

SIS Council Meeting  
February 13, 2015  
9:30, room 501

Approval of agenda and the minutes from Jan 16, 2015

1. Updates
    - Dean's Updates
    - Program Chairs' Updates
    - Chief of Staff's Updates
  2. Quick items
    - iFest Report (Michael Depew)
    - Graduate Advising (Brandi & Wes)
  3. Undergraduate program discussion
  4. Reflection on Chancellor's visit and discussion on "Grand ideas"
  5. Matters arising (if time remains)
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Please see the notes below for [3] and [4]:

3. We will discuss what is next for the Undergraduate program (to start with any updates Bob may have, if needed). Bob and other colleagues have put significant efforts rethinking this; it would be nice to see if we can come up with specific action items so that we can bring something concrete out of it. We do not want to lose the momentum on this one!!

Some questions to discuss maybe:

- What are the next steps for Bob's plan?
- Is the plan adequate enough? Some of us have suggested thinking about the undergrad program completely "out of box" -- Is it meeting that criteria? Do we want to do that?
- What resources/support do we need to provide to Bob so that changes as planned can be pushed forward?
- How can we make sure that in the new academic cycle we are moving forward with the implementation of a revamped Undergraduate program?

There have been significant efforts on this - let's make these count!!

4. Thanks, Peter and Prashant for suggesting this item, and sending the questions/remark below that we can start with.

- We should keep talking about “grand” ideas.... We had time to examine the environmental scan, but little time to discuss outcomes and ideas (from Peter).
- Can we ask the question: what is the ONE thing we can do to make the school more successful in the eyes of Pitt and see how we can accomplish it? (from Prashant)

I am beginning to feel that FORCES ARE WITH US for some significant change (at least momentum created by: Elliance, BoV, now Chancellor's Grand idea) -- and the good thing is that we have some momentum!!

Similar to that of [3], let's discuss about what next steps need to be taken towards ensuring some concrete outcomes. There are several local issues (enrollments, undergraduate program, demographics, ...) -- rather than patching individual issues ("Patch Management"), I feel that sometimes an opportunity like we might be (just "might be"!) having may help us in coming up with a completely revamped, more assured/robust program ("Secure-by-Design").

Be with us, may the FORCE!!