Attending
Catherine Bender (Nursing), Valire Copeland (Social Work), Robert Devaty (Arts and Sciences), Eleanor Feingold (Public Health), Dennis Galletta (Business), Michael Gunzenhauser (Education), John Horn (Medicine), Nyasha Hungwe (Graduate and Professional Student Assembly), Jonathan Hurwitz (Arts and Sciences), Susan Kalisz (Arts and Sciences), Karen Norris (Medicine), Robert Parker (Engineering), Jayant Rajgopal (Engineering), Alberta Sbragia (Provost’s Office and Arts and Sciences, Chair), Elizabeth Skidmore (Health Rehabilitation), Heiko Spallek (Dental), Martin Staniland (Public and International Affairs), Martin Weiss (Information Sciences), Stephanie Hoogendoorn (Provost’s Office), Patricia Mathay (Registrar’s Office)

Guests
Jennifer Holliman and Doris Rubio from the Institute for Clinical Research Education
Louis Kaczmarek from the School of Education
John Metzger and Larry Shuman from the Swanson School of Engineering
Rush Miller from the University Library System

Program Proposal: Graduate and Post-Professional Certificates in Comparative Effectiveness Research from the School of Medicine
The proposed certificates aim to provide students in the Schools of the Health Sciences additional training in studies directly comparing clinically plausible choices in order to expedite the translation of best therapies into practice. The Institute for Clinical Research Education will administer the program, and the School of Medicine will award the certificates.

The presenters explained that through the existing core curriculum and additional newly developed courses that the program will concentrate on the following four methodologies central to Comparative Effectiveness Research: meta-analysis and systematic reviews; clinical and administrative database analysis; modeling and computational methods; and clinical trials.

Council briefly discussed the proposed program. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed Graduate and Post-Professional Certificates. All members voted in favor of recommending approval of the proposal.

Program Proposal: Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis from the School of Education
The proposed certificate program aims to provide students theoretical instruction and clinical application to address the needs of children who are served within Special Education and Behavioral Health services. The coursework offered in the proposed program will partially fulfill the requirements to become a Board Certified Behavior Analysis. No new courses are needed.
The presenter clarified that analysts completing this program will be designing intervention programs and services and will not be diagnosing patients. Council discussed the proposed program. Members noted that the coursework offered in the proposed certificate partially fulfills the requirements to become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and has been approved by the BCBA. Additional requirements to obtain the certification include the possession of a masters degree, completion of supervised practicum hours and a national exam.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed Graduate Certificate, subject to Dean Lesgold’s confirmation that this program is sustainable. All members voted in favor of recommending approval of the proposal, with the exception of one abstention.

Program Proposal: Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering (MSNE) from the Swanson School of Engineering
The proposed program will offer students two tracks: a professional, non-thesis 30-credit option to support students who are already working or want to work in industry, and a 33-credit research-based thesis option for full-time graduate students. The majority of the masters-level courses in the proposed program will be offered as in-class and synchronous distance learning options; the latter option is typically preferred by the students in the professional track. The MSNE is a new degree type.

The presenters explained the success of the undergraduate and graduate certificates in Nuclear Engineering and the opportunities for graduates of the proposed master’s program. Council asked a few questions about the differences between the two tracks.

Council briefly discussed the proposed program. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering. All members voted in favor of recommending approval of the proposal, with the exception of one abstention.

Proposal to Terminate Two Graduate Certificates from the Swanson School of Engineering
Engineering would like to terminate the Certificate of Advanced Study in Clinical Cardiovascular Engineering and the Certificate of Advanced Study in Rehabilitation Engineering. It has been several years since students have enrolled in these programs. Council needs to review these proposals in order to satisfy the Guidelines for the Review of Academic Planning Proposals.

A motion was made and seconded to terminate the programs. All members voted in favor of recommending approval of the proposal to terminate the programs.

Approval of the Minutes
The minutes of the November 15, 2011 meeting were approved.
Announcements
Alberta Sbragia passed out updated information on international students, Fulbright students and Fulbright Scholars at Pitt. She thanked both those members who have provided additional data and those members who attended the recent Fulbright reception.

Alberta Sbragia asked members from each school if they could respond to a brief survey about their school’s Graduate Student Organization. She hopes gain a better understanding of the roles that these organizations play in the schools.

Nyasha Hungwe, President of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, provided an overview of the upcoming GPSA Officer elections.

Dr. Rush Miller, Director of the University Library System, provided an update on Open Access at Pitt
Resources on Open Access, including the report from the Open Access Task Force submitted in August 2011, are available online at http://openaccess.pitt.edu.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.