

1 William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – March 25, 2014
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --
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4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopoulos, Bae (for Gazzillo-Diaz), Bernstein, Bhat, Bliss, Broome, Chabayta, Colley,
5 Cunningham, D’Haem, Diamond, Dinan, Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Finnegan, Furst, Harris, Kearney, Kim,
6 Kothandaram, Ku, Lee, Levitan, Maganuco, Makarec, Novak, Nyaboga, Nyamwange, Pavese, Perez, Rosar,
7 Sabogal, Sandmann, Schwartz, Sheffield, Slaymaker, Smith, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi, Verdicchio,
8 Wagner, Wallace, Wicke

9 **ABSENT:** Alon, Martus, Natrajan

10 **GUESTS:** Bolyai, Brenenson, Burns, Cammarata, Ciliberti, Cohen, Collins, Corsetto, Daniel-Robinson,
11 DeDeo, Fuller-Stanley, Godar, Gordon, Hahn, Malu, Mankiw, Moore, Nguyen, Potacco, Rabbitt, Refsland,
12 Rosenberg, Schneider, Seal, Tiernan, Trelisky, Vekanifaro, Vovchuk, Walker, Williams, Wolf, Zeff, Zeller
13 (plus several unidentified students)

14 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Levitan called the Senate to order at 12:30 pm. Aktan and
15 Nyaboga moved acceptance of the Agenda. Dinan moved (Synder seconded) to delete item 7b on
16 electronic forms, since the Undergraduate Council requested more time. The amendment and then the
17 amended Agenda were approved unanimously.

18 The Minutes of the March 11, 2014 meeting, moved and seconded by Sheffield and Lee, were
19 approved unanimously.

20 **CHAIR’S REPORT:** Levitan called for a moment of silence in honor of recently-deceased former
21 Education faculty member Henry Heluk.

22 She reminded the body that responses to the Administrative Evaluations are due by April 1st. There
23 have only been a few small problems, but if anyone has a difficulty, please contact Jason Wicke.

24 Geography and Urban Studies needs an external member to join Owusu and Liu on its departmental
25 Assessment Committee. Duffy and Tardi nominated Flint, who was approved unanimously.

26 The Union and the Faculty Senate will be sponsoring a day-long conference on May 16th to discuss
27 issues regarding student success, accountability in higher education (costs, graduation rates, careers,
28 etc.), legislative items under discussion in Trenton, and how WPU should respond to these issues. This
29 format will permit more in-depth discussion and brainstorming than can be done in an hour or so at
30 our regular meetings.

31 Duffy reminded the body that the Library Book Sale is taking place today through Thursday, from
32 9am to 7pm. Kim distributed several handouts dealing with some of the many funding issues currently
33 being discussed by the legislature.

34 Levitan reminded the campus that elections for membership in next year’s Senate are in progress. If
35 you wish to continue on the Senate, be sure to check the Roster to see if your term is expiring.

36 The April 8th meeting is the last open meeting of the current Senate. (The April 22nd meeting at Valley
37 Road will be a closed meeting to discuss the Administrative Evaluations.) There are many unresolved
38 issues and councils are urged to submit detailed written reports to enable us to get as many issues that

39 require debate on the Agenda. **THURSDAY, March 1st** will be the first meeting of the new Senate.
40 After the election of officers for the 2014-2015 year, other academic business can be discussed.

41 Waldron announced that the annual open forum on the University's budget will be held on May 6th
42 from 4-5pm in the Library auditorium. The Provost will also lead a discussion on retention.

43 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Dinan reminded the Senate of two upcoming events. The Council Chairs
44 Lunch will be held on Thursday, April 17th at 12:30 in UC 211. The following week the annual Senate
45 Appreciation Lunch will be held on Thursday, April 24th at 12:30 in UC 211.

46 She is soliciting volunteers to serve on next year's Senate councils. Those interested should respond to
47 her e-mail.

