

Senate Council Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2008
2700 Posvar Hall

Topic/Discussion	Action
<u>Call to Order.</u> President John J. Baker called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.	The meeting began.
<u>Approval of the Minutes of the September 10, Senate Council Meeting.</u> President Baker asked for approval of the minutes of the October 15, 2008, Senate Council meeting.	The minutes were approved as written.
<u>Introduction of Items of New Business.</u> President Baker asked if there were any new items of business to be brought forward.	No new items were brought forward.
<p><u>Report of the Chancellor of the University, Mark A. Nordenberg.</u> Chancellor Nordenberg gave the following report. We are lucky to attract the students we do. Our students have caring hearts as well as active brains and are building bridges in the world around them. On the first Pitt Make a Difference Day, some 2000 students participated in community improvement projects. Election Day brought long lines of voters, mainly our students, at every polling place on or near our campus. Our students participated in democracy that day in entirely peaceful, appropriate and even inspiring ways.</p> <p>Pitt has moved into the top 10 American Universities in terms of total Federal Science and Engineering Research and Development obligations. That is nice companion news to the earlier announcement that we had risen to 6th place amongst the country's universities in terms of NIH funding. At the very center of this development are the faculty researchers who lead the teams that attract the grants, and use them to advance the human condition in a range of meaningful ways. These are team efforts; countless other members of the faculty and staff also contribute in a wide range of ways, via the work itself or the creation of an intuitional environment that makes the work possible.</p> <p>Our research also brings in dollars that have an important impact on the local economy. A policy paper by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, released since we last met and relying on methodologies developed by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce, concluded that every \$1 million dollars in R&D spending generates 36 jobs. Using that formula the \$641.6 million in research expenditures here at Pitt last year supported more than 23,000 local jobs, which is a very significant contribution to the health of the local economy.</p> <p>What we have achieved as a leader in education, a pioneer in research and a partner in regional development has generated real pride in a number of constituent groups, including most obviously our alumni. Homecoming brought a number of distinguished graduates back to their</p>	The Chancellor's report was accepted.

<p>alma mater for special forms of recognition. Twelve alumni were recognized as Legacy Laureates this year. They came from as far away as Beijing, Taipei and Athens, and from as nearby as Shadyside. Friday evening of Homecoming weekend was the “first ever welcome back reception” held in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room.</p> <p>Last year was our best year ever in terms of campaign commitments, gifts actually received, foundation support, individual support and total donors. More than 50,000 donors made contributions to the University of Pittsburgh last year. The economic decline will be felt by everyone, including our students and the families that support them. Over the past dozen years, the university has been very conservative, which puts us in a relatively good position. We don’t know what exactly is coming, so we need to be prudent as we move forward. If we are, the year ahead will bring many causes for celebration. We recently participated in the Festival of Lights celebration for the 250th birthday of our region by illuminating the Cathedral of Learning with special lighting.</p> <p>The Chancellor concluded his report. President Baker asked for questions or comments. President Baker asked if Oakland could get more polling places. SGB President Link responded that it was looked into in 2004; the county had been receptive. In the past, the only voting place was the Towers lobby, which sometimes took students 6 hours to vote. The Chancellor added that since the county was responsive the last time, they may be willing to examine the situation again before the next voting cycle.</p>	
<p><u>Report of the President of the Senate, John J. Baker.</u> President John J. Baker gave the following report.</p> <p><i>Fall Plenary.</i> The October 23 Senate Plenary on Quality of Life in Oakland: Investing in University-Community Partnerships went well. Wesley Rohrer, co-chair of the Community Relations Committee will give a follow-up report on the Plenary later in today’s meeting. If you missed the Plenary, there were several nice articles on it in the Nov. 6 University Times.</p> <p>On October 29 the Senate officers and I met with the Senate Presidents of the Greensburg and Johnstown campuses. The Bradford Senate President was also supposed to attend the meeting, but it was snowing heavily in the northern part of the state that morning, making it impossible for him to travel to Pittsburgh. Steve Carr from the Senate Budget Policies Committee also attended the meeting. We discussed a variety of issues; the main one was selecting an appropriate peer comparison group of colleges for the regional campuses. This has been an issue for several years and has failed to go forward because all four campuses must agree on the colleges to be included in the peer group. We also discussed faculty workloads, retaining faculty and participation in Senate Committees on the Oakland campus.</p>	<p>The President’s report was accepted.</p>

Men's Glee Club made it a memorable evening for all who attended.

November 3-8, Non Traditional Student week, was celebrated with a variety of programs: A Town Hall Meeting hosted by CGSSG with Assistant Dean Cristina Ruggiero which provided an open forum for student discussion; A workshop for Study Abroad opportunities for Nontraditional students; and a networking social with Dr. Denova. CGSSG would like to recognize Dr. Sherry Miller Brown for her continued support.

CGSSG is currently accepting applications for four scholarships (Outstanding Student of the Year, Success and Determination, Returning Student and Nontraditional Part time Student Study Abroad), each in the amount of \$1000. Students will be notified on December 17 if they were awarded a scholarship. The Study Abroad Scholarship recipient will be announced at the Excellence Reception in April. Student Government provides \$3000 and the remaining \$1000 is contributed by the College of General Studies.

CGSSG is cosponsoring four final preparation workshops in the McCarl Center. On December 16, an end of semester bash is being held at Peter's Pub for CGS students.

President Baker asked for questions or comments; none were raised.

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly.

Byron Kohut, GPSA President, gave the following report. On October 25, executive graduate and professional student assembly board representatives from Chatham, CMU and Pitt gathered for a one day planning retreat at Eden Hall Farms (Chatham). The retreat was to discuss the possibility of holding a graduate student cookout and recognition day at Schenley Park in April, 2009. The intent would be to build a consortium of graduate students where they can share ideas and resources in hope of keeping graduate student in Pittsburgh.

This month's GPSA report will highlight the activities of the Turkish American Student Association (TASA). This past month, TASA students held an event in the Kurtzman Room of the WPU to honor their native Turkey and raise funds for the establishment of a Turkish Nationality Room. They will continue to raise funds until they have achieved their goal. Currently there are 26 different nationality rooms in Pitt's Nationality Rooms program. For nearly a decade, TASA has worked with various constituents in Pittsburgh to raise funds for the creation of a Turkish Nationality Room. As of January 2008, the project had raised almost 90% of the total funds it needs. The latest TASA fundraising event raised nearly \$1400 of the remaining \$15,000 needed to complete the room. To date the committee has raised nearly \$410,000. The completion of the room brings hope to Turkish graduate

The GPSA report was accepted.

<p>students that recognition of their culture will grow in Pittsburgh and the surrounding region.</p> <p>President Baker asked how long they have they been trying to raise money for the Turkish Nationality Room, and President Kohut responded it started in 2001.</p> <p>Chancellor Nordenberg commented that a faculty member from CMU is very involved in the Turkish Nationality Room and that the Turkish President has also visited Pitt.</p> <p><u>Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Organization (GSO).</u> Vice President P.J. Dillon gave the GSO report. The GSO Library Committee is looking into the book call back function being taken off of the Pitt Catt system. It had been taken off and is being put back onto the Pitt Catt system. The committee will have a permanent GSO rep on the Senate Library Committee.</p> <p>Grad students are unable to forward Pitt email to Gmail. They are working with CSSD to alleviate the problem, but are not sure what will be done. Pop 3 would be an acceptable solution, but currently CSSD doesn't support that.</p> <p>Senate Past President Irene Frieze suggested contacting George Pike, Co-Chair of the Computer Usage Committee. Claire Siskin, Co-Chair of the Computer Usage Committee, commented that a couple of actions have already been taken. They have bought more licenses for the Postini filter; filtering is also now automatic. CSSD is well aware of the situation and they are working on it.</p> <p>President Baker asked for questions or comments; none were raised.</p>	<p>The GSO report was accepted.</p>
<p><u>Report of the President of the Staff Association Council.</u> SAC President Richard Colwell gave the following report: The Elections Committee is currently accepting applications for membership to the Staff Association Council. The deadline to apply is Friday, December 12.</p> <p>At today's SAC meeting several votes were taken. One was a vote on changing the Bylaws for terms of officers; this change did not pass, so there will continue to be term limits for the SAC officers. The resolution on attendance at meetings passed, so the Governance Committee will audit attendance records and send letters to members who do not attend meetings. The final vote taken was regarding assigning SAC members to committees, which also did not pass.</p> <p>The Program and Planning Committee is currently taking applications for the SAC Endowed Book Fund for students who are children of staff employees. Students need to fill out the application on the SAC</p>	<p>The SAC report was accepted.</p>

<p>website, www.pitt.edu/~sac. SAC President Colwell commented that they are trying to get the word out. President Baker suggested putting an ad in the Pitt News.</p> <p>President Baker asked for questions or comments; none were raised.</p>	
<p><u>Reports by and Announcements of Standing and Special Committee of the Senate.</u></p> <p>Wes Rohrer, Co-Chair of the Community Relations Committee gave the following report.</p> <p>The fall Plenary “Quality of Life in Oakland: Investing in University and Community Partnerships” placed an equal emphasis on life issues and University and Community partnerships. Both ongoing efforts and future plans were discussed. There was excellent coverage of the Plenary in the November 6th issue of the University Times.</p> <p>Wes thanked Peter Hart and Nancy Brown (the editor) for the U-Times coverage, Lori Molinaro from the Senate Office for her assistance, Dr. Baker and the other Senate officers for giving the Community Relations Committee the opportunity to present the Plenary, and Ed Galloway, Tracy Soska and the other active members of the CRC for their efforts. He acknowledged the community partners who participated in the event, and the panel which was coordinated by Adrienne Walnoha, the Executive Director of Community Human Services. Peoples Oakland, OBID, OPDC, Oakland Community Council, and Oakland Transportation and Management Association all contributed directly to the Plenary.</p> <p>The presentations by Councilmen Peduto and Kraus were on point and provided very positive contributions, especially Peduto’s reference to a vision of Oakland in year 2020. This is going to provide a theme for the CR Committee for moving forward. Wes thanked Chancellor Nordenberg for providing an excellent historic summary in his introduction and for ongoing efforts. He thanked Provost Maher for his clear affirmation of university commitment for community partnerships. Finally he thanked students, faculty and staff for their participation, especially in the roundtable sessions. He was impressed by the cooperation given by student leaders.</p> <p>Professor Rohrer shared a quote from page 9 of the U-Times from the Chancellor’s remarks “These and many other university community partnerships bring to mind an Irish proverb: it is in the shelter of each other that the people live.” Professor Rohrer added not only live but strive and thrive. Also quoting from Bill Peduto “No neighborhood in the city has as much potential as Oakland and with it comes our responsibility to create the Western Pennsylvania of tomorrow. You should understand we are standing at the epicenter of the 21st century, not just for Oakland, not just for Pittsburgh, not just for the county, but</p>	<p>No action needed; information only.</p>

