

**Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes**  
**Posvar Hall**  
**November 26, 2013**

<b>Topic/Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b><u>Call to Order.</u></b> President Spring called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.	The meeting commenced
<b><u>Approval of the Minutes</u></b> President Spring asked for approval of the minutes of the Faculty Assembly meeting of October 29, 2013.	The minutes were approved as written.
<b><u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u></b> President Spring asked if there were any new items of business to be brought forward.	No items of new business
<p><b><u>Report of the President.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Senate Elections for members of the UCIS Director search are completed.</b> With a 33% participation rate, the faculty elected four members to the search committee. They are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nancy Condee - Professor of Slavic and Film Studies</li> <li>○ Scott Morgenstern - Associate Professor in Political Science</li> <li>○ Josephine Olson - Professor of Business Administration</li> <li>○ Andrew J. Strathern - Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Anthropology</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Regarding the Ad hoc Committee on Non-Tenure Stream Faculty.</b> The Committee continues to develop as it involves the Senate Standing Committees and other constituencies.</li> <li>➤ <b>Regarding Sustainability.</b> Vice Chancellor Cochran is in the process of forming a new committee on sustainability and we have appointed with the recommendation of the Plant Utilization and Planning Committee, Professors Patricia Weiss and Kent Harries to represent the Senate.</li> <li>➤ <b>Regarding Standing Committees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Your motion to approve the change in name for the ADPC committee to the <b>Equity Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Advocacy Committee (EIADAC)</b> was unanimously approved by Senate Council.</li> <li>○ The <b>Admissions and Student Aid Committee</b> has not met this year given the maternity leave of the chair. I have asked Laura Fonzi to assume the leadership role in the interim and she will be convening the committee in the near future.</li> <li>○ <b>A request to the Bylaws Committee</b> has been made asking for a review of several matters related to the bylaws pertaining to the standing committees – i.e. when elections occur, how Senate Liaisons are appointed, etc. In addition, I have asked bylaws to provide some historical perspective on the evolution of the Standing Committees.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Regarding the Arts and Sciences Graduate Program Closures.</b> We have passed on to the Provost the remarks made at Faculty Assembly and note the submission of a petition circulated by Marianne Novy that contained one</li> </ul>	President gave the following report

hundred and nine signatories expressing concern about the closures. According to sources, no decision has been made by the Provost and discussions are ongoing.

- **Regarding the Senate Plenary**, a date has been selected – Wednesday March 19, 2014. We have tentatively focused in on a topic that will be something along the lines of *“The University in the Digital Age”*.
  - I have been soliciting input from a number of people regarding speakers and organizers.
  - The precise title and the agenda will be determined by an organizing committee.
  - I have asked a couple people to whom I have spoken to consider looking at the established seeds of new approaches to teaching and research that capitalize on the shift to digital technology.
  - There are some existing initiatives that have been ongoing in the University of Pittsburgh
- **Regarding Video of Faculty Assembly**, nothing has as yet been scheduled.
- **Reflecting on Senate involvement in Research Policy**, Vice Provost Mark Redfern will speak to the faculty assembly along with Senate appointee to the Conflict of Interest Committee --Mara Horowitz and our appointee to the University Research Council -- Kacey Marra.
- **Reflecting on public versus executive session meetings**, If time permits today I would like to hear your thoughts on how the meetings of Assembly and the Standing Committees are conducted. In particular, I would like to ask for your thoughts on the implications of holding meetings in Executive Session.
  - As a reminder, the bylaws state that this meeting, as well as the meetings of the Standing Committees are generally open to the full community, but may be held in Executive session. There are two primary reasons this occurs:
    - The matters discussed in the committee are of a sensitive nature and it is deemed best to hold those discussions confidentially.
    - The administration indicates that they do not feel comfortable exposing plans and thoughts for which Senate advice is sought but not in a public forum.
  - The decision to meet in executive session carries with it responsibilities of reporting and maintaining the ongoing confidentiality of what is communicated to whom.
- **This is the last meeting of this calendar year**, I would like to extend to each of you best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving in hopes that you, your families, and those you love stay well and enjoy each other and that our country continue to move forward. I wish you the blessings of religious observances in which you may participate. At very least, each of us shares one thing in common, the arrival of the winter Solstice, that serves as the basis of many celebrations of light. I know, even without my religious beliefs that I look forward to the return of a longer day and the promise of spring to come with its warmth and light both of which I wish for you in abundance this coming year. Finally, I wish each of you the best as a new year begins.

