

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – September 26, 2006

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

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4 **PRESENT:** Adeniran (for Liautaud), Andreopoulos (for Godar), Austin (for Makarec), Basu, Bhat, Bolyai, Cho, Davis, Diaz,
5 Duffy, Feola, Ferris, Finnegan, Goldstein, Grodner, Gulbranson, Hahn, Jemmott, Kalish, Kim, Korgen, Levitan, Marcone,
6 Marshall (for Barnes), Mbogoni, Martinez, Martus, Pagano, Panayides (for P. Swanson), Pavese, Peterson, Pollak, Potacco,
7 Rothman, Singh, Speert, Stroppel, K. Swanson, Swingle, Tardi, Tesfaye, Thompson, Thiuri, Tirado, Verdicchio, Wagner,
8 Wahrman, Weil, Weisberg, Xu, Yildiz

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10 **ABSENT:** Bliss, Boroznoff, Kaufman, Rivela

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12 **GUESTS:** Boucher, Daniel-Robinson, Dinan, Fulleman, S. Goldstein, Horvath, Leung, Miller, Rosengart, Schaeffer, Seal

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14 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Duffy called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM. The proposed agenda, moved
15 and seconded by Goldstein and Korgen, was approved unanimously. The minutes of the September 12, 2006
16 meeting were moved and seconded by Ferris and Goldstein. Goldstein proposed a correction to the minutes, line
17 90, she did not suggest elimination of common hour but instead moving it to 3:30 PM to free up classroom space.
18 She asked that the minutes reflect her suggestion to never again cancel classes after the semester has begun.
19 Dean Tirado indicated that she was present at the 9/12 meeting. With these corrections the minutes were
20 approved unanimously.

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22 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Duffy welcomed Prof. Aaron Tesfaye as the new Parliamentarian. He distributed a
23 condensed copy of Robert's Rules of Orders detailing the precedence of common motions. Duffy said that this
24 information will be available on the Senate web page (www.wpunj.edu/senate). Duffy said that at the next
25 Senate meeting (Tuesday, October 10 – Raubinger 101 – [meeting schedule](#)) binders will be distributed that will
26 include the last distributed paper copies of the Senate Constitution and Bylaws, which include amendments
27 passed last spring. He said that Wagner is equipping the Senate office with equipment intended to make the
28 distribution of Senate documents a paperless operation. Wahrman reported on meetings held by the Board of
29 Trustees Academic Affairs Committee in June and August. She said that review of the PRR was discussed in
30 August and that Bernadette Tiernan, Executive Director for Continuing and Professional Education, made a
31 presentation to the committee. Wahrman said that Tiernan brings strong leadership to this center. Wahrman said
32 that Weil repeated many points he made at the recent faculty meeting and that Speert delivered a letter to the
33 Board in which he said that academic assessment should be shaped by the academic community and culture. She
34 said that there was discussion of the Learning Literacies Strategies group, headed by Anne Ciliberti, which plays a
35 prominent role in assessment activities. She said that the group will be making a formal presentation at the next
36 Senate meeting. Wahrman said that work continues on GE assessment, assuring that this is done throughout the
37 program, up to the capstone courses. She said that more on this will be coming soon. Duffy continued with a
38 Senate roster change: Robert Peterson replaces Richard Plank, representing Professional Sales. Steve Hahn
39 reminded everyone of the Thursday, September 28 town hall meeting to discuss Banner issues. He said that the
40 meeting will be held at 12:30 PM in the Library Auditorium. Hahn also said that there will be a series of training
41 sessions for those using Banner for advisement plus a discussion board on WPCconnect. Hahn said to contact
42 Claudia Francisco at ext. 3555 to reserve a space in a session. Duffy said that the tie vote for the at-large
43 vacancies at the 9/12 meeting should be resolved by another ballot. Members of the Executive Committee
44 distributed ballots. Andreopoulos and Fengya were nominated and Duffy said that the candidate with the most
45 votes will fill the one-year term and the runner-up will fill the half-year term. The ballot was cast via roll call of
46 the senators and Andreopoulos came in first, Fengya second.

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48 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Weisberg thanked the group for bearing with him at the last meeting. He asked the
49 Senate to welcome the new Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Communication, Professor Stephen Marcone.
50 Weisberg said that Marcone has been the Chair of the Department of Music for fifteen years and is a prolific
51 performer and has produced the fourth edition of his book Managing Your Band-Artist Management: The Ultimate
52 Responsibility. Weisberg said that there are still several openings on the Senate Councils and Committees and
53 that the updated chart will be posted on the Senate web page (<http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/commit.htm>). He
54 added that some of the groups are meeting this week. He distributed a draft of the updated chart and asked that
55 it be approved. This was done with no objections. He asked everyone who wished to continue to serve on a
56 council or committee to submit an application in April via the online form
57 (<http://www.wpunj.edu/library/forms/senatecouncils.cfm>). He said that it is important to submit the form
58 because these terms are not automatically renewed.

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60 **FINANCE & CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - STEVE BOLYAI:** Bolyai discussed the impact of the state budget
61 crisis on the University. He said that the primary concern is to maintain the core mission of the institution. He said
62 that a number of administrative positions have been eliminated and vacancies are being left unfilled. He said that
63 various administrative support and facilities support functions are operating with about 15% reductions in staff.
64 He said that certain services will be slower as a result and asked for everyone's patience. He said that they are
65 trying to maintain full service in the areas of physical maintenance, security and cleanliness as these are closely
66 associated with enrollment, recruitment and retention of students. Bolyai asked for suggestions for other cost-
67 saving ideas. He said that various energy saving initiatives have resulted in savings of four or five million dollars
68 over the past five years. He added that, after salaries, electricity is the number two expense of the University.
69 Bolyai provided a construction update: the student center should be ready for occupancy by the end of the fall
70 semester, and the final 5% of finish work is underway. He said that the walkway between the library and Wayne
71 Hall will be a focal point of the University and that a new transportation hub will accommodate shuttles and NJ
72 Transit busses. Bolyai said that the new residence halls are open and that some faculty have had tours. He said
73 that there are small clusters of rooms and lounge areas and that there are some classrooms in the dorms as well.
74 He circulated some architect's renderings of the science building renovation project and said that bids on the
75 project will open in January 2008 and that once begun, the work will take approximately two years. He said that
76 an initial phase will see the construction of an addition projecting out into parking lot seven. Once complete, the
77 new wing will be occupied and that temporary trailers will house faculty and other spaces as the main building is
78 completely renovated. He said that the project may be complete by Spring 2011. Kim asked for an updated figure
79 of the University's budget cut from Trenton. Bolyai said the figure is about \$11 million. Kim asked where the
80 funding for the Science building renovation is coming from. Bolyai said that this will come from student fees.
81 Bolyai cited the state's budget planning process as problematic for WPUNJ – little in the way of a predictable
82 formula; arbitrary and political. Finnegan asked for a detailed description of the number of cancelled courses by
83 department or college. Bolyai said he would check to see if this information is available. Finnegan asked if there
84 could be further budget cuts in the Spring, and Bolyai said that it could happen. Bolyai said that any new budget
85 information from Trenton will cause a reassessment here. Thompson said that he is pleased to hear that NJ
86 Transit busses will be stopping on campus and wondered how much more integration is planned. Bolyai said that
87 VP John Martone's office is working on this. Pavese asked for a count of how many adjunct instructors were cut
88 due to budget problems. Pollak asked whether the new dorms were full. Bolyai said that about 300 beds are
89 unoccupied and that the offices of Enrollment Management and Residence Life are working to ensure fuller
90 occupancy. Ferris suggested that going paperless wherever possible could help the budget. Bolyai said that the
91 University is heading in this direction and will stop sending paper bills to students, relying exclusively on email for
92 this. He said that the faculty need to emphasize to students that all official communication from the University will
93 come via the students' WPUNJ email accounts. Bolyai said that before going paperless, various issues with Banner
94 will need to be resolved. Tardi said that more communication with adjuncts is required to make them more aware
95 of WPCconnect. She requested a follow-up report from the administration on how they communicate with
96 adjuncts. Duffy remarked that the lateness of class assignments made communication, particularly with adjuncts,
97 difficult. Bolyai said that the C.A.R.E.S. program is still an important vehicle for increasing the quality of customer
98 service and is meant for staff and faculty. He added that the Center for Continuing and Professional Education will
99 provide ongoing staff and faculty training in many areas that will support better service. Duffy thanked Bolyai for
100 his report.

