

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – APRIL 13, 2010

2 FACULTY SENATE WEBPAGE: <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --- E-mail discussion: facultysenate@list.wpunj.edu

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4 **PRESENT:** Andreopoulos, Bhat, Callanan (for Becker), Chung, Davis, Diamond, Donaghy, Duffy, Ekmekjian, Ellis,
5 Falk-Romaine, Finnegan, Gardner, Gazzillo-Diaz, Godar, Healy, Kim, Knaus, Ku, Lawrence, Lindsey, Martinez,
6 Martus, McCallum, Mongillo, Mulrine, Levitan, Overdorf, Parras, Pavese, Potacco, Rehberg, Rosar, Robb, Scala,
7 Ray Schwartz (for Wagner), Robin Schwartz, Speert, Steinhart, Stroppel, Tardi, Verdicchio, Walsh, Weil

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9 **ABSENT:** Cunningham, Nickerson, Pinkston, Refsland, Thiuri

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11 **GUESTS:** An, Basu, Cai, Daniel-Robinson, Deller, Dobrick, Goldstein, Hahn, Hill, Kashyap, Malanga, Martin, Miller,
12 Olaye, Natrajan, Perez, Schaeffer, Schumann, Seal, Williams

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14 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Godar called the Senate to order at 12:39 PM. Martus and Knaus moved
15 the Agenda. Levitan and Duffy amended to move the UCC discussion before Governance. The
16 amendment was unanimously approved, and the amended Agenda was approved unanimously. The
17 Minutes of the March 23rd meeting were moved and seconded by Martus and Stroppel. Stroppel and
18 Tardi mentioned that the Academic Integrity Policy is being revised. Martus asked that the Governance
19 Council formalize a policy for how amended Minutes would be posted. [Currently (and in past practice)
20 corrections are noted in the following meeting's Minutes, and not by physically altering the original
21 Minutes.] Godar replied that this would be addressed next year. The Minutes of the 3/23 meeting were
22 then accepted unanimously.

23 Davis urged faculty and students to attend the all-day conference: Beyond Copenhagen: the Global
24 Environmental Crisis, Challenges and Possibilities, to be held on Thursday, April 15th.

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26 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Godar noted that the Administrative Evaluations were due tomorrow. Tardi
27 requested that the deadline be extended to the end of the week, and Godar agreed.

28 Godar advised the faculty and administration that the Senate wants input into the formation of the
29 Academic Calendar prior to its presentation to the Senate for approval. She gave, as one example of
30 academically important issues, the setting of the date for withdrawal from courses.

31 Godar urged the entire campus community to attend the President's emergency meeting on 4/15 to
32 discuss the budget crisis.

33 Godar announced that, in addition to the Legacy Dinner to be held on 4/16, there would be an on-
34 campus farewell for President Speert. [Provost Weil recently announced: Faculty and staff are invited
35 to join in celebrating President and Mrs. Speert's 40 years as members of the William Paterson
36 community on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 5:30 pm in the University Commons.]

37 Godar announced that she will not seek another term as Senate Chair, and noted that the next Chair will
38 likely have important input to the new President. She also suggested that the Governance Council make
39 the term of the Chair two years. Finally, she urged the Senate to become involved in making the hard
40 decisions that will be necessary in the future.

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42 **PRESIDENT SPEERT ON THE BUDGET:** Speert stated that the situation is bad and will probably get
43 worse. He noted that the Governor has not taken the draconian cuts of recent years into account, and
44 that the projected shortfall for WPU will be between \$11-14 million dollars. Even if the Legislature steps
45 in, the change in the Governor's budget is not likely to be more than .5-1%. He noted that all sectors of
46 the State are being cut: municipalities, K-12 education, agencies, etc., and that higher education is low
47 on the Governor's list of priorities. Independent colleges, for example, have lost 100% of their funding.
48 He further noted that the Governor will attempt to cap tuition increases at 4% (though we have tried to

49 keep them modest to remain competitive with our peers). He regards the proposal to meld Thomas
50 Edison, the State Museum and the State Library into the Rutgers system as a dangerous portent which
51 suggests that further threats will be made upon the autonomy of the state colleges, moving us back
52 towards the situation in the 1960s.

53 Pavese noted that campus closures will hurt the lowest and the weakest the most. Speert replied that
54 the first requirement is to preserve the campus and the full-time faculty. He noted that last year he
55 reduced administrative release time. He doesn't want to eliminate courses or programs that are largely
56 taught by Adjuncts, but that we need to increase enrollment to help offset the loss of funding. Kim
57 agreed that enrollment must increase, and asked Bolyai what options are available to us. Bolyai replied
58 that increased enrollment is the best thing that could happen. He also stated that, while the University
59 must keep a healthy reserve fund to address emergencies, some of the reserves will be used this year. A
60 third approach is to cut ancillary services.

