Attending
Karen Arndt (Arts and Sciences), Stephen Carr (Arts and Sciences), Mahmoud El Nokali (Engineering), Michael Gunzenhauser (Education), Stephanie Hoogendoorn (Provost’s Office), Karen Norris (Medicine), Alberta Sbragia (Provost’s Office and Arts and Sciences, Chair), Chandralekha Singh (Arts and Sciences), Elizabeth Skidmore (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences), Heiko Spallek (Dental Medicine), Michael Thompson (Arts and Sciences), Travis Wisor (Registrar’s Office)

Substitutes
Cindy Bryce (Public Health), Mitali Patil (Graduate and Professional Student Government), Michael Rizzi (Public and International Affairs)

Guests
Jere Gallagher (Education), John T.S. Keeler (Public and International Affairs), Lindsay Clare Matsumura (Education), Margaret Smith (Education), Charlene Trovato (Education)

Proposal to Establish a Major and Minor in Energy and Environment leading to the Master of Public Administration from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

The proposed major and minor were designed to provide policy expertise and training to meet the needs of government agencies who are attempting to respond to the opportunities and challenges of shale gas extraction and the needs of companies attempting to navigate the regulatory environment within which business operates. It will complement other programs by focusing mainly on energy governance. Seven new courses will be developed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve to the new major and minor. Members voted in favor of recommending that the programs be approved by the Provost.

Proposal to Establish Graduate and Post-baccalaureate Certificates in Big Data Analytics from the School of Information Sciences

The proposed certificates were designed to meet needs of professionals with either a BS or MS degree in Information Science or a related field who want to expand their professional skills and qualifications in the big data analysis field. The School plans to submit a proposal to offer these certificates in Pitt Online. The post-baccalaureate certificate will be subject to federal Gainful Employment requirements.

Council briefly discussed the proposed certificates, including perceived overlaps with coursers offered in other schools. A motion was made and seconded to approve to the new certificates. Members voted in favor of recommending that the certificates be approved by the Provost.
Proposal to Modify the Existing PhD and EdD programs from the School of Education
This proposal came out of extended review of the School’s doctoral offerings and the desire to further raise the quality of the programs. The goal of the proposal is to clarify the purpose of each degree. Henceforth, it is proposed that the purpose of the PhD in the School of Education be the preparation of strong scholar-researchers who will be the next generation of research university faculty or top scholars in major research institutes. It is also proposed that the EdD be the terminal professional degree that prepares educators for leadership positions in school systems and in higher education management.

Council discussed the proposed modifications, including the differences between a doctoral research degree and a professional doctoral degree. A motion was made and seconded to approve the modifications to the EdD and PhD programs, with the understanding that the modified EdD is a research doctoral degree. Members voted in favor of recommending that the modifications be approved by the Provost.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.