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102 **ADJUNCT VOTING IN DEPARTMENTS:** Duffy said that this has been discussed in several departments and
103 asked for a Committee of the Whole to continue the discussion. This was approved. Tardi recommended that we
104 hear all issues and invite Pavese to create a proposal that the Senate can vote upon. Levitan asked whether we
105 need a uniform position. Duffy said that University policy limits voting to full time faculty on personnel issues and
106 half time faculty on everything else. Pavese asked for clarification on what issue is being addressed. Duffy said
107 that the proposal is to have one elected adjunct faculty representative with voting rights in each department.
108 Goldstein asked that all senators be emailed a copy of the full proposal. Pavese said that he will post it to the
109 Senate listserv. Grodner said that in her department the general consensus is to not extend the vote to adjuncts
110 because they are temporary, serve semester-to-semester, and have no duties other than to teach their classes.
111 Xu said that voting is a responsibility that with involvement in the department that is outside the usual realm of
112 adjuncts. Bhat commented that in small departments an adjunct might change the outcome of a vote. Kalish said
113 that each department should have the option of adding a voting adjunct member to their department elections.
114 Tardi said that she believes University policy allows departments to adopt or reject such measures. President
115 Speert said that he and Provost Weil have not come to a position for or against this proposal. Diaz asked for the
116 history of the decision that allows half time faculty the vote in non-personnel matters. Boucher said that
117 University policy only covers full time faculty, and if one's teaching load decreases below a certain point they can
118 lose voting privileges. Hahn said that there is no definitive policy, but that voting has always been limited to

119 tenure-track personnel. Thiuri said that there is a human aspect of the discussion: many adjuncts have worked in
120 their departments for over twenty years and have a cumulative experience and responsibility. Potacco said that
121 along with adjuncts there are also non-teaching professionals. Tardi said that this proposal is about adjuncts,
122 solely. Swingle asked if there was any restriction on what adjuncts could vote on. Levitan voiced concern over
123 getting adjuncts to use the University email system and that they are not a community, act as individuals, and
124 the difficulties of having one adjunct effectively represent a dispersed constituency. Kim asked for information
125 about what our sister institutions have done in this regard. Pavese said that he will investigate and report back.
126 K. Swanson said that her department invites their adjuncts to meetings but that most are professional people
127 who are not available during their meeting times. Martinez asked if this proposal limits adjuncts to voting at
128 department meetings and not having membership in department committees. Davis said that it is important for
129 adjuncts to organize themselves first so that they can have an effective representative. Thomson voiced concern
130 that in his department adjuncts are a transient population and that there is resistance to offering them a vote.
131 Ferris said that she is unclear about the details of what Pavese proposes: how the adjunct representative is
132 selected, for instance. Goldstein wondered if this is indeed a viable option for departments. Martus asked if, in
133 some cases, a conflict of interest could exist when an adjunct, employed elsewhere, brings some undue
134 preference or influence into a departmental decision.

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136 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:46 PM. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 10,
137 2006, 12:30 PM in Raubinger 101.

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139 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary

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141 THIS DOCUMENT AND ALL SENATE MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/minutes.htm>