

1 WILLIAM PATERON UNIVERSITY -- **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – March 9, 2010

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

3
4 Present: Andreopoulos, Becker, Bhat, Chung, Davis, Diamond, Duffy, Ekmekjian, Ellis, Finnegan, Gazzillo-Diaz, Gardner, Godar, Hill (for Lawrence),
5 Kearney (for Wagner), Kim, Knaus, Ku, Levitan, Lindsey, Liu (for Thiuri), Louie (for Donaghy), Martinez, Martus, McCallum, Mongillo, Mulrine ,
6 Parras, Pavese, Pinkston, Pollak, Potacco, Refsland, Rehberg, Robb, Falk-Romaine, Rosar, Scala, Schwartz, Steinhart, Stropfel, Tardi, Verdicchio,
7 Walsh, Weil

8 Absent: Healy, Speert

9 Guests: Basu, Bolyai, Daniel-Robinson, Deller, Diaz, Hahn, Kashyap, Martin, McCoy, Noonan, Olaye, Overdorf, Rabbitt, Schaeffer, Seal, Torres-
10 Santos, Trelisky, Williams, Zeff

11 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Godar called the Senate to order at 12:39 PM. The Agenda, moved and seconded by
12 Martus and Pavese, was approved unanimously. The Minutes of the February 23rd meeting were moved and seconded
13 by Martus and Duffy. Kim objected that many of his comments were not reflected in the Minutes. [He later submitted a
14 list of points, including the recruiting of international students and other enrollment issues.] Potacco noted that line 38
15 should read Duffy not Potacco. The amended Minutes were then accepted unanimously.

16 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Godar announced that the Board of Trustees would be holding a special open meeting on Thursday,
17 March 11th at 1 PM in the Ballroom. She suspected that an important announcement would be made, and urged all to
18 attend. She thanked Aaron Tesfaye for several years of service as Senate Parliamentarian, and she introduced Ginny
19 Overdorf at the new Parliamentarian. Due to the cancellation of the February 9th Senate meeting (in order to allow the
20 faculty to attend one of the presidential candidates open for a), the Senate Executive Committee, acting in loco senates,
21 approved the nomination of E. Phadia to serve on Martus' DAC committee. She also introduced Patrick Noonan, WPU's
22 new transfer specialist.

23 Vice-President Bolyai reported that the budget situation, while not rosy, is better than anticipated and, thus, purchasing
24 will not be cut off early as it has been in some previous years. He attributed the improved situation primarily to
25 increased enrollment. He warned, however, the Governor will present his Budget Address next week. Finnegan, Tardi
26 and Scala asked questions. Bolyai responded that WPU's reserve is approximately \$8,000,000, and that the State doesn't
27 always cut us outright, but accomplishes the same result by not funding us fully for salary increases.

28 Levitan discussed course due dates for the new UCC courses. She noted that it is important for Middle States that we
29 complete this process on time. Courses for Summer 2011 should be submitted 1/3/2011. For UCC and courses in the
30 majors, the date is 1/14/2011. Incoming freshman courses must be to the Registrar by 2/15/2011. Since no UCC Panel
31 can do it all in December 2010, she urged faculty to submit their course as early as possible. Finnegan inquired about
32 the possibility of a fourth digit being added to course listings. Trelisky, Levitan, Godar, Steinhart and McCallum raised a
33 number of questions. Trelisky responded that no final decisions have been made yet, but that several departments (e.g.,
34 Sociology and History) have run out of numbers, but that old numbers cannot be recycled: they must remain so old
35 transcripts can be linked to a real course, etc. Discussions continue with the Provost's Office.

36 Godar noted that Jemmott will speak about international student issues at the next meeting.

37 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Martinez reminded the body that the annual Council Chairs Luncheon would be held on
38 Thursday at 12:30. The group will break to attend the Board meeting, and then reassemble.

39 **GOVERNANCE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON CREATING TWO GRADUATE COUNCILS:** Martin, Chair of the Governance
40 Council, presented the proposal to create two councils: one to handle new course approvals, etc., and the other to focus
41 on policy issues. She noted that the Graduate Council, itself, had requested this action, and she detailed the extensive

42 discussions that the Governance Council entered into with all the affected councils. After brief comments by Finnegan,
43 Diamond and Weil, the resolution was approved unanimously.

44 **ACADEMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL ON LATIN HONORS:** Stroppel and Kearney reported that the Council looked at the
45 requirements for Latin Honors were revisited in light of the decrease in graduation credits from 128 to 120, and the
46 recommendation of the Council is to reduce the minimum number of WPU credits that a student must take to 60.
47 Extensive discussion ensued, especially in regard to transfer and second degree students. McCallum, Trelisky, Gardner,
48 Davis, Stroppel, Weil, Levitan, Godar, Diaz, Kearney, Scala, Kim, Martinez, Rabbitt, Hahn, Diamond, Seal, Martus and
49 Gazzillo-Diaz addressed issues dealing with fairness, academic standards, pass-fail grading, procedural issue, the
50 capability of the computer system, and the like. Steinhart expressed dissatisfaction with the status of the resolution and
51 moved to send it back to the Council for further discussion and revision; McCallum seconded. The motion passed
52 unanimously.

53 **OLD BUSINESS:** Schaeffer wished to amplify Gardner's report on the Financial Audit Committee, by noting that the
54 outside auditor gave WPU a "clean, unqualified opinion." This touched off a lively discussion regarding the content and
55 the amending of the Minutes (Tardi, McCallum); concern about modifying past actions (Davis), whether minutes should
56 be minimal (as Roberts suggests) or follow past practice of trying to capture some of the spirit of the debate; the need
57 for consistency (Potacco, Tardi). Godar referred the matter to Parliamentarian Overdorf, who will present her
58 recommendations at the next meeting.

59 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:48 PM. The next meeting of the Senate will be held on Tuesday,
60 March 23rd in the University Commons Ballroom.

61 Respectfully submitted,

62 B. Duffy, quondam secretary

63 THESE MINUTES AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate>