

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – November 25, 2008

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

3
4 **PRESENT:** Andreopoulos, Becker, Bliss, Bhat, Cho, Chung, Davis, Diamond, Duffy, Ekmekjian, Ferris, Finnegan, Gardner, Diaz, Godar,
5 Healy, Kaufman, Kim, Levitan, B. Liu (for Thiuri), T.Liu, Lorenz, Mbogoni, Martinez, Martus, McCallum, Mongillo, Mulrine, Natrajan,
6 Pavese, Pinkston, Potacco, Rosar, Scala, Speert, Steinhart, Stropfel, Suess, Tardi, Van Boerum, Verdicchio, Wagner, Walsh, Weil

7
8 **ABSENT:** Knaus, Lawrence, Falk-Romaine

9
10 **GUESTS:** Bolyai, Ciliberti, De Young, Gelfer, Hahn, Kaplan, Kashyap, Ku, Lee, Miller, Orr, Panayides, Schaeffer, Schuhmann, Soto, Tirado,
11 Williams

12
13 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Godar called the meeting to order at 12:39 PM. The proposed agenda was moved
14 and seconded by Martus and Stropfel and unanimously approved. The minutes of the November 11, 2008 meeting,
15 moved and seconded by Duffy and Martus were also unanimously approved.

16
17 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Godar invited everyone to the new Student Services Center ribbon cutting ceremony in
18 Morrison Hall on Tuesday, December 4 at 2:30 PM. She said that this was the culmination of efforts by many and the
19 response to numerous requests by students, staff and faculty for a "one stop" center on the main campus where
20 students can conduct business with the Bursar and Registrar. Godar said that the Registrar's office is continuing to
21 work on Banner enhancements to address problems with degree audits. Martus asked if the problem of registration
22 while taking co requisites was addressed. McCallum said that this sort of problem recurs with regularity and never
23 seems to be fully resolved. Martinez said that waivers of prerequisites should persist instead of requiring renewal
24 every semester. Godar said that until now degree audits were processed at the time of application for graduation. Weil
25 said that the Registrar will process all forms instead of waiting until graduation time approached. Martus asked if
26 staffing is sufficient in the Registrar's office and if open positions had been frozen. Speert said that these openings
27 will be filled. Ferris reported that the Board of Trustees Minority Affairs Committee had not yet met. Speert said that
28 the Board is discussing folding this committee into another existing one. Ferris asked everyone teaching GE and
29 capstone courses to complete the Learning Literacies Survey, the only campus-wide assessment of critical thinking
30 skills. She emphasized that the survey is completely anonymous and confidential. Godar announced that the next GE
31 Forum will be on December 11 and encouraged all faculty to attend. Levitan said that a follow-up session will be held
32 on Friday, December 12.

33
34 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL:** Potacco read the emeritus resolution for Professor Roseanne Martorella. Tardi spoke
35 in favor of the resolution, saying that Professor Martorella is missed by the Department of Sociology. The resolution
36 was passed unanimously. Godar commented that emeritus status is an honor conferred upon distinguished retired
37 faculty and is not automatic. She said that departments request a resolution from the Governance Council, provide a
38 curriculum vitae and statement of support from the department including the results of the department vote to confer
39 emeritus status. Tardi questioned whether providing the vote count is a matter of policy. Godar said that it is the
40 current practice. Potacco said that it is a stringent process. Godar said that the Senate's recommendation for emeritus
41 status is then communicated to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

42
43 **ACADEMIC PLAN (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE):** Godar asked the Senate to come to the Committee of the
44 Whole for discussion of the draft Academic Plan section on new program development. Godar said that the Senate
45 rarely, if ever, rejects a new program proposal and we need to develop a more selective process. Kaplan asked for
46 clearer guidelines, particularly for the doctoral programs we might soon be considering in the Senate. She praised the
47 Academic Plan's criteria, particularly the questions about competitiveness and faculty quality. Godar said that a
48 requirement for statements of learning outcomes is missing and that this is a Middle States requirement. Finnegan said
49 that it needs a section on program impacts on existing programs. Gardner said that the section on program overlap
50 efficiencies addresses this concern. Kaufman asked whether new lines will be created automatically if a program is
51 approved that calls for them. Weil said that part of the consideration of new programs is staffing and affordability. If
52 possible, new lines will be created. If not, the program might be deferred or not implemented. Tardi said that most
53 new program proposals do not detail additional resources needed in order to gain approval, and that they need to be
54 more realistic in this regard. Godar said that the need for additional library resources is often overlooked. Kim asked
55 for details of other NJ institutions offering the Ed. D. program. He also asked for the date at which the Doctor of
56 Nursing Practice program is required for accreditation of our Nursing program. De Young said that in 2015 the DNP
57 will be required. Andreopoulos said that criteria should be ranked in order of importance. Kaufman asked whether
58 there is a plan in place to ensure that every classroom on campus has Internet access. Weil said that programs are

59 evaluated one-by-one. Kaufman said that there are examples of small departments with only two faculty offering a
60 Masters program and relying heavily on adjuncts. Ferris asked whether proposals are closely vetted by the Councils
61 before coming to the Senate. Finnegan said that it is assumed that a program proposal has already been approved by a
62 department and college before going to a Senate Council for consideration. He said that a clear flowchart needs to be
63 in place indicating where administrative evaluation occurs. Kaplan asked whether it is appropriate for the Graduate
64 and Undergraduate Councils to jointly draft a new course and program approval process for Senate consideration.
65 Godar welcomed this. Hahn discussed the role of the NJ President's Council in new program creation. He said that
66 some things such as converting a concentration into a degree program might require a vote of the Council, but a name
67 change might only require notification. He said that the NJPC has a handbook outlining their policies and that they
68 usually receive a query as a first step in order to determine a new program's feasibility. Speert said that, ultimately,
69 statutory approval responsibility resides in our own Board of Trustees. Godar encouraged departments and colleges to
70 act on new program and program change proposals promptly, rather than waiting until the end of the semester.
71 Kaufman asked whether there is a systematic review of existing programs and whether any will be phased out. Godar
72 said that this is going to be a discussion topic in February. Kaplan asked for more clarity on the approval process for
73 changes to existing programs. Hahn said that changes to a track within an existing program usually require no
74 approval outside of the University. Godar said that a discussion of particular new programs will occur in upcoming
75 Senate meetings. Ferris asked whether we are to raise budgetary questions as a part of new program consideration.
76 Many agreed that we should. Verdicchio said that it is hard to consider new programs absent a budgetary discussion,
77 since new resources are often required. Kim said that in order to remain competitive we must add new programs.
78 Tardi asked whether a new program proposal should include a justification and discussion of viability and growth.
79 Finnegan said that most faculty lacks an appreciation of the actual cost of running a program. Tardi said that new
80 programs need a more stringent set of criteria and that they should be more closely examined. She said that blanket
81 approval by the Senate abdicates some of our critical responsibilities. Godar agreed that we need to say "no" on
82 occasion. Andreopoulos said that we must discuss competitiveness, that new program proposals must contain
83 statements of accountability. She warned that being overly permissive will have repercussions.

84 Godar focused the discussion on the review of existing programs and program viability. Weil referred to a
85 table that listed the full program review cycle and said that some of this is driven by national accreditation cycles. He
86 said that the table is being reviewed and updated. Godar said that only two colleges, Education and Business, are
87 reviewed as a whole. She said that other programs such as Art and Computer Science have their own reviews and
88 accreditation. Gelfer said that accreditation reports are accepted in lieu of formal program reviews. Godar said that the
89 major change is from a five year to a seven year cycle. Finnegan asked for a more formal set of criteria detailing what
90 "resources" are and that this is widely communicated on campus. Weil suggested an annual presentation to the Senate
91 on the status of program reviews, and Godar said that this would be useful.

92
93 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:42 PM. The next meeting will be at 12:30 PM, Tuesday,
94 December 9, University Commons Ballroom A.

95
96 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary

97
98 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate>