

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Topic/Discussion	Action
<p><u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order by President Michael Spring.</p>	<p>The meeting commenced at 3:03 pm.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the April 22, 2015 Senate Council Meeting</u> No changes were submitted.</p>	<p>The minutes were accepted as written.</p>
<p><u>Items of New Business</u> No new items were raised.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor, Patrick D. Gallagher</u></p> <p>This is a special meeting of the end of the academic year, and a meeting of transition. The Chancellor expressed his thanks to President Michael Spring for his work as Senate President, and his work at the University over the years. He was a graduate student, research assistant and faculty member, and faculty leader on the Senate and many of its committees, as well as university committees. His efforts at advising and guiding the Chancellor during his transition were recognized, as well as his efforts at promoting shared governance. Incoming President Frank Wilson was welcomed as the new Senate President.</p> <p>Recognition was given as the Chancellor presented the Chancellor's Affirmative Action Award to is the iSchool Inclusion Institute of Information Sciences, also called "i3." This award is given to a program or department that made a significant impact on the effort of the University to expand diversity. This year, the selection committee cited the i3 program as an important tool in ensuring undergraduate students from under-represented groups will have the exposure to experiences that encourage them to pursue graduate studies in fields that have historically lacked diversity. The i3 Program is a collaborative venture between Pitt, CMU, Drexel University, University of Michigan, UNC Chapel Hill, Penn State, and Syracuse. Each year, 20-25 undergraduates students across the country are selected for the Program to be designated i3 Scholars. The i3 Scholar Program is one year-long, designed to develop leadership and research skills. To-date, 84 undergraduate students have participated, with 22 of the i3 Scholars pursuing graduate programs in Information Sciences or related fields. Three of these students received funding to pursue graduate education at Pitt's iSchool. The selection committee praised the program as an example of setting collaborations between other universities and foundations. The iSchool has received significant support from foundations. Applications for i3 Scholars have increased by 65%; with more than 100 students expected to benefit in the next five years. Pitt has successfully maintained its hosting since 2011 with the first class of Scholars, and it continues to sustain as the host school, and was a critical factor in i3 being recognized for this award.</p> <p>Everyone was thanked for their attendance at the Faculty and Staff Appreciation Picnic today. The Chancellor thanked everyone for their support this year and for coming to the event. Commencement was on April 26, 2015, with Charlie Bolden from NASA doing the commencement address. Speakers at the Pitt Bradford, Pitt Greensburg, Pitt Johnstown, and Pitt Titusville campuses were also commended for their remarks at the ceremonies. Over 6000 students graduated from PITT across our five campuses. For next year, as of May 16th, paid admissions stand at 4186, an increase of 5% from last year. This is comprised of 2637 in-state admissions (3.1% increase), and 1549 out-of-state admission (8.5% increase). Provost</p>	<p>The Dean, faculty and staff of the iSchool were congratulated for their award.</p>

Beeson added that the academic profile and diversity profile are looking very strong in the class, with a 10% increase in minorities in the incoming class. Marc Harding, Chief Enrollment Officer, thanked his team for their efforts.

Next year has been named the “Year of Humanities” to highlight the role of humanistic thinking across the entire university. A committee is planning the events for the year. Events will be held to infuse the importance of humanities across the schools and departments of the University. The Provost’s office will be matching funds up to \$100,000 for programs that help to further this goal. Proposals can be submitted immediately. The University strategic planning process is moving forward. The June 19th meeting of the Board of Trustees will be the signal of the implementation component of the strategic plan.

Personnel and event updates: Scott Barnes has been named the new Athletic Director. Randy Juhl was thanked for his efforts at the Interim Athletic Director. The SAC event held on Career Development was recognized as a success. A regional conference on Title IX was held at Pitt two weeks ago, and it was a full-house informational session. Alumni were honored at a ceremony last week for their distinguished service, accomplishments, volunteerism, and leadership, and giving. Awardees were named and recognized. The Chancellor has been meeting with community leaders and foundations/endowments to share strategies as their boards begin their strategic planning activities. The Chancellor’s Awards for Service Excellence were given to staff in a recent ceremony. An event was hosted on May 4th which was the National Council on Disability Reception for advocacy to honor Governor Dick Thornburgh for the passing of the American with Disabilities Act. The Year of Sustainability was a great success. Pitt was named in the Princeton Review’s Guide to the Top 353 Green Colleges. Thirteen Pitt students have received three-year graduate research NSF fellowships, for science and engineering research. Dr. Timothy Billiar was awarded the American Surgical Association’s highest honor of the Medallion for Scientific Achievement. He has been at Pitt/UPMC for over 25 years, and this award is given to a surgeon who has served in their field with unusual distinction. It has been awarded only 27 times in the last 45 years. A former recipient was Thomas Starzl, MD. Clyde Jones will be leaving the University to move onto the Metropolitan Museum of Art as the Vice-President of Institutional Advancement. Pam Connolly has been named Associate Vice-Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, a new university-wide position, to coordinate our efforts to emphasize and promote diversity on campus. The Offices of Affirmative Action and Title IX Compliance will report directly to Ms. Connolly.

