

1 William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – April 26, 2016
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --
3

4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopolous, Avdeev, Basch, Cook, Decker, Diamond, Duffy, Ellis, Falk-
5 Romaine, Fallace, Flint, Fondeur, Griswold, Harris, Hong, Kearney, Kothandaraman, Kromidas,
6 Levitan, Maduro, Magaldi, Makarec, Martin, Martus, Najarian, O'Donnell, Owusu, Potacco,
7 Refsland, Rosar, Sandmann, Simon, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi, Tesfaye, Wallace,
8 Watad, Wicke
9

10 **ABSENT:** Guerrieri, Helena, Kaur, Scala, Schwartz, Waldron, Weisberg
11

12 **GUESTS:** Bolyai, Brenenson, Cammarata, Chabayta, Corso, Cupo, Daniel-Robinson, Dean,
13 Escobar, Goldstein, Hahn, Kashyap, Kim, Liautaud, Lim, Moore, Mulrine, Noonan, Obrecht,
14 Owusu-Ansah, Rabbitt, Rosenberg, Schneider, Seal, Sherman, Shojai, Tiernan, Trelisky, Weiner,
15 Wolf, Yakubov
16

17 **PRELIMINARIES:** Outgoing Chairperson Falk-Romaine called the Senate to order at
18 12:33pm. The Agenda, moved by Najarian and Martus, was approved unanimously. Tardi called
19 for a moment of silence in memory of James Manning, a retired member of the Kinesiology
20 Department, who died the previous week. The Minutes of the April 12th moved by Tardi and
21 Wicke, were also approved unanimously.
22

23 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Falk-Romaine welcomed the newly elected senators (Basch, Guerrieri,
24 Kromidas, Refsland, Scala, Schwartz and Vishio. She and Duffy thanked those retiring from the
25 Senate, especially Kim, who has served for twenty-five years. In addition to the senators, she
26 thanked her Executive Committee and all those who worked on councils. A special word of
27 appreciation was given to May Chabayta, the Senate Office secretary, who keeps the Senate on
28 track in many ways. Duffy moved a vote of thanks for Falk-Romaine, who will no longer be a
29 senator – but who may serve as Parliamentarian next year. The body responded with full-
30 throated applause. She noted that the Senate had accomplished many things during the past year,
31 and urged everyone to work collegially and respectfully to achieve even greater things in the
32 future.
33

34 Martus and Makarec move acceptance of the proposed calendar for 2016-2017 Senate meetings.
35 Falk-Romaine observed that since there would be fewer meetings next year if we adhered to the
36 current schedule, several Thursday meetings have been added for next year: December 8, 2016,
37 March 9, 2017 and May 4, 2017. The calendar was approved unanimously.
38

39 **ELECTIONS COUNCIL: ELECTION OF A NEW SENATE EXECUTIVE**

40 **COMMITTEE:** Elections Council chair Mulrine briefly outlined the procedures that would be
41 followed for the election of the new Executive Committee. He called for nominations for Chair:
42 Tesfaye and Verdicchio nominated Makarec. There were no other nominations. By a roll call
43 closed ballot (38 votes cast) Makarec received 34 yes votes; there were three negative votes and
44 one blank ballot.

45 Mulrine called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Aktan and Wicke nominated Magaldi. There
46 were no other nominations. Magaldi received 34 yes votes, 3 negative votes and one blank ballot.

47 Mulrine then called for nominations for Secretary. Kearney and Wicke nominated Duffy. There
48 were no other nominations. Duffy received 38 yes votes.

49 Nominations were opened for the three at-large spots on the Executive Committee. Magaldi
50 nominated Tesfaye. Ellis nominated Levitan. Levitan nominated Wicke. Tardi nominated Martin.
51 Levitan nominated Kothandaraman, who declined. The results of the closed ballot were: Levitan
52 33 votes, Wicke 28 votes, Martin 23 votes and Tesfaye 21 votes.

53 The Executive Committee for 2016-2017 will be: Makarec, Chair; Magaldi, Vice-Chair; Duffy,
54 Secretary, with Levitan, Martin and Wicke as the at-large members.

55 **GRADUATE PROGRAMS COUNCIL: MBA REVISION:** Kashyap and Snyder moved
56 approval of the Council's resolution. Potacco, Tardi, Ellis and Diamond raised questions and
57 made suggestions for improvements to the program, especially in regard to internships and multi-
58 cultural issues. Kashyap said that these matters were covered in some of the classes, and that
59 most of the MBA students are already employed. The revisions were approved unanimously.
60

61 **DRAFT MIDDLE STATES REPORT:** Sandmann, Hahn and Martin showed a brief
62 PowerPoint (which is archived in the packet of this meeting) and solicited comments regarding
63 the draft that had been distributed to senators (and the entire campus) several week earlier. Hahn
64 noted that assessment, the Strategic Plan, allocation of resources and planning were the primary
65 foci of the report, since they were areas about which Middle States raised concerns in its
66 previous report.

67 Potacco recommended that on page 13, dealing with shared governance, the editors point out that
68 the President visits the colleges and departments. She also asked that on page 49 mention be
69 made of faculty who volunteer time to support students.

70 Andreopoulos initiated a discussion of the definitions of "student success" and "shared
71 governance." Tardi, Sandmann, Aktan, Griswold, Hahn and Martin commented.

72 Tardi presented a detailed list of suggestions. #1. Omit editorializing particularly regarding
73 shared governance and the Union (i.e., "nevertheless," "understandably"). #2. p. 14 Response--
74 first line insert the word insufficient before the word progress and omit the rest of the
75 sentence. Define what the administration means by "shared governance." Does it differ from
76 what Union members unanimously voted on as a definition? Faculty and staff definition--
77 "Shared governance is effective participation of the main constituencies of the University in the
78 decision-making process." These constituencies are faculty, administrators, staff, students, the
79 Union and the Senate. The Union and the Senate need to be included because they are elected
80 representative officials. Separate shared governance from communication and accessibility. The
81 report should state that "Communication efforts have significantly increased." Then the
82 statements on increased methods of communication should follow. #3. In the third paragraph
83 under Response on p.14. Omit the line regarding perceptions of pace and substance discussions.
84 We need to be transparent and honest and state that "No substantive agreements have been
85 negotiated. The Administration has not scheduled any negotiation meetings to address areas that
86 both the Union and the Administration agree are negotiable areas of concern." #4. Third
87 paragraph on p. 15, consider replacing the word "folklore" with "past practice." #5. On
88 p.22.under Faculty Response--The DAC Process statement requires clarification. "Every full-

89 time tenured faculty member must be assessed once every five years." The draft should add a
90 statement regarding what happens when faculty do not retire within three years. "Faculty who
91 withdraw their application to retire are included in the next group scheduled to be reviewed."
92 #6. General recommendation--I know the document cannot exceed a certain page limit, but since
93 this is supposed to be an "analytic" report (as stated by the Provost in the Senate), more metrics
94 should be included. If we are addressing student success, simply having a program in place does
95 not mean we are making improvements. I know we have statistics on remediation that show a
96 significant decrease in the number of students needing basic skills because of the program we
97 have instituted. Trend data would be useful. Regarding the first year experience, sophomore
98 experience, etc., how are they being assessed? Do we have data showing improvement? Please
99 note that no one wants the University's accreditation to be jeopardized, but transparency and
100 constructive criticism are the only ways to improve our University.

101
102 Sandmann, Hahn and Martin thanked everyone for the comments voiced today and reminded the
103 community that further comments may be submitted in writing. All comments will be considered
104 in crafting the final draft of the University's submission to Middle States.

105 **ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION COUNCIL: ADVISEMENT SURVEY:** Fallace
106 briefly reviewed the history of the survey (which is archived in the Packet for this meeting).

107 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL: EMERITUS STATUS FOR GARY GERARDI:** Dean moved
108 (Najarian seconded) and read the Council's resolution. The recommendation passed by voice
109 vote with 3 negative votes and 7 abstentions.

110 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL: EMERITUS STATUS FOR EDWARD BURSN:** Dean moved
111 (Duffy seconded) and read the Council's resolution. Verdicchio and Steinhart spoke in praise of
112 Burns. The recommendation passed unanimously.

113
114 **ADJOURNMENT:** Falk-Romaine officially passed the ceremonial gavel to Makarec, who
115 promised to continue working to strengthen the University and shared governance.

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117 The Senate adjourned at 1:44pm.

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119 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 in Ballroom C.

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121 Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

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123 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:
124 www.wpunj.edu/senate