

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – April 29, 2008

2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE: <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> -- EMAIL DISCUSSION: facultysenate@list.wpunj.edu

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5 **PRESENT:** Andreopoulos, Antoniou, Becker, Bhat, Bolyai, Cho, Davis, Deller, Duffy, Ekeocha, Ferris, Finnegan, Godar, Kaplan, Kaufman,
6 Kim, Korgen, Levitan, Lindsey (for Mbogoni), B. Liu, Lorenz, Louie (for Bliss), Marshall (for T. Liu), Martinez, Martus, Mir (for Kashyap),
7 Mulrine, Natrajan, Pavese, Peterson, Pinkston, Potacco, Rehberg, Scala (for Singh), Speert, Steinhart, Stroppel, Tardi, Tesfaye, Tirado, Van
8 Boerum, Verdicchio, Wagner, Wahrman, Weil, Weisberg, Xu

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10 **ABSENT:** Lawrence, Lisbe, Rivela

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12 **GUESTS:** Basu, Betts, Feola, Daniel-Robinson, Diehl, Fuller-Stanley, Goldstein, Gonzalez, Gritsch, Hahn, Hill, Jemmott, Liautaud, Marcone,
13 McCoy, Miller, Schaeffer, Schuhmann, Seal, Vicari, Wang, Weiland, Zeff, Zeman

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15 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Godar called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM. The proposed agenda was moved
16 and seconded by Duffy and Kim and was approved unanimously. The minutes of the April 22, 2008 meeting were
17 moved and seconded by Martus and Duffy. Tardi asked for line 31 to be amended to read "...at another off-campus
18 computer not connected to WPUNJ." With this amendment the minutes were approved unanimously.

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20 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Godar announced that the administrator evaluations will be delivered using the CampusVote
21 secure balloting system used for Senate elections. She said that they will be available from Monday, May 5 until
22 Friday, May 16. She said that she will send out an announcement to faculty, adjuncts, librarians and professional staff
23 advising them to expect an email from CampusVote containing links to the evaluations. Duffy suggested that people
24 check their spam folder in case the mail goes there. Wagner said that he will work with Information Systems to ensure
25 that the email is not tagged as spam. Godar said that there will be a forum on retention on May 1 in University
26 Commons room 168 A/B. Martus said that there will be a farewell party for Louis Rivela on May 1 from 1 PM to 3
27 PM in Science 319.

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29 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Finnegan announced that April 30 is the deadline to apply for Senate Councils via the
30 online form linked from the [Faculty Senate Webpage](#). He reminded everyone that even people currently serving on
31 councils must reapply.

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33 **GRADUATE COUNCIL – PROGRAM CHANGE – M.A. IN SOCIOLOGY:** On behalf of the Graduate Council,
34 Kaplan moved that the program revisions to the M.A. in Sociology be approved. She said that the essence of the
35 change is that the Master of Arts in Sociology will become a Master of Arts in Applied Sociology. Gabe Wang said
36 that the revisions move the program towards a focus on human resources and social services and preparation for
37 professional careers in these fields. Martinez asked if this was anything like the masters in social work. Wang said
38 that the proposed program does not focus on social welfare and homelessness but rather on cross-cultural, racial,
39 gender and workplace issues. The change was approved unanimously.

