

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** - September 22, 2009
2 WEB PAGE: <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --- E-MAIL DISCUSSION: <mailto: facultysenate@list.wpunj.edu>

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4 **PRESENT:** Andreopoulos, Becker, Bhat, Cho, Chung, Diamond, Donaghy, Duffy, Ekmekjian, Ellis, Finnegan, Gardner,
5 Godar, Healy, Kim, Knaus, Ku, Lawrence, Levitan, Lewis (for Davis), Mbogoni, Martinez, Martus, McCallum, Mongillo,
6 Mulrine, Parras, Pavese, Pinkston, Pollak, Potacco, Refsland, Rehberg, Romaine, Rosar, Scala, Schwartz, Speert,
7 Steinhart, Stroppel, Suess, Tardi, Tesfaye, Verdicchio, Wagner, Walsh, Weil
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9 **ABSENT:** Thiuri
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11 **GUESTS:** Anreus, Barnes, Basu, Bolyai, Ciliberti, Daniel-Robinson, Deller, De Young, Griswold, Goldstein, Hahn,
12 Hayden, Hill, Jemmott, Kashyap, Karibi-Whyte, Kelly, Natrajan, Olaye, Overdorf, Peterman, Rabbitt, Robb, Rodriguez,
13 Rosengart, Schaeffer, Scott, Silgailis, Tajes, Torres-Santos, Tiernan Wahrman, Watad, Weiner, B. Williams, M. Williams,
14 Zeff, Zeman
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16 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Godar called the Senate to order at 12:34 PM. The proposed agenda was moved and
17 seconded by Duffy and Martus and approved unanimously. The minutes of the September 8, 2009 meeting were moved
18 and seconded by Martus and Bhat and, likewise, approved unanimously.
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20 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Godar asked the Senate to approve Donna Perry to join a Promotions Committee for the
21 Department of Educational Leadership and Professional Studies. Duffy and Levitan moved and seconded approval, and
22 this passed unanimously. Godar asked the Senate to approve a Department Assessment Committee (DAC) for the
23 Department of Women's Studies consisting of Carole Sheffield, Julie Rosenthal and Donna Perry. Duffy and Parras
24 moved and seconded this proposal, which was unanimously approved. Godar said that in order to efficiently consider
25 programs that are to be implemented in fall 2010, such proposals need to be submitted through the usual departmental and
26 college channels, ending up in the Senate Office no later than November 9th, in order for the subsequent university and
27 state approval processes to run their course. Duffy reported on the activities of the Board of Trustees Institutional
28 Development Committee. He said that a topic of concern is the curtailment of corporate gifts due to the current economic
29 climate. He reported that the Committee is seeking advice on new sources for funding, and that it can take years to
30 cultivate these relationships. Duffy reported that some pledged gifts had been rescinded. Godar announced that Aaron
31 Tesfaye has agreed to continue service as Senate Parliamentarian. Chris Mulrine announced that he is organizing a faculty
32 table to engage alumni at the upcoming Homecoming events. Godar reported that she raised the issue of the
33 administration's practice of making interim appointments in administrative positions that, on occasion, result in a
34 subsequent permanent appointment. She said that this negatively impacts shared governance by removing the role of
35 faculty in these hiring decisions. She reported that the Executive Committee asked the President and Provost to reconsider
36 this practice. Godar reported that at the October 13 Senate meeting Board of Trustees member and chair of the President
37 Search Committee Bob Taylor will be present to answer questions about the search.
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39 **VICE CHAIR'S REPORT:** Martinez reported on nominations received for council vacancies: Kowalsky from Education
40 to Governance Council, Refsland from Professional Staff to Undergraduate Council, and Dunson-Harrison from Adjunct
41 Faculty to Academic Standards Council. Duffy and Pavese moved and seconded approval of these nominations and it was
42 approved unanimously. Martinez added that the councils have begun to meet and that professional staff vacancies on
43 some councils still exist.
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45 **GENERAL EDUCATION CLARIFICATION REQUEST (CONTINUED):** Godar said that there is a motion on the
46 floor from the previous meeting, to wit, to make proficiency in a foreign language a graduation requirement. Martus said
47 that this is not equitable for all students and suggested an amendment to specify a proficiency level of two years of high
48 school foreign language study with a C or better average. Potacco seconded the motion to amend. There was discussion of
49 whether the high schools offered enough of a variety of languages. Steinhart called the question and this passed. The
50 motion to amend failed 13 to 28. To the main motion Parras, Finnegan, Scala, and B. Williams said that their departments
51 support making foreign language proficiency a graduation requirement. Martus called for a closed ballot. The motion
52 passed 32 to 10.
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54 **REDUCTION TO 120 CREDIT HOURS BY ELIMINATION OF THE 3 UPPER LEVEL ELECTIVES:** Finnegan
55 and Steinhart questioned the necessity of this. Godar said that the measure addresses the "gap year" before the new GE
56 program is implemented and that this needs to be resolved in order that community college transfer students can be

57 accommodated. Tardi asked if there is a State mandate to name the courses to be cut. Godar said that there is no such
58 requirement. Weil said that the average student accumulates more than 120 credits, and that this measure serves to allow
59 most majors to complete their course of study in four years. McCallum called the question, which passed. Upon voting
60 there were three nays and one abstention, the motion passed.

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62 **GENERAL EDUCATION-TWO MODELS:** Godar offered congratulations to the WPUNJ community for this long and
63 enthusiastic discussion of general education. She praised John Peterman, Jean Levitan and Kathy Malanga for their
64 leadership of the Council through its long and productive work. Malanga made opening comments. Christine Kelly
65 presented the Alternative GE Model ([summary link](#)). Peterman presented the University Studies Program (USP) Model
66 ([summary link](#)). Kim asked about, once we decide upon a model, what the students will see. Godar said that courses that
67 satisfy the selected model's requirements will be mapped to and listed under each section. Steinhart asked if we had a
68 deadline on which to decide this. Godar said that to implement this for September 2011 we need to approve a model by
69 the end of this semester. She said that next semester the Council and Senate will consider the course development and
70 approval process. Parras asked about the alternative model's plan to integrate its courses over a student's four year course
71 of study. Malanga replied that an implementation plan will come before the Senate at its next meeting. Kelly said that
72 faculty-driven subcommittees will refine the course approval criterion. Knaus commented that the Alternative Model
73 appears to be a simplified version of the USP Model. Verdicchio said that the GE Council held a formal vote and decided
74 that it supports either model. Steinhart asked a procedural question about how we approve one or the other model. Tardi
75 said that we need to respect both models as we discuss them and that we generally are able to amend proposals as we
76 consider them. Gardner said it would be useful to see a comparative analysis of the two models. Godar said that the
77 Executive Committee will propose a method for us to use in consideration of the two proposals. Martus said that the
78 proposed models should also be considered by the departments.

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80 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:46 PM. The next meeting will be held at 12:30 PM on Tuesday,
81 October 13 in UC Ballroom A.

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83 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary

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