48 **TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL: ONLINE AND HYBRID POLICY:** Debate resumed. Slaymaker
49 moved (Pavese seconded) to strike line 68 ("Students must be made aware of required in person
50 meeting dates no later than the first day of the semester.") and to add 2b: "All hybrid courses must list
51 required in-person meeting dates and times at the time of registration; the faculty reserve the right to
52 modify the schedule due to extenuating circumstances." Makarec supported the amendment, noting
53 that students need to know the schedules to mesh with their lives and responsibilities. Harris said that
54 he collaborates with students to agree on meeting times. Kothandaraman noted that this would provide
55 flexibility for both students and faculty. Trelisky asked who would be notifying the Registrar's Office.
56 The chairs? Perez warned that since so many courses are taught by adjuncts, it would be very difficult
57 to do this. Upon a voice vote, the amendment was approved with three votes in dissent.

58 Finnegan then moved (Sheffield seconded) to delete lines 54-55 as redundant in light of lines 56-57.
59 This amendment was approved with five abstentions.

60 Ellis moved (Sheffield seconded) to add a new point 12 at line 85: "Online courses have deadlines."
61 This amendment was approved unanimously.

62 Ellis then moved (Sheffield seconded) that there should be language warning students not to use
63 unauthorized computers (e.g., at work) for their coursework. Finnegan, Steinhart, Verdicchio and Lee
64 argued that this is not the faculty's business and be impossible to enforce. The motion was defeated by
65 voice vote.

66 In response to Maganuco's question, Levitan responded that there are limits on the number of students
67 who can be enrolled in an online class.

68 Tardi asked Wagner about the previous policy's limitation of one course per semester per faculty
69 member. Wagner replied that the Technology Council feels that faculty should not be limited to only
70 one course per semester. Makarec, Wicke, Tardi, Steinhart, Ellis and Lee discussed various ways to
71 express the Senate's thoughts on the subject. Tardi then moved (Pavese seconded): "Based on
72 departmental and university needs, faculty members should be able to teach two non-traditional
73 courses per semester (or more with the approval of the administration)." After brief discussion with
74 Lee and Tardi speaking, the amendment passed by voice vote with two abstentions.

75 With no more amendments or comments forthcoming, Levitan called for a vote to approve the entire
76 policy as amended, which was then approved unanimously.

77 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FACULTY SENATE**
78 **CONSTITUTION TO MAKE THE SGA PRESIDENT A VOTING MEMBER:**

79 Malu and Duffy moved the motion for discussion. Maganuco, who introduced the original SGA
80 motion nearly a year ago, detailed the SGA's reasons for supporting the amendment: New Jersey was
81 one of the first states to have student voting members on the Board of Trustees; Rutgers and Montclair
82 State have voting members in their senates; Middle States recommends a student voting member; 300
83 students signed a petition supporting the resolution; issues discussed at the Senate affect students, who
84 want a vote, not just a voice; voting membership would encourage more student engagement. A
85 number of senators spoke in support: Finnegan, Verdicchio, Snyder, Andreopoulos, Smith, as did
86 Fuller-Stanley. Others posed questions or problems: Falk-Romaine, Aktan, Makarec, Lee, Wallace,
87 Kothandaraman, Tardi, Nyaboga, Ellis. Several students – Collins, Vekanifaro (and others who didn't
88 sign in) – supported Maganuco's points and emphasized that the faculty serve the students. Others
89 spoke in opposition: Wicke, Potacco, Duffy, Malu. Duffy clarified the anomalous situation where the
90 Governance Council is presenting the resolution, but is not supporting it. He asked all senators to read
91 all six pages of the Council's attachment (especially pages 5-6), not just the first page. He, Tardi, Lee
92 and Wallace also discussed the problems that could arise at closed meetings (Faculty and Professional
93 Staff Meetings) such as the one to be held on April 22nd. Should the amendment pass, the By-Laws
94 could be revised to remove the SGA voting member from participation at a closed meeting. Waldron
95 noted that both the voting and non-voting SGA members of the Board of Trustees do not attend
96 meetings where personnel and other such issues are discussed. Levitan stated that discussion would
97 continue at the next meeting and that a closed, paper ballot vote on the resolution will occur then.

98 **ADJOURNMENT:** Upon Tardi and Ku's motion, the Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:45 PM.

99 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on Tuesday, April 8th at 12:30 pm in Ballroom A.

100 Respectfully submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary pro tem

101 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: www.wpunj.edu/senate