“Enhancing Quality and Impact in Graduate and Professional Programs” by James V. Maher, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

Provost Maher spoke to Council about his efforts to raise the profile of graduate and professional education at the University of Pittsburgh. Over the past year Provost Maher has been speaking to general audiences about the value and richness inherent to graduate and professional education.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting were approved.

Announcements

TOEFL Internet-Based Test (iBT) presentation

A member of the TOEFL Client Relations team from Educational Testing Service is coming to the University of Pittsburgh on January 20, 2009. Some of the topics to be covered include: reviewing the TOEFL iBT score requirements, using the TOEFL iBT speaking section to screen international Teaching Assistants, and the 2007 TOEFL iBT Student Performance.

Update on National Research Council (NRC) Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs

The NRC website now states that the release of the Methodology Guide is estimated for mid February and possibly earlier. We have postponed the workshop for the chairs of programs who submitted data to the NRC so that the workshop can occur closer to the anticipated release.

Updates on the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Mentoring

Dossiers from our nominees are due Friday, January 16, 2009. The selection committee will start to review the dossiers shortly thereafter.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next meeting of Council will take place on March 17, 2009.