

1 William Paterson University – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – April 10, 2007  
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE – <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> -- Email discussion – [facultySenate@list.wpunj.edu](mailto:facultySenate@list.wpunj.edu)  
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4 **PRESENT:** Agard-Jones, Adeniran, Andreopoulos, Basu, Bliss, Bhat, Bolyai, Cho, Davis, De Young, Duffy, Ekeocha, Ferris,  
5 Finnegan, Fry (for Diaz), Grodner, Gulbranson, Hahn, Jemmott, Kalish, Kaufman, Kim, Korgen, Levitan, Makarec, Mandik (for  
6 Steinhart), Martinez, Martus, Mbogoni, McNeal (for Yildiz), Mulrine (replacing Goldstein), Pagano, Pavese, Peterson, Pollak,  
7 Potacco, Rabbitt, Rivela, Singh, Stroppel, K. Swanson, Tardi, Tesfaye, Thiuri, Tirado, Verdicchio, Wagner, Weisberg, Xu  
8

9 **ABSENT:** Boroznoff, Marshall, Rothman, P. Swanson, Wahrman  
10

11 **GUESTS:** Bogdon, Daniel-Robinson, Ciliberti, S. Goldstein, Gonzalez, Griswold, Leung, Miller, Peterman, Schaeffer, Seal  
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13 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Duffy called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM. Martus and Stroppel moved  
14 and seconded adoption of the proposed agenda and this passed unanimously. The minutes of the March 27  
15 meeting were moved and seconded by K. Swanson and Thiuri. Korgen asked that line 143 be changed, deleting  
16 the phrase "...and that the two topics are inseparable" at the end of the sentence. Tardi asked that line 161 be  
17 edited to read "...flexibility in honors studies but that further discussion is required. If a vote was to be taken at  
18 this point the department would reject the proposal." Davis asked that line 164 be edited to end the sentence at  
19 the word "opportunities." With these changes the minutes were approved.  
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21 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Duffy reported that Marjorie Goldstein has resigned from the Senate. He said that she  
22 served ably as Senate Secretary for a number of years prior to his own service in that office. He said that the  
23 Department of Special Education & Counseling has appointed Chris Mulrine as an interim replacement and that  
24 a departmental election will be done soon. Duffy said that nominations for the upcoming Senate election are  
25 closed but that withdrawals can still be done. Pavese announced that Research & Scholarship Day was a success  
26 and that it was well-attended. He said that the presentations were brilliant and thanked everyone involved for  
27 their contributions. He thanked the Research Council by name for their work and asked everyone to consider  
28 presenting next year. Stroppel distributed a flyer promoting an upcoming musical presented by the  
29 Communication and Music Departments entitled "Quilters". Ferris announced an upcoming Center for  
30 Teaching Excellence workshop of managing stress. Hahn distributed a flyer promoting a Provost's Forum on  
31 Learning Communities: Linked Course, Residence Learning Communities and Clusters to be held April 12 at  
32 12:30 PM in the Library Auditorium. Duffy announced that the Cheng Library will celebrate National Library  
33 Week April 15 through 21. He said that the New Jersey Library Association will continue its One Book New  
34 Jersey program this year, selecting Zora Neale Hurston's 1937 novel Their Eyes Were Watching God for  
35 statewide reading and discussion. He said that the Cheng Library will host a discussion of the book led by Rosa  
36 Soto of the English Department and Roja Singh of the Women's Studies Department in the Library Auditorium,  
37 April 16 at 12:30 PM.  
38

39 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Weisberg said that he will have a report at the next meeting on the recent  
40 Graduate Forum. He discussed requests for membership on Senate Councils and Committees: that they are  
41 coming in via the online form. He said that the link to the application is on the main Faculty Senate web page.  
42 He reminded everyone that the Admissions & Academic Standards Council will be split in two for the Fall  
43 semester. Tardi requested an email to the Senate listserv that includes the direct URL for the application form.  
44 Duffy reiterated the importance of the work of the Councils and Committees: saying that the majority of  
45 academic matters come through these groups to the Senate floor. He urged everyone to solicit participation  
46 among their colleagues. Kim asked if tenure was a requirement for service on these groups and Duffy said that  
47 it was not required and provided good experience for junior faculty members.  
48

49 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON SENATE MEMBERSHIP:** On behalf of the Governance  
50 Council, Potacco presented a resolution to revise the Faculty Senate Constitution to read "An individual who  
51 has been on staff one full calendar year at the university is eligible to serve on the Senate." The motion passed  
52 unanimously.  
53

54 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISONS:** On behalf of the  
55 Governance Council, Potacco presented a resolution to revise the Faculty Senate Bylaws to codify the practice  
56 of including a non-voting administrative liaison. Tardi asked for an amendment, changing the “Each council  
57 shall have one [administrative liaison]...” to “Each council *may* have...” Pavese seconded the motion to amend.  
58 Bliss spoke in support of the original language. Pavese said that use of the word “may” strengthens the  
59 emphasis on faculty in the Senate. Korgen said that the difference between may and shall doesn’t seem clear to  
60 her in this context. Martus asked if the group could meet without the presence of the liaison. De Young said that  
61 liaisons will always be a part of the work of the councils and this distinction is not very important. Upon a vote  
62 the motion to amend failed. Pavese pointed out an inconsistency in Article Two that restricted membership to  
63 full time faculty. Ferris asked if this will apply to all councils and committees. With three nays the motion  
64 passed.

