

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – May 2, 2006

2 SENATE WEB PAGE: <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --- E-mail discussion: [faculty senate@list.wpunj.edu](mailto:faculty senate@list.wpunj.edu)

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4 **PRESENT:** Betances, Bhat, Bliss (for Tracy), Bone (for Finnegan), Boroznoff, Gazillo-Diaz, Duffy, Ferris, Godar, Kalish, Kaufman, Kim, Korgen, Levitan,  
5 Liautaud, Makarec, Martinez, Martus, Pavese, Plank, Pollak, Potacco, Rivela, Rothman, Singh, Stroppel, K. Swanson, P. Swanson, Swingle, Tardi, Wagner,  
6 Wahrman, Weil, Weltman, Xu, Yildiz

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8 **ABSENT:** Barnes, Cho, Goldstein, Grodner, Mbogoni, Tesfaye, Thompson, Thiuri, Verdicchio, Weisberg

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10 **GUESTS:** Agard-Jones, Bolyai, Cai, Daniel-Robinson, De Young, Dinan, Gritsch, Hahn, Haroian, Jemmott, Jian, Leung, Miller, Mills (SGA), Panayides,  
11 Peck, Scala, Schaeffer, Schmidt, Seal, Sherman, Snyder, Speert, Vicari, C. Williams

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13 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Duffy called the meeting to order at 12:34 PM. Levitan and Xu moved and seconded  
14 adoption of the agenda. Korgen asked that Item J (Department of Sociology Core Course Grade Minimums) be deleted.  
15 With this amendment the agenda was accepted. Duffy thanked Korgen for her service as Vice-Chair, noting in particular  
16 her work with the Governance Council to codify the role of the Senate Vice-Chair. Duffy thanked Godar, Ferris and  
17 Weisberg for taking minutes at the April 25 meeting. A typo was noticed in line 54. Bliss pointed out a correction to line  
18 65 – “practice NCLEX” should read “readiness NCLEX”. With these corrections the minutes of April 25 were approved.

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20 **CHAIR’S REPORT:** Duffy announced that the NJ Buddies will hold their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Northern New Jersey AIDS Walk on  
21 Saturday, May 13. Duffy said that Bob Murphy, Media Services/IRT is looking for sponsors and can be reached at x2985.

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23 **VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT:** As Weisberg was attending a departmental meeting, Korgen asked that those wishing to serve  
24 on a Senate Council or Committee submit an application today to the form found on the Senate web page. She said that  
25 thus far 72 applications have been received and that more are needed. Pavese asked if there were sufficient numbers of  
26 adjunct faculty applying. Korgen replied that those positions are usually lacking applicants and Pavese said that he’ll  
27 continue to encourage adjuncts to participate. Schaeffer announced a change in the usual Board of Trustees meeting  
28 schedule: the public portion of the meeting will begin at 9:30 AM on Saturday, May 13.

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30 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL - EXERCISE & MOVEMENT SCIENCE – ACADEMIC STANDARDS CHANGE:** Duffy  
31 distributed copies of the Academic Standards Change Form which was also distributed via e-mail. Gazzillo-Diaz said that in  
32 consultation with the Dean of the College of Science & Health and the Chair of the Department of Exercise & Movement  
33 Science the current required GPA of 2.5 will remain for admission to the program. A GPA of 2.75 is proposed for retention  
34 and graduation. Martinez asked about the process for a student to appeal a decision based on this proposed policy.  
35 Schmidt said that if, in consultation with the department, a student is found to be only a point or two short of the  
36 requirement for retention a decision will be made on whether the student has the ability to make up the deficit. The  
37 proposed change passed unanimously.

