

1 WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – September 8, 2009

2 Web page: <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --- E-mail discussion: <mailto:faculty senate@list.wpunj.edu>

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4 **PRESENT:** Andreopoulos, Barnes, Basu, Becker, Bhat, Bolyai, Cho, Chung, Davis, De Young, Diamond,
5 Donaghy, Duffy, Ekmekjian, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Finnegan, Gardner, Gazillo (for Rehberg), Godar, Hahn,
6 Healy, Jemmott, Kashyap, Kim, Knaus, Ku, Lawrence, Levitan, Martinez, Martus, McCallum, Mongillo, Mulrine,
7 Olaye, Owusu (for Thiuri), Parras, Pavese, Pinkston, Pollak, Potacco, Rabbitt, Refsland, Rosar, Scala, Schwartz,
8 Steinhart, Stropfel, Suess, Tardi, Torres-Santos, Schuhmann, Verdicchio, Wagner, Walsh, Weil

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10 **ABSENT:** Mbogoni

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12 **GUESTS:** Bernstein, Daniel-Robinson, Jian, Kim-Yoon, Louie, Maduro, Malanga, Schaeffer, Seal, Sherman,
13 Maggie Williams, Martin Williams, Zeff, Zeman

14
15 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Godar called the Senate to order at 12:35 PM. The proposed agenda was
16 moved by Duffy, who asked that item E be deleted. Martus seconded and the agenda was adopted. The minutes of
17 the May 7, 2009 meeting were moved and seconded by Levitan and Scala and were also approved.

18
19 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Godar said that the Board of Trustees turned down the Senate's request for a permanent
20 Senate representatives and thanked Tardi for her support in this effort. Godar thanked everyone who ran for
21 positions on the search committee to select a new University President and congratulated Davis and Tardi for
22 being elected. Godar explained that while the list of candidates for the President position will be kept confidential,
23 the search committee chair will issue regular updates on the progress of the search. Godar said that the Senate will
24 need to make a recommendation on implementation of the 120 credits minimum for graduation for the "gap year"
25 between the implementation of the new GE and the reduction of credits to 120. Godar said that this year we will
26 conduct another evaluation of the administration and deans using the confidential, Senate Vote apparatus.

27 Kate Makarec, Senate representative to the Board of Trustees Student Affairs Committee, reported that
28 the recent meeting focused on preparations for a possible outbreak of the H1N1 flu at WPUNJ. She said that there
29 was discussion of how to handle student absences and possible grading period extensions should the need arise.
30 Makarec reported that Glenn Sherman discussed an upcoming internal assessment against NESSE (National
31 Survey of Student Engagement).

32 Esther Martinez, substituting for Ginny Overdorf, Senate representative to the Board of Trustees
33 Education Policy Committee reported that there was a discussion of admissions standards and their interaction
34 with graduation rates.

35 Sue Godar, Senate representative to the Board of Trustees Finance and Audit Committee said that there
36 was a review of the University budget and that our appropriation from the state is down 7% over ten years and our
37 revenue from tuition has doubled over 10 years. She said that over ten years we have changed from being largely
38 supported by state appropriations to being supported by tuition revenue. She said that the costs passed on to
39 students have grown markedly and that everyone should write to their legislators, encouraging them to better
40 support higher education.

41 Godar discussed the process by which BOT liaisons are selected: that the Executive Committee nominates
42 a slate of candidates from the pool of those who apply. She added that nominations from the floor are accepted.
43 She said that this will be done in May for the next academic year. Godar said that questions about service as
44 liaisons should be directed to Duffy, Ellis, or Godar – who have served in this capacity.

45 Godar asked for approval of a promotions committee for Women's Studies to consist of Scala, Levitan
46 and Perry. Duffy moved and Tardi seconded approval and this passed unanimously.

47
48 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Martinez reported that the following openings exist on Senate Councils: Elections,
49 from Arts & Communication and Professional Staff; Admissions & Enrollment Management, from Professional
50 Staff; Governance, from Education and Professional Staff; Undergraduate, from Professional Staff. She said that
51 Adjunct representatives are needed for all Councils, and that the Councils have begun to meet.