<p><b><u>Reports by and Announcements of Special and Standing Committees of the Senate</u></b> No reports</p>	
<p><b><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business</u></b> <b><u>Research Discussion</u></b></p> <p><b>Kacey Marra, Senate Appointee to the University Research Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 year on University of Pittsburgh Research Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is an entity that addresses all the issue related to research on the University of Pittsburgh campus</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Here to solicit information on new areas to be addressed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mara Horowitz, Senate Appointee to the Conflict of Interest Committee (COI)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed to conflict of interest committee 5 years ago.</li> <li>• This year we re-wrote the conflict of interested policy at the request of Provost Beeson. This allow for more entrepreneurial efforts.</li> <li>• Constantly reviewing the role of faculty in managing potential conflicts. In these times of reduced funding for research, focus on developing entrepreneurial endeavors are being encouraged and needed.</li> <li>• The committee does a good job. Do not feel that another Senate Committee would be needed.</li> </ul> <p>Spring: There are parallel committees in the University and in the Senate. Asked other presidents “do liaisons report back from Trustee committees?”</p> <p>Bircher: There have there been reports back from liaisons to the Trustees committee. These meetings are confidential and thus would be able to report back conceptually.</p> <p>Marra: actually go through every conflict that occurs in the University Conflict of Interest committee,</p> <p>Spring: OMB A 21 document provided by Dr. Balaban.</p> <p>Marra: most common problem is when an investigator has vested interest in a study and/or that another faculty needs to serve as principal investigator.</p> <p><b>Vice Provost for Research, Professor Mark Redfern</b> <b>Research Support agenda</b> <b><u>Operational improvements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Improvement at Office of research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Timeliness</li> <li>○ Communication with faculty</li> <li>○ Improved website (new website online)</li> <li>○ Establish metric (real time performance summary)</li> <li>○ Establish an MTA/CDA/NDA online submission process; looking at software</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Export Control</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implement export control plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase information to faculty</li> <li>▪ Process for assisting faculty with foreign travel</li> <li>▪ Visiting faculty process</li> <li>▪ Inter-business processes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

- Sichuan University Partnership
- Faculty support- how can we help faculty get grants
  - CRDF continuation
  - Federal agency trip for assistant professors
  - Explore new ways to support funding for faculty
    - Grant writing support
    - Grant review process
    - More support material for investigators
    - Grant development office
- Limited submission
  - Process improvement
  - New opportunity development
  - Coordination with School of Medicine (many go across campus)
- Metric Developments
  - Established better ongoing metrics for research
  - Implement a process to acquire and review them
- Research Conduct and Compliance Office
  - Does not report to the Vice Provost for Research but works in coordination
  - Includes: COI, IRB, Biosafety, Radiation safety, education for human and animal subject

### **Strategies**

- **Innovation Institute**
  - Support innovation and entrepreneurship developed at the University
    - Translation
    - Start ups
    - Corporate research
- **Sustainability**
  - Eric Beckman, lead...campus wide initiative, currently obtaining input
  - Plan outline June 1, 2014
- **Support Energy Research**
  - Center support cross campus
  - Expand corporate energy research
  - NETL research (National Energy Technology Laboratory) like Livermore (energy technology and fossil fuel)
    - How does fossil energy interact with renewable
    - Budget is about \$1B per year
- **Corporate Relations**
  - Develop comprehensive corporate relationship plan
    - Research
    - Education
    - Interns up/co-ops
    - Job placement for students
    - Giving
  - Define role for non-traditional industrial interaction
- **Exploring new initiatives**
  - Advanced manufacturing: 3D printing; we have a core of

<p>University faculty who are already doing this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Big data, personalized medicine (School of Medicine already has center)</li> <li>▪ Computation</li> <li>▪ Shale gas and water (School of Public Health, Geology)</li> </ul> <p>Other Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Opportunity to expand and support undergraduate research</li> <li>➤ Develop ideas to promote multidisciplinary research</li> </ul> <p>Redfern; Task is to focus on strategies for increasing research not only dealing with compliance issues. Needs to be communication between these areas. Separate functions facilitates the functioning of both (keeping COI and Office of Research separate) both have to be committed to getting things done in a timely manner; better education office staff</p> <p>Redfern: Art and Sciences do research but it is not funded (scholarship and discovery); rely on URC to educate me about this. Trying to learn how to support this kind of research.</p> <p>-small grants funding -multidisciplinary efforts between humanities and sciences</p> <p>Smitherman: More supporting for grant writing, Dr. Levine has developed an office for this purpose. Doing this on a more systematic basis.</p> <p>Redfern: Was associate dean for engineering before taking this position; hired a grant development officer; very effective there; internal NSF workshop and similar; identifying funding opportunities for faculty.</p> <p>Frank: WPIC review process that involved mandatory review by a research group and peers before grants were submitted. Contributed to WPIC being the #1NIMH funded facility in the US. Model prevents development of “grants by committee” that to those who review grants are often obvious</p> <p>Redfern: I am very familiar with this excellent model</p> <p>Bircher: Support this beltway bandit review model is not as good as the WPIC model</p> <p>Redfern. I am happy to come to present at any time in the future.</p>	
<p><b><u>Adjournment.</u></b> The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN  
Senate Secretary

Members attending:

Baker, Bircher, Clark, Cohen, Costantino, Daley, de Montmollin, Erickson, Fort, Frank, Frieze, Irrgang, Kovacs, Lin, Miller, Molinaro, Neft, Nelson, Novy, Ramsey, Shafiq, Smith, Smitherman, Song, Spring, Tananis, Weinberg, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Alexander, Buchanich, Butterworth, Cauley, Chiarulli, Clermont, Fusco, Gibson, Gleason, Gold, Goodhart, Hravnak, Hughes, Jones, Labrinidis, Leers, Lyon, Majumdar, Mauk, McKinney, Mohammed, Mulcahy, Munro, Nisnevich, Riccelli, Savinov, Savun, Skledar, Smolinski, Tisherman, Vieira

\*Excused attendance:

Alarcon, Ansell, Beck, Burkoff, Caldwell, Chase, Flynn, Gaddy, Groark, Jackson Foster, Karp, Kear, Kelly, Lewicka, Lunsford, Mauk, McLaughlin, Morel, Novy, Ramsey, Slimick, Sukits, Weiss, White, Withiam

Others attending:

Balaban, Barlow, Fedele, Horwitz, Marra, Redfern

\*Notified Senate Office