William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES –March 24, 2015

FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE http://www.wpunj.edu/senate --

PRESENT: Aktan, Alon, Andreopolous, Broome, Cano, Cho (for O’Donnell), Decker, Diamond, Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Furst, Gazzillo-Diaz, Griswold, Kearney, Knaus (for Kim), Kothandaraman, Ku, Levitan, Magaldi, Makarec, Martin, Martus, McNeal, Nyaboga (for Avdeev), Owusu, Perez, Phelps, Rosar, Sabogal, Sandmann, Schwartz, Sheffield, Simon, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi, Tirado, Verdicchio, Wagner, Wallace, Wicke

ABSENT: Dinan, Lum, Maduro, Polchak, Villar, Waldron

GUESTS: Adeniran, Bambrick, Bolyai, Brenenson, Chabayta, Ciliberti, Corso, Crick, Daniel-Robinson, DeDeo, DiNoia, Escobar, Ferguson, Godar, Goldstein, Hahn, Howell, Kubeyinje, Liautaud, McCoy, McLaughlin-Vignier, Moore, Noonan, Rabbitt, Refsland, Rosenberg, Rosengart, Ross, Schneider, Seal, Sherman, Shojai, Stanfield, Weisberg, Williams, Wolf

PRELIMINARIES: Levitan called the Senate to order at 12:32PM. The Agenda, moved by Martus and Ku, was approved unanimously. The Minutes of the 3/10/2015 meeting, moved by Martus and Makarec, were also approved unanimously.

CHAIR’S REPORT: Levitan called for a moment of silence for Mark Evangelista, long-time Registrar, who died last week. She reminded senators to poll their departments regarding online caps and forward the results to the Senate Office as quickly as possible, in order to bring closure to the Senate’s discussion of this important issue.

Broome, Co-chair of the Elections Council, reminded the campus about the elections being held for next year’s Senate.

On March 27th there will be a Graduate Forum on Extending Our Global Reach: Attracting and Recruiting Foreign Students.

Research and Scholarship Days will be 4/1 and 4/2.

There will be a meeting of the Faculty and Professional Staff (a closed meeting for voting members of the Senate only) during common hour on Thursday, 4/16 in Science 3002.

The Senate Appreciation Lunch will be held on 4/23 in University Commons room 211.

Sandmann briefly described the status of the new Academic Manual.

Perez distributed (for Kim) several articles regarding the Obama administration’s plans for higher education. (They are archived in the Packet for this meeting.)

The UCC Council will meet on 4/27 to implement the results of today’s voting on UCC.
Wagner urged the entire community to participate in the Library’s LibQual survey. Student respondents are eligible to win an iPad Mini. [www.wpunj.edu/library/libqual.dot]

VICE CHAIRS REPORT: Levitan reminded the community that Dinan has called for volunteers for membership on next year’s Senate councils.

UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM COUNCIL: RESOLUTION REGARDING AREAS 4, 5 AND 6: Weisberg and Williams introduced the Council’s resolution which calls for removing Area 4 as a prerequisite to Areas 5 and 6. Kearney recommended using the area names rather than the area numbers in the resolution. Ellis, Sheffield, Williams, Berenson, Tirado, Simon, Phelps and Makarec spoke to the issue, most preferring to keep Diversity and Justice (Area 4) as a prerequisite for Community and Civic Engagement (Area 5) but not for Global Awareness (Area 6). The amended and reworded resolution was approved by voice vote, with one vote no.

ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL: REPORT BY VICE-PRESIDENT ROSS: Ross quickly reviewed his PowerPoint (archived in the Packet for this meeting). He discussed the Board’s Dashboard Indicators for enrollment, displayed comparative data for WPU and its competitors, presented some of the strategies that will be used to achieve the Dashboard goal of 11,407 students, and called for the faculty to help in this multi-pronged effort. Among the various enrollment strategies he highlighted an improved scholarship program, greater use of data mining, more vigorous work with high schools and community colleges, college-specific Accepted Student Receptions and a strong phone campaign.

Phelps praised the greater focus on transfer students and pointed out that they need more attention and better advisement. Sandmann noted that there is now a Transfer Student Experience Office. Kothandaraman called for better strategic marketing rather than just a tactical approach. Tardi questioned whether it is the number of programs offered that matters, or if it’s the quality of the programs and the reputation of the University. She also noted the bad publicity WPU has gotten over the alleged sexual assault. Ross stated that no parents have mentioned the incident at any of the recent open houses, but he agreed that the University must tell its story better.

Verdicchio posed the rhetorical question: Why come to WPU? Ross and Andreopoulous discussed the necessity of improving WPU’s reputation. McNeal questioned some of the comparative data and said that we don’t have the infrastructure to support students. Ross countered that, in fact, WPU has better GPA and admissions stats than Montclair State, but agreed that we must make support one of the things that differentiates WPU from other schools.

ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL: STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Vice-President Ferguson briefly described how her division raises funds for scholarships and its stewardship of donors’ gifts. (Her PowerPoint is archived in the Packet for this meeting.) She hinted at a large donation that would soon be announced. [On April 7th President Waldron reported to the campus that The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation has pledged $1 million to establish the Henry Taub Scholars Program. The donation marks the largest single gift specifically for scholarships in William Paterson University history.]

ADJOURNMENT: Upon Wicke and Ku’s motion, the Senate adjourned at 1:48pm.
The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Tuesday, April 14th in the Valley Road Auditorium.

The Faculty and Professional Staff meeting (closed meeting) will be held on Thursday, April 16th in Science East 3002.

Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

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