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39 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL – DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY – PRE-DENTAL PROGRAM:** Wahrman described the  
40 proposed cooperative agreement whereby William Paterson University would enter into affiliation with Temple University,  
41 which would guarantee seats for qualified WPUNJ students and allow them entry into an accelerated program leading to  
42 the B.S. and DMD degrees. Wahrman said that the program will attract good students. Godar asked if qualified  
43 community college students can transfer in to the program. Wahrman said that transfer students would likely take a year  
44 to gain admission due to extensive GE and Biology Department requirements. Bhat asked about the required GPA which  
45 Wahrman said would be 3.2 overall. Rivela asked about the lack of a requirement for organic chemistry and other courses.  
46 Wahrman said that organic chemistry should be in the sophomore year sequence. Kim asked if this articulation would  
47 apply to other schools. Wahrman said that the course of study would well-prepare students for other programs, which  
48 students could then apply for. The proposal passed unanimously.

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50 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL – DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS – BA IN ECONOMICS:** Alex Payanides,  
51 Department of Economics and Finance, described the proposal to create a BA degree program in Economics. Currently,  
52 only a minor in Economics is offered by the College. Payanides said that this program is composed of four core courses,  
53 six economics required courses, plus fulfillment of GE requirements. Kaufman noted that she sees nothing in the proposal  
54 that develops skill in the use of spreadsheets, databases and other computer-based skills. Snyder said that these skills are  
55 developed through the work of the core courses. Rivela observed that there is no requirement for students to take 300-  
56 400 level classes from the required economics classes list and that there is no capstone course. Kim called the question  
57 and the program was approved unanimously.

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59 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL – HUMANITIES-ASIAN STUDIES MAJOR:** Ming Jian, Department of Languages and  
60 Cultures, described the proposed addition of a language track to the Asian Studies major in order to address the shortage  
61 of trained Asian language teachers. He said that there is a national shortage, particularly in teachers of Chinese. He said  
62 that this track is desired by three groups of students: those seeking licensure and certification for teaching, those seeking

63 advanced language skills as a part of their regular course of study at WPUNJ, and 'heritage' students, born in Asia, who  
64 wish to improve or formalize their language skills. Jian said that track would be available to students of Chinese, Japanese  
65 or Hindi and will be run by existing faculty. Pollak asked for an approximate projected enrollment. Jian replied that  
66 enrollment would be small at first but that the department hoped to attract qualified students. Jian said that there are  
67 opportunities for students to participate in Study Abroad programs to increase their proficiency. P. Swanson asked how  
68 proficiency is to be measured. Jian said that this is done through nationally administered tests and is required for  
69 certification. Potacco asked if the program is to be conducted through the Alternate Route mechanism. Agard-Jones said  
70 that this has been discussed but at this time the proposed program is for regularly enrolled students. Lelyveld said that  
71 this program will mirror existing programs of Spanish and French language study and certification. The proposal passed  
72 unanimously.

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74 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL – INDEPENDENT HONORS TRACK:** Dinan described this proposal as an opportunity  
75 for students to develop their own program of study. She said that it will resemble the Performing and Literary Arts Honor  
76 Track which, with approval of a faculty program director, has the student select five courses to assist them in preparation  
77 of a thesis or project. Dinan said that this track will open the honors program to more students. Wahrman asked about  
78 the faculty directors. Dinan said this would vary with the topics selected. Wahrman suggested a three member panel that  
79 would include the program director, a member of the subject faculty plus another member. Wahrman said that the  
80 courses should be 300-level or above. Bliss pointed out that it looks like the thesis requirement is for one credit. Dinan  
81 said that it should read "3 credits". Bhat asked if the project could be done as a group of students. Dinan said that the  
82 project is done as an individual. Kim asked how completion of this track is made evident. Dinan said it is noted on the  
83 diploma, transcripts and in a letter. Ferris asked if this sort of program existed *de facto* before. Peterman said that it did  
84 not. Dinan said the document will be amended to have a 3 member faculty board and required 300-level and up courses.  
85 The proposal passed unanimously.

