

1 William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – November 24, 2015  
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --  
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4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopolous, Avdeev, Broome, Cano, Cook, Crick, Decker, Diamond,  
5 Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Fallace, Flint, Fondeur, Gazzillo-Diaz, Griswold, Harris, Hong,  
6 Kim, Kothandaraman, Levitan, Maduro, Magaldi, Makarec, Martin, Martus, Najarian, Natrajan,  
7 Nobler, O'Donnell, Rosar, Sabogal, Sandmann, Simon, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi,  
8 Tesfaye, Verdicchio, Waldron, Wallace, Watad, Weisberg, Wicke  
9

10 **ABSENT:** Helena, Owusu  
11

12 **GUESTS:** Adams, Brenenson, Chabayta, Cho, Corso, Daniel-Robinson, Escobar, Fuller-  
13 Stanley, Goldstein, Hahn, Howell, Jackson, Kollia, Liautaud, McCoy, McLaughlin-Vignier,  
14 McMahan, Miller, Noonan, Owusu-Ansah, Rabbitt, Refsland, Rosenberg, Rosengart, Ross.  
15 Roux, Schneider, Sheffield, Sherman, Shojai, Treisky, Villar, Wolf, Zeff  
16

17 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Falk-Romaine called the Senate to order at 12:34 PM. The  
18 Agenda was moved by Martus and Snyder. Cook moved to reverse the order of the  
19 Undergraduate Council resolutions, moving the History revisions ahead of the First Year  
20 Seminar. This change and the revised Agenda were then approved unanimously. The Minutes of  
21 the 10/27/2015 meeting were moved by Martus and Cano. Levitan made a minor correction, and  
22 then the revised Minutes were also approved unanimously.  
23

24 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Falk-Romaine said that the Board of Trustees approved the Emeritus  
25 resolution for Eswar Phadia. The dedication of the new health sciences building will be held on  
26 January 13<sup>th</sup> (snow date: 1/19).  
27

28 Duffy brought the members' attention to the handouts announcing that the Library would be  
29 open 24/7 during pre-exam and exam weeks. The Provost will supply coffee for the students  
30 studying overnight.  
31

32 **PRESIDENT WALDRON:** Waldron briefly discussed the racist graffiti found in a Wing  
33 restroom. She complimented faculty who used the incident as a teaching moment and reported  
34 that the Campus Police are looking for the suspect.

35 She called for a moment of silence for Cherelle Locklear who died on Sunday. Her sorority,  
36 Delta Psi Epsilon, will be holding a memorial service this evening at 7:30 in Zanfino Plaza. The  
37 Counseling Center is available to assist anyone who need them.

38 She urged faculty to stop by in the Multipurpose Room after the Senate to support the SGA's  
39 Sexual Assault Awareness Campaign, which is stressing personal responsibility. Levitan noted  
40 that hate speech graffiti – racial, sexual, ethnic, gender – appears in waves, and asked that  
41 Maintenance monitor the stalls more frequently.  
42

43 **PROVOST SANDMANN: ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION:** Sandmann described the  
44 problem regarding the federal government's seeking reimbursement of financial aid for students  
45 whose attendance in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 can't be verified. The University cannot account

46 for approximately \$2,300,000. Steinhart asked about polices regarding retention of student  
47 records. Sandmann responded that the new enrollment verification process implemented this year  
48 should obviate the problem in the future. Since so many faculty use BlackBoard as their record  
49 keeping system, attempts are being made to archive student grade records. His office is looking  
50 into NJ law and best practices nationally to establish a new WPU retention policy. In addition, a  
51 new FN grade is being implemented to distinguish students who simple walked away without  
52 withdrawing formally. Falk-Romine advised faculty to retain academic records for at least two  
53 years.

54 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Magaldi reported that a faculty member whose department has  
55 sufficient members to constitute a valid promotion committee, wishes to add extra members from  
56 outside the department. Tardi objected that this is no permissible and is contrary to policy. Falk-  
57 Romaine said that there were extraordinary circumstance within the department that might have  
58 required this action. Hahn said that there was a misunderstanding: he did not approve this, but  
59 told the candidate go to the Senate. Gazzillo-Diaz stated that this would set a terrible precedent,  
60 allowing candidates to pack committees with hand-picked outsiders. Aktan noted that the one  
61 faculty member who had been unavailable had returned in time to be on the committee (thus  
62 obviating the need for Senate action). Steinhart, Martus and Wicke also addressed the issue. The  
63 motion to approve the expanded committee was defeated by voice vote, with no votes in support  
64 and 5 abstentions.

65 **BUDGET PRESENTATION:** Bolyai presented a PowerPoint (archived in the Packet for this  
66 meeting) on the University Budget and took questions. Kim was concerned about the decline in  
67 state support and the stagnant enrollment. Snyder asked about how lab technicians are classified.  
68 Kothandaraman warned that there is a tendency downward when stagnation occurs. What  
69 strategies are being discussed to prevent WPU being held hostage to enrollment? Bolyai said that  
70 the University is hopeful about increases in enrollment, but will use reserves, if necessary.  
71 Alternate revenue sources are being pursued: continuing education, conferences, summer events  
72 and partnerships with the corporate sector. Andreopoulos noted that larger public institutions  
73 with more graduate programs can weather storms better than we can. We must decide what we  
74 want the University to be regarding graduate programs.

75 Tardi said it is prudent to base budgets on aspirational dashboard goals, but we must be realistic.  
76 Bolyai said this his approach to budgeting is conservative and this this is not an overly optimistic  
77 budget, but rather a realistic one.

78

79 **UNDERGRAUATE COUNCIL: REVISIONS TO HISTORY MAJOR AND MINOR:**  
80 Sheffield and Levitan moved acceptance of the History Department's changes in the major and  
81 minors. Martus complimented the Department for a model proposal – and urged that other  
82 departments follow their lead. The program was approved unanimously.

83

84 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: REVISION IN FIRST YEAR SEMINAR:** Roux and  
85 Levitan moved acceptance of the proposed new First Year Seminar. (The documents are  
86 archived in the Packet for this meeting.) Falk-Romaine explained that since FYS doesn't belong  
87 to any department, the proposal is being brought directly to the Senate. Levitan, Ellis,  
88 Verdicchio, Tardi, Martus, Trelicky, Andreopoulos and Kim addressed various aspects of the  
89 program: the move from 1.5 to one credit, the purpose of FYS, registration issues, etc. The  
90 proposal passed by voice vote, with 2 negatives and an undetermined number of abstentions.

91

92

93 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Senate adjourned at 1:50pm.

94

95 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Tuesday, December, 8<sup>th</sup> in Ballroom C.

96

97 Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

98

99 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

100 [www.wpunj.edu/senate](http://www.wpunj.edu/senate)