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41 **DISCUSSION OF LIPMAN HEARNE REPORT – INTERNAL PROBLEMS:** McCoy discussed a new model
42 for scholarships being implemented that provides more awards to a greater number of students in different classes.
43 Kaufman suggested that offering fewer full scholarships will decrease enrollment. Ferris asked for some figures and
44 McCoy said that \$2,000 is awarded to students entering honors programs in addition to any other scholarships they
45 receive. Steinhart asked that the discussion remain focused on the branding report. Korgen said that she is troubled
46 that while 90% of honors students have full scholarships, she is not convinced that their preparation for advanced
47 college work is adequate. Tardi voiced concern that about ¾ of our students require remedial coursework. Jemmot
48 said that about ¾ of tested students require remediation, but that not all students (e.g. those with high GPA or SAT
49 scores) are tested. Tardi asked for an overall percentage of students enrolled in basic skills courses and asked if we
50 have enough academic support and adequate class sizes to accommodate the need. Finnegan pointed to table 5A,
51 saying that parking is an internal problem. He said that if we cannot add parking spaces, we need to do a better job
52 internally, of marketing parking options. He suggested an environmental theme: save gas by not waiting for close-in
53 parking, and get healthy by walking from a more distant parking lot. Speert said that we do commuter outreach at
54 every opportunity and that Allen Williams, Director of Commuter Services, participates in orientations and commuter
55 outreach. In reply to Kaufman's claim that the number of campus shuttles has decreased, Bolyai confirmed that the
56 overall number has been reduced due to budgetary restrictions, but that shuttles run every 15 minutes. Andreopoulos
57 said that there is an identity crisis and that she was shocked at the report's findings of alumni disengagement. Deller
58 said that outreach to alumni is hampered by lack of staff. Speert said that out of 58,000 alumni we are in contact with
59 about 4,000. Kaplan said that the report's findings that low numbers of respondents would hire a WPU grad might be

60 skewed by the fact that they are not in a position to hire anybody. Verdicchio said that we need to do a better job
61 developing a positive internal message about the university and to say better things about the university off campus.
62 Steinhart said that compared with Penn State and its distinctive blue color and Nittany Lion mascot, WPU has no
63 recognizable theme or internal message. He said that we should display posters of successful graduates or do anything
64 to promote a positive image of the institution to both students and employees. Korgen said that she feels many
65 students are not well prepared for college work. Scala said that the Senior Sendoff is a very positive event that
66 engenders a sense of community and introduces outgoing seniors to the alumni association. Finnegan listed numerous
67 examples of problems with classrooms and other facilities. Wahrman, Cho and Potacco added additional examples.
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69 **DISCUSSION OF BRANDING CAMPAIGN:** Godar said that the Senate Executive Committee drafted a response
70 to the Academic Plan, which criticized its lack of direction, focus, and end point. She said that this response was
71 based on Senate discussion, emails from faculty, and reports from the Graduate and Undergraduate Councils. Ferris
72 moved and Martus seconded approval of the response. Steinhart called the question which passed 23 to 7. With 3
73 abstentions the response was approved by the Senate. Speert thanked the Senate for its consideration of the plan but
74 voiced his disappointment. He said that he felt there was a lack of discussion on the Plan and helpful input in the spirit
75 of shared governance. He said that he hoped there would be more of an exchange of ideas intended to arrive at a
76 common position. Godar said that she agreed, and that there was not the level of open discussion before the draft of
77 the Academic Plan was released to the Board and Senate. Weil said that there needs to be a conference committee
78 composed of the planning committee that drafted the Academic Plan and representatives of the Faculty Senate to
79 review the Plan chapter by chapter to improve it. He said that we are at an important confluence and must work
80 together to make this a roadmap for the upcoming years. Pavese said that he feels that we are rushed by the exigencies
81 of the Senate and that a thorough consideration of the Academic Plan is not possible here. Andreopoulos said that she
82 feels the biggest problem is our lack of identity. Korgen said that we do not have to resources to help everyone we
83 want to help. Kim said that the external audience associates us with the City of Paterson and that a name change might
84 help. Pavese said that we should keep the name to honor William Paterson. Peterson said that the name will not
85 change. Kaufman said that our main problem is that we do not treat students, particularly incoming students, as
86 individuals, asking them what they want to do with their lives. Tardi disagreed, but said we are in a \$10 million dollar
87 hole and it will be difficult to get out. Verdicchio suggested that we would do better as a smaller institution that did
88 everything better. Duffy moved that the Executive Committee work with the Administration on Academic Planning.
89 Stropel seconded and this passed.
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91 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:45 PM. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 8** at
92 12:30 PM in University Commons 171 A/B.
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94 Respectfully submitted: Kurt Wagner, Secretary
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96 THIS DOCUMENT AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> .