

4 **PRESENT:** Alon (for Walsh), Andreopoulos, Barrow, Bernstein, Bhat, Bliss, Chabayta, Cruz Paul,  
5 Diamond, Dinan, Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Finnegan, Garfinkel, Godar, Healy, Kearney, Kelly,  
6 Kim, Korgen, Lee, Levitan, Martus, Mathew, Natrajan, Ndjatou, Nyaboga, Nyamwange, Parras,  
7 Pavese, Perez, Rosar, Sabogal, Schwartz, C. Sheffield, Slaymaker, Snyder, Steinhart, Tardi,  
8 Verdicchio, Wagner, Waldron, Weil, Wicke

9 **ABSENT:** D’Haem, Mbogoni, McNeal, Swanson

10 **GUESTS:** Adeniran, Ambroise, Bolyai, Burns, Cohen, Daniel-Robinson, Fornarotto, Fuller, Fuller-  
11 Stanley, Goldstein, Gritsch, Hahn, Kubeyinje, Liautaud, Martinez, Martone, Miller, Noonan, Olaye,  
12 Potacco, Rabbitt, Refsland, Rosengart, Schrader, D. Sheffield, Trelisky

13 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Parras called the Senate to order at 12:31 PM. Martus and Pavese  
14 moved acceptance of the Agenda, which approved unanimously.

15 The draft minutes of the October 23, 2012 meeting, were moved and seconded by Snyder and  
16 Slaymaker. Since many senators were unable to read them prior to the meeting, Martus and Pavese’s  
17 motion that acceptance be postponed until the next meeting was approved unanimously.

18 **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Kelly gave advance notice of the New Jersey Campus Compact Faculty  
19 Institute for Service Learning and Civic Engagement to be held on March 8, 2013.

20 President Waldron gave an update on the Provost Search. Four finalists will be on campus on Tuesday,  
21 December 4<sup>th</sup>, Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The  
22 open meetings for the entire campus will be held each day from 3:30-4:45. The first one will be held in  
23 the Library Auditorium, the rest in Ballroom A. Martus asked if there were any feedback mechanisms,  
24 to which Waldron replied that there will be an anonymous online survey. To Finnegan’s question  
25 about reviewing the candidates’ credentials, Waldron said they will be posted online soon. There were  
26 more than 100 applicants from across the nation and seven were interviewed by the Committee. All of  
27 the finalists are from out-of-state.

28 **CHAIR’S REPORT:** Parras reported that the Provost has approved the Senate resolution on transfer  
29 credits and that he reiterated that the departments define the major.

30 Martinez has resigned from the Blue Ribbon Task Force, and Tina Lesher has been named to replace  
31 her. Kelly commented that different departments have different concerns about advising, and it seems  
32 to her that there may be an over-representation of members from departments that are not eager to  
33 keep advising. Waldron and Parras noted that the deans and the colleges made the recommendations  
34 for membership.

35 **VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT:** Falk-Romaine said that the final report from the last Ad Hoc Committee  
36 on Administrative Evaluations will be on the Agenda for discussion at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

37 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES LIAISON REPORTS:**

38 Godar, the Senate liaison to the Educational Policy and Student Development Committee, reported  
39 that four items were discussed: the Enrollment Management report, the Cleary (crimes on campus)

40 report, the new doctoral program in Counseling Psychology, and the NSSE report. The first two have  
41 already been disseminated to the campus community. In the discussion of the new program, the Board  
42 members indicated that they were seeking realistic budget estimates for all new programs and that they  
43 would not reject programs simply due to negative income in initial years. The NSSE report may have  
44 flaws, as some student segments may be underrepresented, particularly students who work, who may  
45 be the most likely not to reply.

46 Finnegan, the liaison to the Finance, Audit and Institutional Development Committee, reported that  
47 KPMG's Fiscal Audit found no irregularities, and that WPU is in a favorable debt position (especially  
48 vis-à-vis our peers).

49 Institutional Advancement raised almost \$4,000,000 last year, a 13% increase over the previous year.  
50 Their goal for this year is \$4.1M. Social media are being used to contact alumni with the message that  
51 you are a student for a short time, but an alum forever. Undergraduate donors increased to over 5% --  
52 higher than the national average of 4.2% -- and that the goal is 6.2%. The cost of raising money is  
53 approximately 50 cents per dollar raised. The goal is to reduce that to 25 cents. Verdicchio asked how  
54 the 51% compares with peers. Waldron said that it was 77 cents when she arrived and that the goal is  
55 to reach the national norm of 25 cents.

