Allocations Committee), Lia Petrose (another member of the Allocations Committee), Jacky Chen (the only candidate to run a truly independent campaign), and Jack Heidecker (the President of Pitt Club Sports). Since Nasreen Harun received the highest number of votes, she will be serving as the Executive Vice President of SGB. She will be joined by Everett Green and Meghan Murphy to serve on Senate Council.</li> <li>5. The rest of my term will be spent transitioning, conducting chair interviews for some of the positions, and wrapping up some of my old projects before the end of the semester.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Travis Ritter: College of Graduate Studies</u></b></p>	<p>No questions were raised for the students.</p>

Most recently, I wanted to thank all of the veterans that have served. We did a role call at Heinz Chapel, and there was a terrific turnout for veteran recognition.

Workshops we have had have focused on non-traditional students and getting them involved and integrated. For example, including a MyPITT.edu workshop on how to use your student ID to get things and go to activities on-campus, and stay on-campus to explore the city. We had an open house in a “one-stop shop” at the Center here at Posvar, for example the OCC, the Pitt police, Pitt arts, Study Abroad, and others. Students could come in and find anything they need. Coming up is a Library workshop to integrate students to the on-line library system. We had our National Non-Traditional Student Week. We are one of the only campuses in the country to do this. We honor our non-traditional students with a separate school and a celebration week at Pitt. Our theme was Pitt athletics, with old movies and a great turnout. We have scholarship workshops and Call to Leadership workshops, Pitt pride, and celebratory with “Roc”, our Pitt mascot. Stop in our Center on the way out.

**Report of Graduate and Professional Student (GPSG): David Gau**

Good afternoon Senate Council members, it has been a pretty light month for GPSG which is great because it gave me a lot of time to catch up on my PhD work. I am in the middle of wrapping up experiments for two projects and have my PhD proposal to defend in a few weeks. If all goes well, I’ll be able to soon register for the magical course, FTDH. As we all know too well, however, any down time means that a surge is coming. One example is the 400 plus people we have registered for tours this weekend between the School of Rehab Sciences and School of Education open houses! I’m proud that the Trailblazers are still in high demand!

I would like to spend the rest of my time talking about some things that have happened around the graduate schools. Our graduate schools integrate themselves regularly with our community, both local and global, and these activities range from service to academic. Here are a few highlights from this past month. In the School of Pharmacy, a group of 50 PharmD students attended the American Diabetic Association’s Step Out: Pittsburgh edition. This was the first year they participated and raised \$1,119 which is pretty impressive for their first time. In the School of Law, students have the opportunity to participate in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The Vis (for short) is an international competition which trains law students in Bosnia and Herzegovina in national arbitration law. Professor Flechtner and Brand from the School of Law brought two Law students, Catie Shawley and Robert Gyenes, to help train students in arbitration for the competition. They just came back from Bosnia recently after working on the written portion and will be returning in February to help with the oral portion. The Biomedical Graduate Student Association, or BGSA, held their student research symposium last week which included a keynote lecture by Dr. Eric Green, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute. He spoke about the history of genomics and his predictions for the future of the field. Additional talks included were from students in the biomedical field.

I would also like to highlight some of the recent travel grants that GPSG funded. We fund 40-50 of these. Monica Barrientos from the School of Arts and Sciences will be presenting in Cuba to present her work in gender studies in feminine Hispanic literature. Theresa Koleck is presenting her work on using risk and protective scores to predict cognitive function in women with breast cancer at the 2014 International Society of Nurses in Genetics World Congress on Nursing and Genomics. Mathew Shibin will be giving multiple presentations on mathematical modeling on the signaling cascade in human embryonic stem cells at the 2014

American Institute of Chemical Engineers Annual Meeting. Sunny Tao is presenting at the International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy World Congress on the difference of metabolic profile of women in pregnancy with various conditions. Linda Vargas will be speaking in Bolivia on her experiences with working with children in the streets of Bolivia and in the US. She is actually also developing an organization here at Pitt called the Harmony of the Andes which will look to help children at –risk in Bolivia as a part of her experience. There are so many others I could highlight but we would be here for hours. As I said before, I am happy that GPSG can enable so many students in their academic career in a time where funding is tight on the department and school level.

Since last month, we have had another event-our largest event of the year: GPSG’s Fall Formal. This year it was held at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Oakland and had a 20s theme (Grad Gatsby or Great Gradsby). The venue has two different rooms that allowed us to have a large glamorous ballroom as well as a speakeasy with live performances, including two students who sang jazz music from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. We sold out the event and had to enable our waitlist. On the day of the event we had 86% attendance (650 students) and ended up being \$5,000 under budget.

Our final event of the year is coming up next week on November 20: GPSG’s Mockingjay. We rented out a theater at AMC Loews Waterfront 22 for graduate and professional students. It is the first part of the third movie in the Hunger Games tribology. The movie will begin at 10:00PM and premiere two hours earlier than to the public. This event is sold out.

Most interesting, we have learned that through GPSG programming events GPSG has been able to reach a large number of unique graduate students at the University of Pittsburgh. The same holds true this year. Thus far we have reached 909 unique students. To put that into perspective, last year programming reached a total of 1,252. Hopefully we can continue to bring the students together throughout the spring semester.

Arts and Sciences	98
Business	51
Dental	31
Education	21
Engineering	97
GSPIA	93
Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	83
Information Science	17
Law	35
Medicine	111

Nursing	3	
Pharmacy	96	
Public Health	113	
Social Work	60	
<p><b><u>Report of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization (GSO): Aisha Upton</u></b>  I've asked the graduate students in the GSO to let me know when they do awesome, phenomenal, exciting things.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Society of Ethnomusicology Conference is here at Pittsburgh this week, and while it is not labeled as an international conference, it is internationally represented. The University of Pittsburgh is hosting the conference, and so the music department's graduate students are representing the university in many ways. Current graduate students who are giving paper presentations are Sara Gulgus, Da Lin, Charles Lwanga, and Ashley Humphrey. Graduate student Hety Wong is in charge of the many student volunteers at the conference. Another graduate student, Meng Reng, is organizing the Thursday lunchtime concert which features local Irish music. Many other students will take part either through performances or volunteering. This is a really big deal for the music students and for the University, as the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences is sponsoring part of the conference.</li> <li>• A sociology graduate student, Ben Case, attended and presented a paper at the second international conference on human security. The conference took place at the University of Belgrade. Ben's paper will be published.</li> <li>• The students in Intelligence Systems have started a monthly peer-led forum to discuss careers, jobs, and how to succeed in graduate school.</li> </ul>		
<p><b><u>Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC): Rich Colwell, President</u></b>  As a veteran of Vietnam, I would like to thank the University for the veterans' event at Heinz Chapel. It was a very moving event.</p> <p>The SAC is in the process of starting elections which will take place in mid-June. Committees will form for this.</p> <p>Upcoming SAC events are the brown bag event and the Book Fund scholarships. The brown bag event is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, with the topic of "Wellness &amp; The 'Be Fit' Campaign." It will be presented by Dr. Renee Rogers, from the Department of Health and Physical Activity. The Book Fund received 22 applications for the Scholarship that is available to children/dependents of staff members of the University. We will award 5 x 500\$ and one \$700 scholarship. Recipients will be announced at the Staff Recognition Ceremony on December 15<sup>th</sup>.</p>		No questions for were raised.
<p><b><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees</u></b>  No reports.</p>		No reports.

<u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business</u>	
Nothing to report.	
<u>Announcements:</u>	
No new announcements.	
<u>Adjournment:</u>	
President Spring adjourned the meeting at 3:48 PM.	

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Skledar, RPh, MPH, FASHP  
 Senate Secretary  
 Associate Professor of Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy  
 Department of Pharmacy & Therapeutics

Members attending:

Abboud, Beeson, Buchanich, Clark, Colwell, Fort, Frieze, Gallagher, Gau, Groark, Hravnak, Humphrey, Juhl, Kear, Klein, Levine, Meyer, Molinaro, Nites, Poloyac, Ramicone, Ritter, Skledar, Smitherman, Spring, Supowitz, Upton, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Ataai, Brubach, Caldwell, Cauley, Dewar, Erickson, Gibson, Goodhart, Hughes, Karp, Kory, Lewicka, Lin, McKinney, Miller, Mulcahy, Munro, Nisnevich, Novy, O'Connor, Ramsey, Rodzwick, Savinov, Savoia, Shafiq, Slimick, Smolinski, Weinberg

\*Excused attendance:

Alarcon, Burkoff, Fusco, Gaddy, Kearns, Kovacs, Morel, Richey, Rosen, Smith, Sukits

Others attending:

Balaban, Barlow, Becker, Bonner, Clark, Costantino, Frisch, Horvath, Johnson, Keebler, Kubis, Olanyk, Moore, Sahni, Service, Walker, Wilds

\*Notified Senate Office