52
53 **GRADUATE COUNCIL – MASTER OF MUSIC, PROGRAM CHANGE IN MUSIC EDUCATION**

54 **SPECIALIZATION:** Kem Louie, of the Graduate Council, moved that the program change be approved. Carol
55 Frierson-Campbell, Music Department, answered questions. She said that the program change consisted of a

56 mixture of face-to-face and online coursework and clarified a point about the number of credit hours required.
57 Pavese spoke in favor of the program change, saying that it will allow students to complete the program more
58 quickly. The proposal passed unanimously.

59
60 **ACADEMIC STANDARDS – RECORDING POLICY STATEMENT:** Liz Stropfel, of the Academic
61 Standards Council, moved approval of the policy. Tardi voiced concerns about possible abuse of faculty rights.
62 Davis described how in this new age of media dissemination online (such as You Tube), classroom recordings are
63 easily done and abuse is also easy. She said that the policy at least gives the faculty member some control and lets
64 students know that there are limitations. Pavese said that this might cause faculty to self-censor. Diamond said
65 that a lecture may contain proprietary material that should not be recorded or disseminated. McCallum said that
66 the policy seems draconian and asked for examples of abuse that has actually occurred. Duffy asked if this has
67 been vetted by Disability Services. Stropfel said that this is a draft policy and is subject to revision. Pollak
68 expressed concerns that a classroom recording might impinge on the rights of other students. Tardi said that this
69 policy is precipitous and that we have not explored all of the related issues. Davis said that she has not seen abuse
70 of recordings here. Gardner said that there needs to be a clause about the potential misuse of an approved
71 recording. Martus asked about the ramifications of a violation of the policy. The proposed policy will go back to
72 the Council for revisions.

73
74 **ACADEMIC STANDARDS – HONOR CODE STATEMENT:** Liz Stropfel, of the Academic Standards
75 Council, moved approval of the statement, saying that it should go on department websites and course syllabi.
76 Finnegan voiced confusion over the fact that we do not have an honor code *per se*, but rather an academic
77 integrity policy. He suggested that the wording be changed to reflect our existing policies.

78
79 **GENERAL EDUCATION CLARIFICATION REQUEST – FOREIGN LANGUAGES AS GRADUATION**
80 **REQUIREMENT:** A “graduate credits by major” sheet was distributed, data derived from information provided
81 by the Provost’s Office. Davis asked for a summary of which programs have GE waivers. Godar said that Music,
82 Art, and Nursing have waivers to reduce GE requirements. Duffy moved and Martinez seconded that languages be
83 a graduation requirement. There was discussion about programs that need exemption from GE requirements.
84 Steinhart expressed concern that this motion holds all students hostage to one domain or skill and that it seems
85 unfair. McCallum also expressed concern over why this skill is singled out in this manner. There was discussion
86 about how students with previous language coursework test out of the current requirement. Martinez moved an
87 amendment stipulating that all programs with exemptions will maintain these, and Duffy seconded. Tardi asked
88 for the academic rationale behind the exemptions for the BFA and BM. The vote on the amendment was 19 ayes,
89 18 nays and one abstention. The amendment carried. Discussion on the main motion focused on why mastery of a
90 second language is worthy of being a graduation requirement. Finnegan said that it is a part of our vision of what
91 a global education should be. Tardi agreed with this. Bernstein said that it is a core skill that all students should
92 have and that it goes beyond the content of particular programs. Andreopoulos said that it is a vital component of
93 a modern education and improves a student’s employability. There was further discussion of how exemptions are
94 handled.

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96 **ADJOURNMENT:** At 1:46 PM there was a motion to adjourn. This passed, and the meeting ended. The next
97 Senate meeting will be on Tuesday, September 22 at 12:30 PM in University Commons Ballroom A.

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99 Respectfully submitted: K. Wagner, Secretary

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