

**Senate Benefits and Welfare Committee
University of Pittsburgh
Minutes of November 9, 2010 Meeting**

9:00-10:30am, A219A Langley Hall (Executive Conference Room)

Attendees: Emilia Lombardi, Linda Rinaman, Robert Robertson, Elizabeth Richey, Sunny Fulton, Nancy Gilkes, James Holland, Angelina Riccelli, Mark Scott, Harvey Wolfe, John Kozar, Ronald Frisch, John Baker

Guests: Megan Roesing, Manager, Acct. Service for United Concordia; William (Bill) Thomas, Senior Acct. Manager for Davis Vision

Absent: Irene Kane, Sandra Founds, Judith Lave, Alan Meisel, Lara Putnam, Elsa Strotmeyer, Yong Li

Topic	Discussion	Action to be Taken
Call to Order	L. Rinaman, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM	
Committee Business	Minutes from October 2010 meeting were approved	
Benefits Office Report (J. Kozar)	Over the last thirty days the main focus of the Benefits Office has been the post-65 Health Care Coverage. The University has been negotiating with Highmark and UMPC. Though cost have gone up the cost is still favorable. The goal is to try and keep cost low. This year the University has been successful in keeping the cost down. The Benefits Office has been giving presentations in the Pittsburgh area to retirees about coverage. Once the presentations are complete the Benefits Office will move to focusing on coverage for the active groups.	
Topic	Discussion	Action to be Taken
Main Topic #1: Megan Roesing, Manager, Account Service for United Concordia (dental)	An overview of the University's dental provider United Concordia (UC) was given. UC, a subsidiary of Highmark, is currently the nation's largest dental insurer with over 40 years of providing only dental insurance. UC offers a formal diversity program and community outreach to underprivileged groups such as children, who receive free dental care. UC also offers dental coverage for post-65 retirees and graduate students at Pitt. UC also has a relationship with the University Dental Health Service where the University community can obtain dental services. In the future UC hopes to provide coverage for undergrads at Pitt. M. Roesing stressed that member's information is very secure. UC had the U.S. Dept of Defense (DOD) try to hack their system and the DOD could not do it. M. Roesing also mentioned that 96% of member's customer service inquiries are resolved with the first phone call. Pitt has a dedicated customer service unit devoted entirely to the University.	

	<p>UC website was briefly discussed and the actions that can be done with the site such as find a dentist, obtain claim forms, see benefits, view FAQ's and look at Kid's pages. UC is encouraging members to go green and eliminate paper whenever possible.</p> <p>It was mentioned that UC is doing research with the University of Pennsylvania regarding Oral Health and one's Overall Health and the connection between the two. Some of the additional programs UC offers include their "Smile for Health" program where pregnant women can get a third cleaning during their pregnancy. The "Preventive Incentive Program" which includes cleanings, exams, x-rays, palliative treatment, and fluoride treatments and do not count toward a member's annual max.</p> <p>Finally the University's large population of international graduate students and their families who may lack adequate dental care in their home country can receive assistance from the dental school.</p>	
<p>Main Topic #2: William (Bill) Thomas, Senior Account Manager for Davis Vision</p>	<p>A summary of Davis Vision (DV) was given. DV is a subsidiary of Highmark with over 30,000 providers throughout the country. The importance of eye exams was stressed in that the dilation of the eyes can detect over 30 diseases. B. Thomas encouraged all enrolled to take advantage of the free eye exam for it can help one's overall health which is a major point stressed by DV.</p> <p>DV provides care to underprivileged groups and communities with free eye exams. As of 2010 Pitt's current enrollment in DV is 19,000.</p> <p>B. Thomas spoke about the different plans offered for eye care and stressed the value of their "Designer Gold" plan, which has been in existence for two years. This plan is a few dollars more per month but provides larger savings for products like frames and lenses. It was mentioned that UPMC Eye center at Montefiore are members of DV and provide eye exams and glasses.</p>	
<p>Other Business</p>	<p>No other business</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>L. Rinaman adjourned the meeting at 10:00AM.</p>	