

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – September 12, 2006

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

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4 (The official attendance sheet was not returned after the meeting and attendance has been recorded as accurately as possible. Please report errors to the Secretary)

5 **PRESENT:** Austin (for Makarec), Barnes, Bhat, Bliss, Boroznoff, Cho, Davis, Diaz, Ferris, Finnegan, Goldstein,
6 Grodner, Kalish, Kaufman, Kim, Korgen, Levitan, Liautaud, Mbogoni, Martinez, Martus, Pavese, Pollak, Potacco, Rivela,
7 Scala (for Singh), Stoppel, K. Swanson, P. Swanson, Swingle, Tardi, Thompson, Thiuri, Verdicchio, Wagner, Weiner
8 (for Duffy), Weisberg, Xu, Yildiz

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10 **ABSENT:** Betances, Plank, Rothman, Wahrman

11
12 **GUESTS:** Agard-Jones, Basu, Bogdon, Bolyai, Boucher, Ciliberti, Daniel-Robinson, De Young, Evangelista, Fuller-
13 Stanley, Gardner, Gulbranson, Hahn, Jemmot, Leung, Miller, Rabbitt, Schaeffer, Schwartz, Weil

14
15 **PRELIMINARIES:** Vice-chair Weisberg called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM. He asked for a moment of silence to
16 commemorate the victims of the events of September 11, 2001. Weisberg then distributed a membership roster and
17 asked everyone to make corrections as needed. Weisberg asked for approval to alter proposed agenda, putting the
18 Banner item ahead of Bolyai's report. Ferris seconded this, which was approved. Rivela proposed setting an Order of
19 the Day at 1:10 PM for the Banner item, and this was also approved. Weisberg asked that the minutes of the May 2,
20 2006 meeting be approved. Line 92 was corrected to read "...program students cannot repeat courses in which they
21 receive a C- *or above*." Pavese asked that line 104 be revised to read "adjunct *representative* member." With these
22 revisions the minutes were approved. Weisberg recognized C. K. Leung, who introduced Dr. Sam N. Basu, newly
23 appointed Dean of the Cotsakos College of Business. Ferris moved to thank Leung for his service as interim Dean and
24 to welcome him back to the teaching faculty. This passed unanimously.

25
26 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** On behalf of Arlene Scala, Chair of the Department of Women's Studies, Weisberg asked the
27 Senate to approve a retention committee for that department consisting of Donna Perry, Jean Levitan and two other
28 faculty affiliated with the department. This passed unanimously.

29
30 **COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP FRO 2006-2007:** Weisberg remarked that a few vacancies exist in the Senate Councils
31 and Committees and he quickly reviewed the membership sheet in the packet. He said a corrected and revised sheet
32 is forthcoming, thanked everyone who has volunteered to serve and apologized to those who volunteered but were
33 not placed on a council or committee. He said that there will be a meeting of council and committee chairs and
34 conveners with the Executive Committee on November 2 at 12:30 PM in the Hobart Manor Green Room. He asked the
35 Senate to approve the current members of the councils and committees with the understanding that there are still
36 vacancies to be filled. This passed unanimously.

37
38 **ELECTION OF AT-LARGE MEMBER TO REPLACE SUE GODAR:** As Sue Godar is teaching abroad this year, her at-
39 large seat is open. This was announced on the listserv on 9/6/2006 and nominations were solicited. Weisberg
40 entertained additional nominations from the floor. Kalish nominated Donna Fengya, Department of Mathematics. Kim
41 nominated Giuliana Andreopoulos, Department of Economics, Finance and Global Business. Ray Schwartz, Chair of the
42 Elections Council, conducted a paper ballot. Kalish spoke on behalf of Fengya and Kim on behalf of Andreopoulos. The
43 vote was tied and Weisberg said the matter will be taken up at the next meeting.

44
45 **PROVOST ED WEIL:** Provost Weil thanked Duffy, Weisberg and the rest of the Executive Committee for the
46 invitation to speak. He reviewed the work of Hahn, Seal and Zeff on the Periodic Review Report which he said has
47 been available for review on WPCconnect since June. Weil said that they are awaiting the reviewer's comments and
48 that we have an opportunity to respond to these comments prior to the report being submitted to Middle States in
49 October. He said that the report responded to the 2001 visiting team's six recommendations: One, that we develop a
50 more formalized budgeting process. Weil said that this work is underway but we have not achieved the goal. Two, that
51 we take a more systematic approach to enrollment management. Weil said that we were commended on our support
52 of enrollment growth over the past five years and the new faculty, programs, courses, and library and IT programs
53 that support this growth. Weil said that there are remaining questions about the sustainability of this support of
54 growth. Three, that we do more work in assessment. He said that we were commended on our planning efforts thus
55 far, but that the reviewers hoped to see more in the way of preliminary findings. Four, that we develop more
56 community outreach projects. Five, that our GE program drew a lot of attention and the cluster and honors programs
57 were commended along with the faculty development associated with these programs. Six, that there be a stronger tie
58 between program development and library/IT planning. Weil said that the newly drafted IT plan does address this.

59 Weil said that there are a number of items that the University needs to bring to the attention of the reviewers: our
60 academic programming, dissemination of innovative teaching strategies, use of technology across the curriculum,
61 development of research opportunities for undergraduates and the integration of curricula across colleges. Weil said
62 that we should be commended for these efforts. He said that the STC program is an example of best practices. Weil
63 said that it comes down to seven suggestions and a recommendation from the reviewers: 1. we must expand our
64 understanding of retention rates, 2. consider alternative approaches to our outreach efforts, 3. expand the assessment
65 of administrative units, 4. develop an institutional approach to overhauling general education, 5. broaden delivery of
66 online courses, particularly general education, 6. uncouple efforts to promote literacies: information, technology,
67 critical and numeric, and 7. prepare for enrollments above 12,000. Weil said that the recommendation was to submit a
68 follow up report by March 31, 2008 containing preliminary assessment findings. Weil said that our response is that we
69 take a strong position that the reviewers did not take all of our efforts into consideration, that our GE and student
70 support programs are meritorious and that the interim report is not, in fact, necessary. Weil said that he served as a
71 reviewer over the summer and that our efforts are ahead of other institutions. Weil said that the most important task
72 at hand is to work with the Assessment Committee to make sure that there is a systematic, campus-wide focus on
73 assessment activities and that he looks forward to working with the Council.
74

75 **BANNER:** Steve Hahn said that Duffy, members of the administration, and IT and registrar staff met recently to
76 discuss problems with registration through Banner. Hahn said that responsibility for Banner implementation is shared
77 by several different individuals and offices. He said that the current problem of overbooked rooms is associated with
78 last spring's data problem and that Helene Nemeth is working on a resolution. Hahn stressed that the problem is with
79 the data loaded, not Banner itself. He said that it is important to distinguish between data and system. He said that
80 Banner is powerful, complex and flexible and relies on a great deal of local configuration for it to work in accordance
81 to our needs and expectations. He said that problems stem from the interpretation of our "rulebook" as it is applied to
82 Banner. He said that an additional load of student records will be performed soon that should improve the quality of
83 student data in Banner. Weisberg said that at some point there was a meeting at which faculty were consulted about
84 Banner configuration. He asked about who was involved. Bogdon said that he could not recall these details but that a
85 full business process assessment that included people from all the colleges in order to review processes was
86 conducted beginning about three years ago. Hahn said that there were meetings in June with a number of faculty and
87 that Makarec was present. Hahn said that faculty participate on the IT Advisory Committee, which handles some
88 aspects of Banner. Hahn discussed the recent meeting at which Duffy forwarded a number of faculty comments on
89 Banner and registration problems. He said that this information is important and useful. Goldstein voiced concern over
90 room scheduling and suggested that elimination of common hour could increase room availability. Goldstein said that
91 the cancellation of classes on September 11 will result in losing students and the possibility of lawsuits. Levitan said
92 that she has less access to student information than she has had in the past. Nemeth said that she should have full
93 access. Bliss said that when printing out student information the student's name doesn't show, only the faculty
94 member's. Kaufman said that the numerous room scheduling conflicts are a great source of concern, and that there is
95 no one available to help after 4 PM. Evangelista thanked everyone for their help and understanding and that it's
96 important to separate Banner issues from ancillary and policy issues. Gardner said that Banner seems clunky
97 compared to SIS and that it would be useful to be able to have multiple browser windows open at once. Evangelista
98 said that a similar transition period occurred when we moved to SIS. Korgen asked why no one seems to be an expert
99 in Banner and asked that consultants be brought in to resolve our problems. Tardi said that during advisement it is
100 crucial for faculty to have rapid and accurate access to student information. Barnes said that the degree audit in
101 Banner cannot be trusted and that students are allowed entrance into classes without prerequisites. He said that
102 students are given erroneous information about their graduation status and may fail to graduate when they anticipate.
103 Boroznoff said that this is the same discussion that occurred 20 years ago and that he talks to many graduating
104 students and no one is told that they cannot graduate. He says that his office provides accurate degree audits. Barnes
105 said that, based on the information available in Banner, he cannot advise students properly. Boroznoff said that the
106 computer printout is one of many advisement tools. Weisberg noted that time was running out and that another
107 Banner discussion will need to occur. He said that he is drafting a technology resolution and that the faculty should
108 send ideas to him. Korgen said that the registrar's office is currently quite overworked and that the faculty shouldn't
109 blame them for the current problems.
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111 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:47 PM. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 26,
112 2006 at Valley 1016 at 12:30 PM.
113

114 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary
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116 This document and all Senate minutes are available online at <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate/minutes.htm>