61 Tardi asked the President what his plans were regarding future closings. Speert responded that he
62 cannot furlough, but he can close the campus, thus reducing everyone's salary by that percentage of
63 their yearly income. He was open to the possibility of spreading the cuts over a number of paychecks,
64 rather than forcing individuals to take a full week's hit at a time. He noted that last year he was forced to
65 issue his Letter of Notice regarding future campus closures a certain number of days in advance of the
66 first potential closing date. He might have to do it again for next year. Beyond that, many details can be
67 negotiated. He is unsure how much the Governor can do without legislative sanction.

68 Steinhart noted that the world is in crisis, but that eventually things will improve and that WPU must use
69 this crisis to make the university a better place in the future. Speert agreed, but noted that we need new
70 streams of revenue. Martinez echoed Kim in urging WPU to be more aggressive in recruiting
71 international students. Godar again urged the entire community to attend Thursday's emergency
72 budget meeting in Ballroom C.

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74 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Martinez nominated (Duffy seconded) two new HSS members for the UCC
75 Council: De Noia (Sociology) and Meaders (History). She noted that these are representatives are simply
76 filling vacancies for the rest of the year, and that they must reapply if they wish to serve next year. The
77 nominations were approved unanimously. She reminded the Senate and the entire community that
78 nominations for next year's Senate councils will be open next week, and that everyone's whose term is
79 up must renominate him/herself if they desire to continue serving on that (or any other) council.

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81 **UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM:** Godar and Duffy moved the creation of two new UCC panels: one to
82 deal with Writing-intensive Courses and one to deal with Technology-intensive Courses. Donaghy asked
83 if it is the department's responsibility to identify which courses are to be considered Writing or
84 Technology intensive, to which Godar replied, yes. Schumann inquired if such course can be in the
85 major, to which Godar again responded yes. Martus, Tardi, Davis, Verdicchio and McCallum, Ellis and
86 Steinhart discussed ways to make the voting less contentious than last time. Duffy noted that 99% of the
87 time Executive Committee nominations are accepted without change, and that it was primarily the
88 effort of one department to obtain multiple seats on a given panel that sparked the unfortunate events
89 of the earlier voting. It was agreed that candidates may (but are not required) to submit brief
90 biographical or other statements supporting their candidacies no later than 4/22, and that these
91 submissions will be linked to their names on the nomination forms. Levitan reminded all potential
92 nominees that work on these panels will be very time consuming, and that they must be willing to make
93 significant commitments of time and effort to the process. The Executive Committee will present a list of
94 names, balanced by departments and expertise, for voting, via clickers. After extended debate, the
95 original motion, with minor amendments, was approved unanimously.

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97 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON RENAMING THE RESEARCH COUNCIL:** Martin and Duffy
98 moved the Governance Council's resolution to rename the Research Council the Research and
99 Scholarship Council. It was approved unanimously without debate.

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101 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO CREATE A TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL:** Martin and Martus moved
102 the Council's resolution to create a body responsible to the Senate with voice and input into important
103 campus policies and processes dealing with technological issues that impact academic matters. Pavese,
104 Potacco, Kim, Miller, Tardi, Hahn and Steinhart discussed various aspects of the proposed council's
105 scope, etc. There seemed to be consensus supporting creation of this new council, but the final vote will
106 be held at the 4/27 Senate meeting.

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108 **COUNCIL YEAR-END REPORTS:**

109 **GOVERNANCE:** Martin reviewed the various proposals the Council made this year, including those
110 discussed at today's meeting. They ranged from quasi-editorial motions (e.g., name changes) to major
111 restructuring of the council structure (e.g., dividing the Graduate Council, proposing a Technology
112 Council).

113 **GRADUATE:** Cai noted a sea change at WPU this year. For the first time there were more doctoral-level
114 proposals (Nursing, Counseling, Clinical Psychology) than masters-level proposals. He also applauded the
115 division of Graduate Council responsibilities into two councils.

116 **RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP:** Martus called for the creation of a faculty research database to collect
117 and present the extent and variety of the scholarly activities of WPU faculty. He also approved of the
118 renaming of the Research Council as the Research and Scholarship Council. He also noted that this year's
119 Research and Scholarship Day was a great success. There were 72 presentations and over 130 faculty,
120 staff and students were involved.

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122 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:47 PM. The next meeting of the Senate will be on
123 Tuesday, April 27, 2010, at 12:30 PM in University Commons Ballroom C.

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125 Respectfully submitted: B. Duffy, quondam Secretary

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