

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
2700 Posvar Hall
October 12, 2011

Topic/Discussion	Action
<u>Call to Order.</u> President Michael R. Pinsky called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM	The meeting commenced at.
<u>Approval of the Minutes of the, 2011 Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Pinsky asked for approval of the minutes of the, 2011 Senate Council meeting.	The minutes were approved as written.
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> Carol Mohammed Report on Dignity and Respect Campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third year of campaign expansion has occurred to 10 counties participating • October this will occur but should be year round • Go on line to take the pledge: www.dignityandrespect.org; promotes 30 tips to promote Dignity and Respect on campus. • Asking all members of senate council to be ambassadors. In the past the students have taken the lead. • Important for sustaining an inclusive environment • Encourage faculty to have meetings with staff and students.....we want to be leaders in this campaign. 	Senate council reviewed the video
<u>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Mark A. Nordenberg</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate Appropriations Committee session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First Panel: Included president of the Student Government Board, Molly Stieber. Professor Graham Hatfield, Professor from the Department of Biological Sciences and researcher committed to teaching and to creating effective ways to involve even undergraduate students in the research work of the institution, providing them with experiences that they could not receive at universities. Steve Tritch, Chair of Pitt’s Board of Trustees testified as a graduate, parent of a graduate, and as former CEO of one of the region’s largest corporations. ○ Second Panel: Jerry Cohen, Carnegie Mellon University president, testified about the importance of support for public research universities and in particular about the impact of Pitt in this region. Dennis Yablonsky, leader of the business community as the CEO of the Allegheny Conference, testified about the importance of Pitt to the region’s economy through workforces and research partnerships. Lance Taylor, School of Medicine, and founder of different startup companies grounded in University technology provided a perspective on the role of a research university in innovation and in economic growth. ○ Two explicit messages conveyed: we stand together and we have friends. • Historical perspective on support for the University of Pittsburgh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce was an important supportive voice when that legislation was being considered and when it ultimately was passed. ○ Their position was grounded in a desire to provide more affordable educational opportunities to the young people. Secondly for the support for “anchor institutions” 	

- as they grew, would also help fuel economic development and enhance desirable levels of community vitality.
 - To have Dennis Yablonsky testify was similar to the 45 year old testimonials that had come from the Chamber of Commerce in the mid 1960s urging the legislature and the governor to provide this special forum of support for Pitt and for the broader community.
 - The Allegheny Conference for Development advocated for Pitt last spring to seek restoration of a portion of the cuts that had been proposed by the governor. Their involvement secured advocacy from the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and the statewide Pennsylvania Business Council.
- The Chancellor spoke at a joint meeting of the executive committee of the Allegheny Conference and the Greater Philadelphia Chamber last week and they continue to be supportive of our quest for more appropriate funding levels.
- Concern regarding language from the governor and cabinet members that talks about “dollars following the students” which was embraced aggressively the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania. There was an Op-Ed piece last June that expressed the idea: “take that institutional support and put it into a bigger pot so that funding can advantage students whatever choice they make to attend a college or a university.”
 - The presidents of the Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education oppose this approach. In a Tribune Review Op-Ed in September, they stated: “Unprecedented cuts in state support for public colleges and universities in this year’s budget and uncertainty about next year’s budget and beyond have created deep concern about the future of public higher education in our region and in the Commonwealth.
 - We oppose any process that provides no overall increase in funding but instead seeks merely to shift portions of the currently inadequate funding from one sector to another.
 - More dollars for students is a worthy goal but pitting public higher education against private to achieve that goal is not productive. Such a plan would be detrimental to all sectors of higher education and seriously weaken the higher education in the region and the Commonwealth, a system that currently provides unparalleled educational opportunity for the citizens of Pennsylvania.
 - It is a reflection of the kind of close knit, balanced a higher educational community that has been fostered here in the Pittsburgh region. I am one who believes that if you look at the overall strength of higher education in Pennsylvania you would be hard pressed to find any state that you would trade with.
 - I do deeply appreciate the position taken by my presidential colleagues I want to make clear that when I speak against this “dollars following the students.”
 - When I speak against the kind of voucher system for higher education, I’m not speaking against independent colleges and universities or speaking against more financial aid.
- A higher education voucher system is flawed for a number of reasons:
 - Voucher system tied to basic education vouchers which are tied to an effort to free students who are trapped in failing schools or school districts which is not the case in higher education. And no one is saying

that public higher education is failing.

- Public investment in higher education requires scale. You can't have a research powerhouse without scale. If you took all money invested by the Commonwealth in the University of Pittsburgh and divided it up among other institutions, those institutions would not be positioned to generate their fair share of research dollars they would import into the Commonwealth and region for the long and short term benefit of the economy. Same holds true when you think about community colleges where this scale is essential to programs that will serve the needs of students and the industries dependent on that kind of training.
- The numbers don't work because of the gap that we have maintained between in-state and out-of-state students exceeds the pro-rated amount of our appropriation that would be distributed to all students.
- This is an invitation to trouble as is seen by the experiences at the federal level where students may not make good choices because impressionable students can be persuaded to take those dollars into programs for which they may not be qualified or to institutions that may not prepare them for life after their educational experience.
- This provides you with arguments if somebody starts talking to you about dollars following the students
- Historic and extraordinary gift from Bill Dietrich
 - It was the largest gift in our history and resulted in the naming of the School of Arts and Sciences for Bill's father who earned a Master's degree and a PhD in Political Science and devoted to this region and the community and as a philanthropist. He built this business, sold the business, put the money into trusts and said "I'm gonna devote the rest of my life to becoming a great investor and I'm going to grow this money, not for myself, but for the organizations that I have chosen to support
- University of Pittsburgh move from the Big East to the ACC.
 - The Big East produced a lot of happy memories for people at the University of
 - The ACC provides a much more stable, long term home for our athletic programs, a sounder economic base, and an opportunity to associate with a diverse group of universities, and an opportunity to compete in what is the appropriate geography for the University of Pittsburgh.
- We handled everything relating to the Big East according to the basic governance documents of the conference and took the step of alerting the commissioner and the conference chair 1 ½ years half ago. We have been welcomed in the best possible ways by the presidents and the athletic directors of the ACC and we look forward to building an athletic life there.
- MacArthur Genius Award winners:
 - Professor Elodie Ghedin from the School of Medicine and recipient of a Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award.
 - Kevin Guskiewicz earned his Master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1992 and currently endowed chair of the Department of Exercise and Sport Science at the University of North Carolina.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5 M Translational Partnership Grant from the Wallace Coulter Foundation focused mainly on bioengineering. • \$ 67.3 M to our Clinical and Translational Science Institute • Recently released international rankings reflect well on our strength and our progress. The Times of London Higher Education Rankings list us as the 59th best university in the world, up from 64 last year. • Loss of friends of the University of Pittsburgh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bill Dietrich who sought no recognition for his gifts during his lifetime. Due to his illness, others persuaded him that he should take a different position. I asked, “How would you feel about honored on the field at our football game with Notre Dame with 65,000 people there?” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We were able to proclaim the naming of the school in honor of his father through a series of big banners. ▪ Developed a DVD that not only focused on the Heinz Field celebration but included expressions of thanks from others in the University community for this generosity. We got that DVD to him last Wednesday afternoon. ▪ We also delivered to him that afternoon the first two diplomas issued by the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences and they were the two diplomas reflecting Bill’s own work in the school; the Master’s degree that he had earned in 1980 and the PhD he had earned in 1984. ○ Wangari Maathai who earned her Master’s degree at the University of Pittsburgh and then went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize, also just passed away. We were very fortunate that she came back to Pitt five years ago this month to speak, to receive an honorary degree. ○ Derrick Bell, who earned his law degree from the University of Pittsburgh, who went onto a very distinguished academic career, among other things the first African American to be a tenured member of the Harvard Law School faculty, and known for the strong but dignified stance that he took on a range of issues relating to equality over the course of his life. He had been honored him as a Legacy Laureate of the University 5 years ago. • Homecoming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Begins this week and includes the unveiling of the interactive display of John Woodruff’s Gold Medal run in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He was the first African American to win a Gold Medal in the Olympics that Adolf Hitler had planned to use as a showcase for Arian superiority. Five years ago, he was in attendance as we celebrated the 70th Anniversary of that run at Heinz Field; showed the race on the screen ○ Whatever events you choose to participate in I hope they’re rich and fulfilling for you and a chance to reconnect with former students. 	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Senate, Michael Pinsky.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President Pinsky wrote a Senate Matters piece entitled Academic Engagement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Express philosophy that along with the privilege and credit that go with academic positions also comes academic responsibility. ○ The faculty have a solemn responsibility to make it clear to our students, their parents and community the benefits that the University provides in 	

terms of economic, social, and civic stability, and growth.

- If our faculty defend the University as a statewide engine for growth through education, research, and innovation, we speak from academic excellence which transcends political parties.
- The Chancellor and Senate President have agreed to convene an *ad hoc* committee to identify specific areas and activities in which faculty support can promote state wide awareness of the worth of higher education in general and the University of Pittsburgh in particular. The committee will include Vice Chancellor for Community Initiatives Renny Clark; Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations Paul Supowitz; the co-chairs of the Senate Commonwealth Relations Committee and the Senate Community Relations Committee, the Chancellor and Senate President.
- All the Senate officers as well as the Commonwealth Relations Committee co-chairs the attended the Pennsylvania Senate Appropriations Committee hearing of the Pitt Campus on September 12. Our presence was another strong show of support for the University's message of our value to the region and state.
- Report on Senate committee highlights:
 - The Commonwealth Relations Committee and the Community Relations Committee held their annual joint meeting on September 9. Paul Supowitz provided information on the Commonwealth budget and the upcoming FY 2012-13 budget process. Assistant Vice Chancellor John Wilds presented the work of the Community Relations Committee and in particular the Oakland 2025 project, a strategic plan for Oakland economic development.
 - The Commonwealth Relations Committee is also scheduling a trip to the University of Pittsburgh Regional Campus at Titusville.
 - The Community Relations Committee is finalizing the plans for the Senate Plenary on Community & Campus Partnerships for Health and Wellness which is scheduled for Thursday November 10 from noon until 3 PM. of the William Pitt Union for be part of this interactive program.
 - The University Press celebrated its 75th year of operation. The University Press Committee reported that for FY 2011 43 new titles published.
 - The Benefits and Welfare Committee discussed several important issues relevant to present and retired faculty. Effective October 1, Benefits has contracted for Benefits Management Services, a division of UPMC's Insurance Division to administer COBRA and the retiree Defined Dollar Benefits programs. Student Health Insurance recently converted to a total paperless system. Voluntary vision and dental benefits are now offered to all full-time students. Annual enrollment for eligible retirees will begin in late October/early November.

Report of Student Members of Senate Council.

Student Government Board, Molly Stieber

- Registered more than 4000 students for Pitt Make a Difference Day
- Oct 21, 2011 sleep out for the Homeless planned
- Contacted from the White House to the student government board office about the work of the SCB.
- Obama spoke a IBW, and wrote an article for a White House blog

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Nyasha Hungwe

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last week, graduate student died; discussion about how to commemorates deceased students • Contact with Jay Costa’s office to meet with graduate students • Recognition of the gift of Bill Dietrich <p>Graduate Students Arts and Sciences, Katie Moriarty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosponsor of screening of “Piled Higher and Deeper” • Meeting...introduced Tony Walters, joined from retirement to be advisor • March 22, 2012, presentation of academic work of students • Monthly Lecture Series, “interdisciplinary inc.” • Thanks to Mr. Dietrich and condolences. His legacy will carry on with naming of the School of Arts and Sciences 	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Association Council (SAC), Deborah Walker</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 12, 2011 the Executive Officers of SAC presented a new Operations Model to the membership which consists of each executive officer assigned as a liaison to SAC committees which will allow open communication among officers and committee chairs for organization efficiency. • During our October meeting, we held an open house so that members could tour our new offices that are located on the fifth floor of Human Resources. • SAC will hold a fall assembly, Tuesday, November 15 from 12-4 in the William Pitt Union. Chancellor Nordenberg will give the welcome and Jinx Walton will keynote, followed by workshops on technologyShare IT: Technology Tools for Communication and Collaboration • SAC along with advisor Ron Frisch worked with Parking and Transportation to provide an evening parking passes for staff enrolled in evening classes. • The annual Sac and Environmental Health and Safety day, October 4, once again was a success. • In December and January, SAC officers are planning “SAC on the Road” to meet with University staff that work in locations such as Second Avenue, McPherson Blvd. and other off-campus locations. In addition, SAC will hold monthly meetings in various locations throughout campus. 	
<p><u>Announcements.</u> Plenary on Health and Wellness has a call for posters. Applications are due October 15.</p> <p><u>Adjournment.</u> Meeting was adjourned at. 4:02 PM</p>	

Respectfully submitted:
Linda Rose Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN
Associate Professor, GSPH, IDM
Senate Secretary

Members attending:
Balaban, Bartholomae, Beeson, Buchanich, Burkoff, Cochran, Costantino, Frank, Harbert, Hartman, Humphrey, Hungwe, Jentleson, Juhl, Miller, Molinaro, Moriarty, Nordenberg, Pinsky, Ramicone, Rickman, Riehle, Savoia, V. Singh, Smith, Smitherman, Spring, Stieber, Walker, Weiss, Wilson

Members not attending:

Arnold-Blais, Bauer, Caldwell, Chaiklin, Daley, Elliott, Gallagher, Greenberg, Hasley, Kearns, Kory, Lin, Muenzer, Pan, Rosborough, Savinov, Slimick, Smolinski, Sukits, Towers

*Excused attendance:

Baker, Bonneau, Culley, Ecker, Gaddy, Galloway, Hravnak, Kear, Kovacs, Levine, Neufeld, C. Singh, Szczepanski, Wendell

Others attending:

Blair, Clark, Frisch, Hart, Hill, Mohamed, Supowitz, Tananis, White, Wilds

* Notified Senate Office