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87 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL – DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION – GATEWAY COURSE GRADE MINIMUM:**

88 Wahrman said that this was being discussed about 15 years ago. Stroppel, Peck and Williams represented the  
89 Department of Communication, who propose this academic standards change, which requires a B- or better in  
90 Communication Theory (Comm 121). They said that this requirement will raise the quality of students' work in the  
91 program and that the course may be repeated once if a B- or better is not achieved. Bliss pointed out that in the nursing  
92 program students cannot repeat courses in which they receive a C- or less. Rivela asked for explanation from the  
93 administration on how a student can be allowed to repeat a C in order to get a B. Hahn said that the particulars of this  
94 were not discussed with him and this may need to be reconsidered. Wahrman said that Communication might choose to  
95 follow the Nursing model and make C- the cutoff. Ferris opposed using "barely average" as a gateway. Plank said that the  
96 common practice in some business programs is to have a set of four or five courses that comprise a gateway. Peck said  
97 that this was originally considered, but that the grades for retention in the program were not supposed to be averaged  
98 from multiple courses. Tardi questioned the process by which this proposal was approved for discussion at the Senate  
99 and asked if it should be sent back to the Council. Peck withdrew the proposal.

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101 **NEW BUSINESS:** Pavese remarked that his 2 years of Senate membership have provided the adjuncts with an  
102 important voice. He said this has improved communication and welcomed the input from the Senate. He said that he  
103 realizes that his forthcoming proposal might be out of the purview of the Senate but invited discussion. Pavese proposed  
104 that departments include a voting adjunct member at their department meetings. Godar said that this would require a  
105 change in university policy, which says only full time faculty have a vote in the departments. She said that this is in the  
106 faculty and staff handbooks and a change would require approval by the Board of Trustees. Pavese commented that if  
107 this is the case he would need strong support to go before the Board. K. Swanson said that many adjuncts in her  
108 department are professional consultants whose day job would not allow them to regularly attend department meetings.  
109 Ferris remarked that though the discussion was interesting, the Senate cannot act on this. Pavese said that even the  
110 discussion has value. Scala voiced support for the proposal, saying that since we depend on adjuncts we should give  
111 them a voice in our departments. Tardi asked if the administration would be willing to discuss and negotiate this. Speert  
112 said that this has been an ongoing subject of discussion and that, as a matter of governance, the Senate is the  
113 appropriate venue. He said a recommendation could come from the Senate. Duffy said that it is the position of the  
114 Executive Committee that the Senate should not mandate departmental structure and organization. Weltman observed  
115 that different departments use adjuncts in different ways: some teach only lower-division courses, others specialize in  
116 upper-division. He said that in departments where they teach upper-division they should have a voice. Weltman  
117 suggested sending the matter to the Governance Council for further consideration. Martus commented that in some  
118 departments the vote of the adjunct might be manipulated. Tardi said that she felt the Executive Committee should not  
119 decide what matters are discussed and what topics are avoided. Duffy said that curricular topics are given higher priority  
120 and that this discussion reached the floor in a proper manner, as New Business. Pavese said that in the Department of  
121 Music many adjuncts are not aware of departmental business and having a representative would improve communication.  
122 Borzonoff said that this sounds like another Chair is being added and that it is part of the Chair's duty to see that

123 communication is maintained. Tardi moved and Godar seconded that members take this proposal to their departments for  
124 discussion. Duffy said that this will return to the agenda at the second meeting in the fall. De Young added that only full  
125 time faculty have a say in personnel matters. The motion passed with 2 abstentions.  
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127 **ADJOURNMENT:** Duffy announced that Weltman will be on sabbatical in the fall and that a replacement parliamentarian  
128 is needed. This position does not need to be filled by a senator, and Duffy asked everyone to consider a likely  
129 replacement. Duffy also noted that Godar will be teaching in Latvia in the fall, thanked her for her service on the  
130 Executive Committee, and wished her *bon voyage*. The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:35 PM. The next meeting will be  
131 held Tuesday, September 12, 2006 in Raubinger 101 at 12:30 PM.  
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133 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary

134 This document and all Senate minutes are available online at <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/minutes.htm>  
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