Questions:

Hravnak: Did the increase in minority enrollment center on undergraduate and domestic students, or graduate and international students?

Beeson: It is both. The increase was seen in the number of international students and in the domestic, non-white population. This is undergraduate programs for the report.

Report of Senate President, Michael B. Spring

1. **Regarding the 2015 Senate Elections** – Elections have been completed. Frank Wilson, faculty member in Sociology at Pitt-Greensburg, was elected President. Irene Frieze, a faculty member in Psychology, was re-elected as vice president, and Susan Skledar, a faculty member in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics was re-elected as secretary. The University Times has reported on new members who were elected to Faculty Assembly (handout provided).

<p>2. Election of members of the Standing Committees – was completed last week. They included the election of a new research committee. The elected members are listed on the handout in the back of the room. Dr. Tom Smitherman was thanked for his efforts at keeping the elections on-track.</p> <p>3. Regarding matters that are outstanding from this year – There is no final resolution on access to health information and retirement funds via the my.pitt.edu portal and single-sign on. We continue to await the deliberations of SCUC and B&W. On the matter of changes to the in policy related to University Travel, the Provost is reviewing the comments of members of Faculty Assembly.</p> <p>Now to a matter that is one of the most pleasurable of my duties:</p> <p>4. The Senate Service Award – President Spring was pleased to announce that the award will have multiple recipients. All three of the recipients have been fully engaged over the last decade and all three have played significant roles the last two years on the Ad Hoc Committee for Non-Tenure Stream faculty. But they have done much more:</p> <p>Jay Sukits has served a decade on Faculty Assembly, and worked on Budget Policies, Student Affairs, PUP. Jay has also served on the BOT investment Committee and is a recipient of the Chancellors Distinguished Public Service Award.</p> <p>Cindy Tananis has been on Faculty Assembly for the last five years and has served on Educational Policies. She has also served on the School of Education and the Provosts Planning and Budget committees as well as the University Review Board. She has also served on the Eastern Evaluation Research Society Board of Directors.</p> <p>Frank Wilson has served as President of the UP Greensburg Faculty Senate for the last five years while serving during that same period on Faculty Assembly and Senate Council. Prior to assuming the UPG Senate Presidency he served for five years on the UPG Faculty Senate Council. He has served on the Board of Trustees budget committee and has received the UPG President’s Distinguished Service Award.</p> <p>It will be noted that these faculty are non-tenure stream (NTS) faculty and while it is a happy coincidence this year when so much attention is being paid to NTS faculty, their selection was not based on their appointments but on their collective service to the Senate of the University of Pittsburgh. Their choice was unanimous by the Executive Committee. I would like to ask the Chancellor, Provost and Senate Officers to join me in presenting the awards.</p> <p>The Presidency – President Spring’s reflection: “I want to express my gratitude to all of you and to all the members of Faculty Assembly, the Chairs and members of the standing committees, the Chancellor, Provost, and Senior Vice Chancellor of the Health Sciences and the many members of the administration it has been my pleasure to work with over these past two years. Serving as the President of the Senate has been a rare privilege and a great learning opportunity. While I know it would be wise to leave it there, I want to mention several individuals by name. Keep in mind, I am grateful to every member of our community, but there are a couple people that came to mind as I was jotting out notes last week. To</p>	<p>The award winners were congratulated and given a plaque for their service.</p> <p>The Senate Council held a round of applause for President Michael Spring for his efforts as Senate President over the last two years.</p>
---	--

minimize the grief colleagues might want to mete out, I have sorted the names in alphabetical order. Once again keep in mind I thank all my colleagues. What follows are some people that popped into mind reflecting on the past two years:

- John Baker, for convincing me the role was one that was important to fulfil and for his commitment and integrity, and for his ongoing advice.
- Carey Balaban, for his open door, willingness to listen, and integrity in representing the Senate and the Standing Committees even when it wasn't pleasant.
- Kimberly Barlow, for writing for the University Times what I meant to say and not what sometimes came out of my mouth. And to the editor of the Times, Nancy Brown, who helped us to achieve much of the transparency and open communications channels we worked hard to improve these last two years.
- Provost Beeson, for her openness and support of the Senate and for her honest commitment to every faculty member at Pitt.
- Renny Clark, a great gentleman who helped me keep some of the best kept secrets at Pitt despite his firm promise to Mark Nordenberg not to let him be surprised.
- Rich Colwell, who proved that two years in the hot seat was mere child's play; and for his commitment to the staff at Pitt.
- David DeJong, who was always a faculty colleague and a gentleman despite the fact that his role in the Provost's office continually puts him in the hot seat discussing finances and budget matters.
- Irene Frieze, for advising me on a regular basis, for supporting my decisions and for managing the most important task of the past two years – the work on non-tenure stream faculty.
- Chancellor Gallagher, who has very quickly demonstrated an honest and heartfelt commitment to Pitt and to shared governance and for a new form of leadership that bodes well for the University in the coming years.
- David Gau who reminds me that leadership and shared governance can be fun and can be managed despite a full time academic load.
- Barry Gold, who held to his principles and convinced me that the sometimes contentious matters that he championed would be dealt with in a collegial and professional way.
- Marika Kovacs, for reminding me that the Senate should always be proactive on matters of concern to faculty, especially for those who feel less able to speak up for themselves
- Chancellor Emeritus Nordenberg, for his support from day one and for his encouragement and openness regarding issues of concern to the Senate.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graham Park and Sharon Malazich, along with all their colleagues in Special Events, who put up with my antics at the various events in which they had to wonder how much I was going to change the script. • Michael Pinsky, for lying to me about how much work it would be when he first asked me to run. • Mark Redfern, who changed the tone of the discussion about research at Pitt by speaking to us with a candor and clarity about his vision for a better research environment at Pitt. • Angie Riccelli, who proved again and again that the Senate could be proactive, collegial and productive in working on difficult matters. • Cindy Beitel Spring, who provided the support that made the job possible and who reminded me regularly that regardless of what the University Times reported, I still put my pants on one leg at time and that I was getting to that point in my life when even that was difficult without falling. <p>As you have noted, there was one person left off the list. Let me correct the omission with a special note. The past two years have been hard on my research agenda, teaching, and outside professional activities. I could not have done it without the support, dedication, and professionalism of Lori Molinaro. Perhaps the greatest benefit of the Senate Presidency is the opportunity it presents to work with Lori and to enjoy her friendship and support. There have been hundreds of phone calls and email messages over the last two years. All of them were focused direct and very respectful of classes, grading, and research commitments. But the best part is that I have not laughed so hard in my last ten years at Pitt as I have from time to time in conversations with Lori. She has provided every support I could ever have asked for and has worked literally around the clock to make the Senate work. It is my honor to call her a colleague and I look forward to her continued friendship. “</p>	
<p><u>Report of Student Members of Senate Council</u></p> <p><u>College of General Studies Student Government (CGSSG):</u> Julia Helgert, President</p> <p>The first meeting with all new council members, which was also the last meeting with Dr. Sherry Miller Brown, was held on Monday, May 11, 2015. New council members brought a lot of vibrant ideas to the table that we hope to put into action for the upcoming academic year! Dr. Sherry Miller Brown is retiring at the end of the month and CGS is having a retirement party for her this Friday.</p> <p>The main goal for CGSSG this year is focused on reaching out to students, getting the fact that CGSSG exists out there through social media, and increasing student involvement by hosting events that will cater to student interests and needs. They are in the process of getting approval for creating CGSSG Twitter and Instagram accounts.</p> <p>The College of General Studies Student Government Constitution and by-laws have been re-written and unanimously approved by all council members. President Helgert will submit the approved constitution to SORC and recertify CGSSG for the 2015-2016 school year over the summer through SORC.</p>	<p>No questions were raised for Julia.</p>

The College of General Studies is hosting three Quick Start Orientation events over the course of the summer for new students. The dates are Wednesday, May 21st from 11:30AM-1:00PM, Thursday, June 11th from 11:30AM-1:00PM, and Wednesday, July 15th from 5:30PM– 7PM.

- Quick Start events give new students the chance to get acclimated with CGS and the University and introduce them to all of the resources available to them.
- 2 student government members will represent the CGSSG at each Quick Start Orientation
- At each event, CGSSG will survey students about what kind of workshops/events they would be interested in attending to help us decide which types of events will be most beneficial for CGS students

Over the summer, CGS will be taking pictures of all CGSSG Council members and collecting information about why each member chose to join CGSSG. These “blurbs” will be featured in the McCarl Center to give students an idea of who our council members are on a more personal level.

They are in the process of reviving Lambda Alpha Epsilon, a national Criminal Justice fraternity, for our Legal Studies and Administration of Justice students. A Pinning Ceremony for new Lambda Alpha Epsilon members at the beginning of the Fall 2015 semester is being planned. The date has been set and the event booked at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association for our CGS Homecoming event in the fall. The date is October 9th.

Report of Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG):

Joe Kozak, President

New President Joe Kozak introduced himself and provided his background. As he has transitioned to being a graduate student, he has noted that it is more difficult for this transition, and that is part of his mission. He noted that his goals, and those of GPSG are to connect with the University and work to strengthen the sense of community among Graduate students, and show them all the amazing aspects of the University and the city of Pittsburgh.

