Provost’s Advisory Committee for Women’s Concerns Meeting
December 1, 2016
12:00-1:00 p.m.
826 Cathedral of Learning

Present:  Pam Connelly (Office of Diversity and Inclusion), Sheila Corrall (School of Information Sciences), Deborah Galson (School of Medicine, Hematology, Oncology), Jacqueline Horrall (University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg), Laurie Kirsch (Office of the Provost), Chris Kush (Katz Graduate School of Business, Center for Executive Education), Nancy Niemczyk (Nursing, Health Promotion and Development), Kristine Ojala (Graduate and Professional Student Government), Anitha Potluri (Dental, Diagnostic Services), Amy Tuttle (Office of the Provost).

Introduction of PACWC Members

Laurie Kirsch and Pam Connelly, co-chairs, introduced themselves and welcomed the committee. Committee members introduced themselves.

Minutes

Laurie asked for a motion from committee members to approve the meeting minutes of October 31, 2016. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Potential PACWC Events for Spring 2017

Pam led the discussion about the two potential events to be held in the Spring term. The first event to be discussed is a networking event for the members of the leadership development programs that were identified by the subcommittee last year. Chris Kush explained that the goal of this event is to create connections among the leaders of these programs to help facilitate a network and set up an environment of future collaboration. Nancy Niemczyk noted that this is a timely initiative, because leadership development is one of the initiatives outlined in the University’s strategic plan, and as such discussion is occurring within the schools on how they can provide leadership development opportunities for their faculty, staff, and students. It was suggested that Deans and campus Presidents also be invited to this event.

Chris Kush suggested a strategy to publicize this networking event to the program leaders so as to maximize its effectiveness. She suggested the following wording for an e-mail invitation: “Come see how Pitt values leadership development programs. We would like to hear about your program!” The committee was very supportive of this idea. It was also decided that we should ask each program leader to submit in advance of the event a few sentences about what their program does, as well as an idea of what they hope to get out of the event. We can then combine this information into a handout for the meeting, and potentially use it to help plan the event itself.

After some discussion, the group decided that the format should be a late-afternoon session, from 3:30-5:00 p.m., sometime before Spring Break, at a location such as the University Club or the Twentieth Century Club. The presentation can consist of a short overview of the subcommittee’s
findings, and then a speaker to present on the general topic of leadership. Laurie offered that her office will summarize the ideas presented during the PACWC meeting and develop an action plan for organizing this event.

The committee then discussed the second potential Spring event, a panel presentation featuring the three University administrators who will be highlighted as part of the Spotlight on Women Leaders” series: Senior Vice Chancellor and Provost Patricia Beeson, Senior Vice Chancellor Kathy Humphrey, and Senior Vice Chancellor Geovette Washington. Amy Tuttle gave the committee a brief update on the status of the video project. She stated that she met with the video production team from Student Services, and they expressed great enthusiasm about the project. They plan to conduct the video interviews with the three administrators before the holiday break and to edit them in early Spring term. They hope to have the videos completed by mid-March. The committee agreed that it would be a great idea to use the videos, or a segment of a video, as a “teaser” for the event, which can be held toward the end of March. Again, it was decided that a late afternoon event would work well, using as the format a Q&A session to make it more interactive. It was suggested that we choose a moderator, who can open the session with a few prepared questions, giving each panelist the opportunity to answer. After this, the moderator can invite audience members to ask questions of the panel which are geared toward their insights on leadership. The committee considered whether the event would be open to faculty, staff, and students, or whether multiple events should be held for specific groups. Laurie suggested that we find a way to include participation on the regional campuses as well, perhaps by live-streaming the event. Suggested names for the event are “A Leadership Dialogue,” or “A Leadership Conversation.” Pam asked that any additional ideas about the event be forwarded to her or to Laurie.

**Subcommittee Projects**

**“Spotlight on Women Leaders” Subcommittee:** Laurie gave a recap of the subcommittee’s decision to continue refining the process to nominate and choose women leaders throughout the University community who can be highlighted by video segments on the PACWC website. Laurie encouraged the subcommittee members to define a process that will be workable and sustainable over time, so that this effort can continue for many years. The committee discussed various ways in which PACWC might be involved in this project over time.

**“Leadership Development” Subcommittee:** Laurie started the discussion by noting that last year’s subcommittee uncovered a number of great models of leadership programs that are doing excellent work, and that this year the subcommittee expressed that they would like to focus on collaborating with directors of these programs to possibly develop recommendations for a leadership program at Pitt. It was noted that there was interest expressed last year among some of the leadership program directors, such as Anne Robertson, Audrey Murrell, and Marnie Oakley, to participate in collaborative efforts with other program directors and with PACWC. The subcommittee decided they should hold a meeting with these three women to identify possible joint projects. It was also agreed that these three will be a good source of information about leadership programs outside of the University, such as within the Pittsburgh community and at other institutions. This will open up even more avenues for collaboration in the future.
Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.