56 Tardi asked about a financial aid audit, but Finnegan said the topic was not raised at the meeting.  
57 Kelly raised the issue of allotting room (not board) awards to strivers, not just high achievers, as a  
58 method of increasing retention. Korgen asked if there were research supporting this. Martone agreed  
59 with Kelly and said that approximately 50% of incoming students live on campus. He added that in  
60 order to appeal to more graduate students in this high rent area, residence halls have been renovated,  
61 and 7-9 more graduate students are now living in the dorms. Waldron and Martone noted that the  
62 campus culture is being changed to encourage students to give to the University, as in a Senior Gift.  
63 Our students are very generous in contributing to others – the homeless and disaster relief, for example  
64 – too all but ourselves. Bliss noted that it's not the amount that you give, but the fact that you give that  
65 sets students in place for future fundraising. Kelly suggested that working students be surveyed about  
66 union membership and other affiliations.

67 **ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION:** Martinez and Godar moved  
68 the Council's resolution, noting that changes in advisement should be presented to the Senate before  
69 being implemented, and that such changes should not be done during the summer. Godar and Korgen  
70 amended by adding that such plans should be presented to the Senate for discussion "during the  
71 academic year." The amendment was approved unanimously, as was the amended resolution.

72 **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT:** Cohen presented and commented upon the PowerPoint she  
73 used at the Town Hall Meeting. Among the points she highlighted: Fall 2012 enrollment is down by  
74 about .8%; undergraduate enrollment is stable, but graduate numbers fell by about 200 students. There  
75 is more diversity. The six-year graduation rate has increased from 46.5- 47.5%, largely due to the 120  
76 credits graduation requirement. First year retention is up from 75.9 – 77.2%. Her department is  
77 tracking students over the summer to stop attrition. Transfer students now outnumber new admits:  
78 1367 to 1240. There is a trend throughout New Jersey of students attending community colleges  
79 (which have experienced increasing enrollments) then transferring to four year institutions. EOF  
80 enrollments are stable at approximately 100/year.

81 When Cohen stated that the Sponsored Student Program had been eliminated, Tardi asked why this  
82 was done to the most successful group, graduation-wise. Cohen replied that that group's retention rate  
83 approximates that of the entire student population, and that resources are being provided to support all  
84 students. Tardi added that part of that group's success was its small size, careful monitoring and  
85 ongoing support – why take this cohort out? Cohen disagreed and said that having a special group will  
86 not improve retention, and that what we call the students is not important: we must help them all.

87 Steinhart asked what sort of strategies were planned to keep students over the summer. Cohen replied  
88 that the entire University must stay connected with students, not just her department. Faculty advisors,  
89 the Advisement Center and others must provide support. She also noted that new tuition bills and  
90 dismissal for academic standing also contribute to the attrition. Kim challenged Cohen's numbers, but  
91 Cohen responded that her statistics are in line with the University Fact Book and that the State gets it  
92 numbers from the colleges.

93 Kelly said that it doesn't matter what we call students, it's what we do with them. She called upon  
94 WPU to honor its historic mission as a public institution and to identify best practices. She suggested  
95 that perhaps a longer grace period before deregistering students might work, especially since when this  
96 is done early it causes class sections to be cancelled – only to be restored later on or resulting in very  
97 large classes. She called for smaller, more meaningful analyses rather than just big ones. Cohen said  
98 that the registration process has been liberalized and that since 60% of our students take at least one  
99 remedial class, we must work with all students, not just a few hundred in special programs.

100 Verdicchio said there is good news – we're getting better-prepared students and the Sponsored  
101 Students used to make up 28% of our student body – but there is bad news, too. Graduate enrollment  
102 has declined precipitously from 1700 to about 1000 students. We are becoming an undergraduate  
103 institution but are calling ourselves a university. We need a clear plan for graduate enrollment. Cohen  
104 said that our new Director of Graduate Admissions is making many improvements, but all New Jersey  
105 graduate programs are suffering since more and more employers and districts are no longer providing  
106 tuition assistance. She admitted that the process is cumbersome, but many people are working to  
107 improve it as quickly as possible.

108 Barrow asked if there is federal money for increased work study programs and special education  
109 programs. Schwartz said that we need quiet dorms. We are losing students to Montclair due to  
110 financial aid and dorm problems. Cohen said that if students have extraordinary circumstances, send  
111 them to her.

112 Finnegan and Cohen began to discuss some figures as time ran short. Finnegan and Kim's motion to  
113 continue the discussion at the next Senate meeting passed unanimously.

114 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:47 PM.

115 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM in  
116 Ballroom C.

117 Respectfully submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

118 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:  
119 [www.wpunj.edu/senate](http://www.wpunj.edu/senate)