65  
66 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE:** On behalf of the  
67 Governance Council, Potacco presented a resolution to revise the Faculty Senate Bylaws with regards to the  
68 description of the purpose, membership and function of the Assessment Committee. The resolution passed  
69 unanimously.

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71 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON TWO-YEAR TERMS:** On behalf of the Governance  
72 council, Potacco presented a resolution that amends the Senate Bylaws, regularizing the two year staggered  
73 term structure of councils and committees. The resolution passed unanimously.

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75 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Peter  
76 Griswold, Chair of the General Education Committee described the resolution to amend the Senate Bylaws that  
77 eliminates redundant verbiage and codifies the practice of including two at large members. The resolution  
78 passed unanimously. Potacco thanked the members of the Governance Council for their work this year on these  
79 and other resolutions. She also thanked Parliamentarian Tesfaye and the Executive Committee. The Senate gave  
80 a round of applause for the work of the Governance Council. Weisberg said that they have been operating with  
81 maximum efficiency and Duffy praised Potacco’s leadership.

82  
83 **AD HOC COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY RESOLUTION:** Weisberg moved approval of an ad hoc  
84 Technology Committee to supplement the work of other similar committees on campus, but with the particular  
85 interests of faculty governance as a central principle. Bliss asked of the Teaching Across the Curriculum (TAC)  
86 Committee was involved in developing this resolution. Weisberg said that the principles of TAC are echoed in  
87 those of the proposed committee. He said that the emergency online course policy of last year and subsequent  
88 technology-related issues precipitated the need for this committee. Bliss said that TAC, in its early formation,  
89 considered whether it should be a Senate committee and that there are merits to this. Weisberg said that the  
90 objectives of TAC are slightly different than the proposed charges to the technology committee. Levitan asked  
91 for a description of TAC’s structure. Weisberg replied that it is composed of representatives from each  
92 department plus the Library and student representatives. He said that TAC focuses on teaching and learning  
93 using technology. Weisberg said that the IT Advisory Committee is composed of a cross-section of faculty,  
94 staff, directors and other administrators and provides a voice for faculty in campus technology planning. He said  
95 a Senate-based technology committee would increase the faculty input into such planning. Bliss spoke in favor  
96 of this but said another committee doesn’t seem necessary. Martus voiced concern over the growing number of  
97 councils and committees and the difficulty of getting their rosters full. Ferris said that there is a lot of cross-  
98 membership: those interested in technology find themselves on multiple, similar committees. Weisberg said that  
99 the charges of the proposed committee are not being addressed by current groups. Finnegan said that it is  
100 important that there be a Senate committee devoted to IT issues. He said that TAC focuses on pedagogy and  
101 that the proposed committee would have more input into policies. Tardi agreed that having this committee  
102 associated with the Senate is potentially useful. Kaufman voiced concern that formation of yet another  
103 technology-focused group might marginalize the work of the existing committees. Weisberg stressed that the  
104 proposed charges of the new committee are distinct from those of existing committees. Miller said that the  
105 existing IT Advisory Committee has included abundant faculty input for the past two years. Weisberg said that

106 the new IT Technology Plan did not have full review by a faculty committee. Cho said that if this improves the  
107 communication on campus about technology issues then it should be approved. Xu said that there are enough  
108 committees and they should suffice, with perhaps an added representative from the Senate. Jemmott discussed  
109 the difference between ownership and perspective and said that although not keen on adding a new committee,  
110 conceded that the additional perspective may prove valuable. Davis said that there is a dilemma, although the  
111 additional perspective has potential, the committee could wind up being the same cast of characters. Hahn said  
112 that the IT Advisory Committee could include one or two Senate representatives. Tardi said that representatives  
113 could work, but that a full Senate committee would potentially have more influence and that she supported  
114 Weisberg's resolution. Ferris asked for caution and that this committee could devalue the work of TAC and the  
115 IT Advisory Committee. Weisberg reiterated the unique nature of the proposed committee's focus. Finnegan  
116 said that it will address issues not faced elsewhere. Bhat supported the proposal. Potacco said that the  
117 committee's ad hoc nature means that it will be of limited duration and scope. Bliss said that although initially  
118 in favor, the discussion has caused her to not support the proposal. Weisberg agreed that the committee would  
119 be ad hoc. Levitan moved and Martus seconded amending the proposal by deletion of the line "Work with the  
120 governance council to develop a resolution for a standing technology council." This passed. Rivela spoke in  
121 favor of the proposal and called the question. This was approved and the motion passed with 28 ayes, 5 nays,  
122 and 2 abstentions.

123  
124 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:40 PM. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday,  
125 April 24 at 12:30 PM, Valley Road Building.

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127 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary

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129 THESE MINUTES AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE POSTED ONLINE AT

130 <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/default.htm>

131 <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/minutes.htm>

132 <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/packets.htm>