<p>for all of Western Pennsylvania. If this region is going to sustain itself and grow and create a new economy it's going to happen right here in Oakland.”</p> <p>Looking ahead, the CRC is going to provide the Senate with a formal report with recommendations for action, based on our Plenary discussions by the early spring of 2009. Finally, vision 2020 is a useful focal icon for our future planning and partnering. It will bring a shift in emphasis from an assessment of past and current strengths and weaknesses and challenges, to a future orientation that designs with our partners the development of Oakland and the Pittsburgh region.</p> <p>Professor Rohrer concluded his report. President Baker asked for comments or questions. He then asked Tracy Soska if he would like to add anything. Soska commented that Renny Clark and the Oakland Task Force has been very important and will continue to play a pivotal role in the shaping of Oakland. Rohrer added that John Wilds has also been very active in supporting our community efforts.</p> <p>President Baker emphasized that Lori Molinaro and Cindy Brendel in the Senate Office provide wonderful support to all of the committees.</p>	
<p><u>Unfinished Business and/or New Business.</u> There was no new business to discuss.</p>	No action needed.
<p><u>Announcements.</u> President Baker announced that the next Senate Council meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2008.</p>	No action needed.
<p><u>Adjournment.</u> With there being no further business, President Baker adjourned the meeting at 3:58 pm.</p>	The meeting was adjourned.

Members attending:

Baker, Balaban, Belle, Cochran, Coldren, Colwell, Deasy, Ecker, Frieze, Hampton, Hartman, Husted, Juffs, Juhl, Kohut, Levine, Link, Lotze, Molinaro, Natale, Nordenberg, Otto, Ramicone, Rohrer, Seitz, Siskin, Slaughter, Soska, Wion

Members not attending:

Anzoise, Carlin, Cham, Coat, Coontz, Daley, Devanath, Dunbar-Jacob, Gallagher, Hodgkiss, Kimmel, Kory, Rechter, Rubin, Sanderson, Saunders, Slimick

*Excused attendance:

Alexander, Bauer, Bernardo, Brush, Butt, Chasens, Flynn, Hansen, Harbert, Maher, Nicoletti, Petracchi, Skledar, Stagger, Twiss, Wendell

Others attending:

Brendel, Blair, Clark, Dillon, Frank, Frish, Galloway, Hart, Hazley, Humphrey, Mohamed, Supowitz, Vernier-Lovicks, White, Wilds, Williamson

*Notified Senate office

SENATE COUNCIL ATTENDANCE RECORD

	10-Sep	15-Oct	12-Nov	TOTAL
Baker	1	1	1	3
Balaban	1	N	1	2
Bauer	N	0	N	0
Belle	1	1	1	3
Bernardo	1	1	N	2
Brush	N	N	N	0
Butt	1	N	N	1
Carlin	0	N	0	0
Cham	0	1	0	1
Chasens	N	N	N	0
Coat*	0	0	0	0
Coontz	0	0	0	0
Daley	0	1	0	1
Deasy	N	0	1	1
Flynn	N	N	N	0
Frieze	1	1	1	3
Gallagher	0	1	0	1
Hampton	1	N	1	2
Hansen	N	N	N	0
Harbert	1	1	N	2
Hartman	1	1	1	3
Husted	1	N	1	2
Juffs	1	1	1	3
Kory*	0	0	0	0
Lotze	0	N	1	1
Molinaro	1	1	1	3
Nicoletti*	N	1	N	1
Otto	1	1	1	3
Petracchi	N	N	N	0
Rechter*	0	0	0	0
Rohrer	N	N	1	1
Rubin	0	N	0	0
Saunders	0	N	0	0
Seitz	1	1	1	3
Siskin	1	1	1	3
Skledar	N	N	N	0
Slaughter	1	0	1	2
Slimick*	0	0	0	0
Soska	1	0	1	2
Twiss	1	1	N	2
Wendell	1	1	N	2
Wion	1	0	1	2

* Regional Campus

"N" Notification/unable to attend