

1 William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – September 27, 2016
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --
3

4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopolous, Basch, Broome, Clarke, Cook, Decker, Diamond, Duffy,
5 Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Flint, Griswold, Guerrieri, Harris, Helena, Hong, Kearney, Kothandaraman,
6 Kromidas, Levitan, Maduro, Magaldi, Makarec, Martin, Martus, Najarian, O'Donnell, Owusu,
7 Potacco, Refsland, Rosar, Sandmann, Scala, Schwartz, Simon, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson,
8 Tardi, Tesfaye, Verdicchio, Vishio, Waldron, Wallace, Watad, Wicke
9

10 **ABSENT:** Avdeev, Fallace, Weisberg
11

12 **GUESTS:** Burns, Cammarata, Chabayta, Corso, Cupo, Daniel-Robinson, Dean, DeDeo, Diaz,
13 Godar, Goldstein, Hahn, Johnson, Kollia, Lincoln, Lubeck,, McMahan, Miller, Moore, Noonan,
14 Owusu-Ansah, Rabbitt, Richardson, Rosenberg, Ross, Sabatino Sheffield, Sherman, Thomas,
15 Tiernan, Vasquez, Wolf, Zeff
16

17 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Makarec called the Senate to order at 12:33pm. The Agenda,
18 moved by Martus and Cook was approved unanimously. The Minutes of the September 13th
19 meeting, moved by Scala and Wicke, were also approved unanimously.
20

21 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Makarec stated that several faculty committees were in need of outside
22 members.
23

24 Aktan and Duffy moved the appointment of Kashyap to serve on Ashani's Tenure Committee. It
25 was approved unanimously.
26

27 Najarian and Magaldi moved the appointment of Kashyap to serve on Mani's Tenure Committee.
28 It was approved unanimously.
29

30 Snyder and Swanson moved the appointment of Chauhan to serve on Marshall's Nursing
31 Promotion Committee. It was approved unanimously.
32

33 Aktan and Martus moved the appointment of Levitan to serve on Mathews' Nursing Promotion
34 Committee. It was approved unanimously.
35

36 Najarian and Flint moved the appointment of Scala to serve on Wallace's Africana World
37 Studies Promotion Committee. It was approved unanimously.
38

39 Makarec reminded the body and the campus community that all new program proposals must be
40 submitted to the Senate no later than December 9th in order for them to be studied by the
41 appropriate council and come to the Senate floor in time for implementation the following year.
42 Since the council get very busy in the early spring, the earlier these things are sent to the Senate,
43 the better.
44

45 She noted that elections are going on for the campus-wide committees: Promotions, UFRAC,
46 ART and Sabbatical Leave. Duffy pointed out that several of these important committees have
47 had been underpopulated in recent years, and urged people to volunteer to serve.
48

49 Makarec noted that the Retention Symposium will be held on October 13th in the Ballroom.

50

51 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Magaldi presented the proposed council membership for 2016-
52 2017, which was approved unanimously.

53

54 She urged faculty and professional staff members to volunteer to serve on the newly-constituted
55 Administrator Assessment Council.

56

57 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL: EMERITA STATUS FOR ISABEL TIRADO:** Dean (and
58 Duffy) moved and read the Council's resolution. O'Donnell, Cook, McMahan and Makarec
59 spoke warmly and at length about their colleague. The resolution was approved unanimously.

60

61 **PRESIDENT WALDRON:** Waldron thanked the Senate and its councils for their work last
62 year and looked forward to another productive year.

63

64 The story about the student who committed suicide, and whose family is suing the University,
65 has garnered wide and sometime inaccurate press. While she couldn't speak in specific detail
66 about that case, she referred to Cammarata's statement of September 4th, the work done by the
67 Title IX officer, Johnson, and various policies and guidelines that exist at WPU.

68

69 **OVERVIEW OF THE WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY SEXUAL ASSAULT**

70 **POLICY:** Cammarata briefly reviewed the WPU Sexual Assault Policy, the assistance that is
71 available to students, and the offices that are able to deal confidentially when an alleged victim
72 wishes to speak or report an incident. The offices that must maintain confidentiality are the
73 Counseling Center, the Women's Center and the Victim's Services Center. Other WPU
74 employees, including faculty and staff, are considered responsible employees who are required to
75 report incidents of alleged sexual assault that are reported to them. Faculty may wish to refer
76 such students to one of the confidential offices, and should notify the student about their
77 obligation to report.

78

79 The goal of all WPU offices and staff is to help and support the students. Johnson described the
80 role of the Title IX officer.

81

82 Cammarata and Johnson distributed and displayed a number of documents, links to which are
83 archived in the Packet for this meeting.

84

85 An extensive question and answer period ensued. Snyder asked what is to be done when the
86 faculty member has incomplete information or the student says s/he doesn't want to report.
87 Johnson said that her office collects all data and often can piece together various bits of
88 information. Also, since the faculty member must report if told of an assault. Johnson said that
89 faculty should tell the student to stop talking about the incident if s/he doesn't want the incident
90 reported. Faculty should attempt to get students to go to the Counseling Center or one of the
91 other confidential offices at once.

92

93 Tardi stated that faculty are not counselors and asked how Johnson handled the names of faculty
94 who reported to her office. Johnson said that she keeps the names in her files, but that she can
95 state things as "a faculty member reported...." Cammarata noted that the students involved will,
96 of course, know who reported the incident.

97 Scala said that in Women's and Gender Studies courses students often speak of events that
98 happen off-campus, and asked if such events must be reported, to which Johnson replied yes.
99 Johnson, Levitan, Scala and Sheffield all reiterated the importance of getting the student to go
100 the Counseling Center.

101
102 Thomas, the student representative on the Board of Trustees, spoke earnestly about the need for
103 faculty to help students. Duffy asked if information about the various resources available for
104 students has been given to all students. Cammarata said yes: During Orientation, Diaz and
105 Daniel-Robinson give flash drives that are pre-loaded with a wealth of essential information to
106 all students. Kearney noted that it is important to get as much factual and physical evidence as
107 quickly as possible in case a criminal charge is to be pursued. Cammarata and Johnson
108 repeatedly emphasized that it is the alleged victim who, in most cases, controls how the situation
109 develops.

110
111 Sheffield noted that there was little institutional support for victims in the past, and applauded
112 the advances that have been made in this area in recent years. She also suggested to Thomas that
113 students must also be involved in helping and protecting each other. The SGA has a program:
114 "It's On Us" that discusses these issues.

115
116 Andreopoulos asked what can be done to correct the misinformation that the Pioneer Times and
117 other media have spread about this case. Cammarata said that the University is not permitted to
118 say much about these cases. When Andreopoulos asked that the faculty be told more, Cammarata
119 said no. Cleary Act requirements, which present aggregate reporting, are the proper ways to state
120 these things. Flint asked if one got second-hand information, is there an obligation to report.
121 Johnson said yes. Even hearsay may help develop a file.

122
123 **OLD BUSINESS:** Tardi asked the President about reports that the Presidents' Council had
124 supported the effort of two-year colleges to be given the right to confer three or four year
125 degrees. Waldron replied that the reports are not completely accurate. Overall, the Council does
126 not support that proposal, but there are some members who do. There is a split between the
127 representatives from the two year schools and those from the four year schools. Discussion
128 continues.

129
130 **ADJOURNMENT:** Upon the motion of Levitan and Synder, the Senate adjourned at 1:47pm.

131
132 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 in Ballroom C.

133
134 Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

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