This past month, the new executive board finalized its transition and has started on its way. In discussions, it was recognized the foundation set is sound, and feel that the next steps to advance GPSG and develop the graduate community further, requires outside collaboration. Senate Council is looked to for help and support in this next year, as we try to further develop the graduate community such that our students, like the undergraduates, have the best experience in the world. A number of internal projects and goals, including developing a mobile app for GPSG that includes an up-to-date calendar of events, contact information, resource locations, and a posting of their bulletin are planned. In parallel, they just launched a new website and are working to update its contents. He hopes to rekindle the idea of a mentorship program between graduate and professional students and undergraduates with hopes to develop a pilot program between the Medical School and the Honors College in the following year. They are looking to expand our programming efforts to reach at least 2000 (20%) unique students; last year at least 15% were reached, but those numbers are only through social programming and do not include the other avenues such as the travel grant program. To support the efforts, they will be hosting programs at least once a month and these will vary between social, academic and personal and professional development themed events to better serve the desires of the graduate population.

No questions were raised for Joe.

<p>Looking to expand our partnerships throughout the University, conversations have started with the Pitt Alumni Association and they are currently exploring ways for programming and event collaboration. One specific instance includes next year’s TedX event, where they hope to invite some distinguished alumni to participate as speakers. This past month, they worked with the Nepali community of Pittsburgh and were able to raise \$388 in a few short hours, and are discussing ways to support further fundraising efforts in the fall semester. He reported that he is very excited for the momentum achieved so early with the new executive board, and am hoping that path can continue. Through the help and support of the members of this committee and the University as a whole, we know we will move ever closer to having the graduate student experience, at the University of Pittsburgh, be the best in the world.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC):</u> Rich Colwell, President Lindsay Rodzicz, Program Administrator</p> <p>President Spring and President Wilson were congratulated and recognized for their work. The Chancellor and Provost were thanked for the wonderful Staff and Faculty Appreciation picnic event .</p> <p>SAC continues with their election process for their five officer positions. Online voting will commence at the end of May, and officers will be announced at the SAC general meeting on June 17th.</p> <p>Lindsay reviewed SAC successes: Over past two years (since 8/2013), there were 905 newsletter subscriptions and this has increased to over 1300, a growth of ~50%. The “opens” of the newsletter went from 180 to 666, which is growth of 207%. The monthly Brown Bag events hosted a range of 72 attendees (Ergonomics) to a high 304 (Medical Benefits) The new July 2015 website is hosting over 1000 visits per month, with viewers staying an average of 1.5 minutes. SAC has increased their social media presence, with a current 281 Twitter followers, with over 140 likes on Facebook. The Facebook account is only one month old, so SAC is pleased with this early acceptance. The SAC Professional Development Spring Assembly was held May 19th, with keynote speaker Chancellor Gallagher, last week and over 300 Pitt staff members attended. It was very successful.</p> <p>Pitt day at Kennywood is only 60 days away, on July 19th. Last year’s attendance was 1900 guests and the goal is to increase that number. June 16th is the day for SAC leaders across campuses at Pitt to share ideas and plans for the upcoming year. SAC is looking forward to the next officer board being able to build upon this solid foundation of communication built over the last two years, and to work on a strategic plan for SAC that will align with the new Strategic Plan of the University.</p>	<p>No questions were raised for Rich or Lindsay.</p>
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committees of the Senate</u></p> <p>No reports were scheduled for the meeting.</p>	
<p><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business</u></p> <p>No issues were raised.</p>	
<p><u>Announcements:</u></p> <p>There are no meetings in June, July, or August.</p>	

Adjournment:

President Spring adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment at
3:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Members attending:

Alarcon, Beeson, Colwell, Fort, Frieze, Gallagher, Goodhart, Groark, Helgert, Hravnak, Humphrey, Juhl, Kovacs, Kozak, Levine, Molinaro, Morel, Richey, Rodzicz, Rosen, Skledar, Smith, Smitherman, Spring, Sukits, Supowitz, Wilson, Withers

Members not attending:

Ataai, Brubach, Buchanich, Caldwell, Cauley, Clark, Dewar, Erickson, Gaddy, Gibson, Green, Harun, Hughes, Karp, Kearns, Kory, Lewicka, Lin, McKinney, Meyer, Miller, Mulcahy, Munro, Murphy, Nisnevich, Novy, Savinov, Shafiq, Smolinski, Weinberg

*Excused attendance:

Burkoff, Fusco, Kear, Poloyac, Ramicone, Ramsey, Savoia

Others attending:

Balaban, Barlow, Bonner, Frisch, Harding, Sahni, Tananis, Walker, Wilds

*Notified Senate Office