

1 William Paterson University – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – February 14, 2002

2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE – <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> E-mail Discussion to facultysenate@list.wpunj.edu

3 **Present:** Agard-Jones, Bareford, Bing, Burns, Cho, Chung, Coomes, Danzinger, De Young,
4 Dye, Edelstein, Garcia, Gelfer (for Oratio), Gillette, M. Goldstein, Gulbranson, S. Hahn,
5 Hayden, Kearney (for Duffy), Kelly, Kim, Levitan, Lloyd (for Rothman), Maheshwari, Makarec,
6 McClean, Miller, Morganstern, Murphy, Mwaura, Nag, Owusu, Parras, Phadia, Principe,
7 Rabbitt, Schmidt (for Overdorf), Sesay, Strasser, Swanson, Tardi, Torres-DiMaio, Villar,
8 Wagner, Weltman

9 **Absent:** Hartley, Link, Scala, Steinhart, Wahrman

10 **Guests:** Finnegan, Fountakidis, S. Goldstein, S. Miller, Terraneo, Zeman

11 **Preliminaries:** Chairperson Edelstein called the Senate to order at 12:38 PM. Levitan and M.
12 Goldstein moved and seconded the adoption of the agenda. Edelstein proposed amending the
13 agenda to accommodate a presentation by Public Relations to follow the Vice-chair's report.
14 Burns and M. Goldstein moved and seconded the proposal. Amended, the agenda was adopted
15 unanimously. Garcia and Kim moved and seconded acceptance of the minutes of the January
16 29th, 2002 meeting and this was passed unanimously.

17 **Chair's Report:** Edelstein referred to a copy of a letter from Senator Torricelli in the senate
18 packet in response to the Faculty Senate's October 23, 2001 resolution supporting and
19 safeguarding the freedom of expression. Torricelli expressed support for our concerns. Edelstein
20 announced that all NJ college senates have approved the resolution to fully fund the state salary
21 program. He will send a letter expressing this solidarity to Governor McGreevey and the State
22 Legislature. Edelstein said that he was unhappy to report that the in the recent Sabbatical Leave
23 Committee election three of the five colleges did not supply representatives. He said that with
24 two rounds of nominations there is ample time to caucus and find faculty to serve. He announced
25 that the winner of a contested seat in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences was John
26 Jordan, English Department. Edelstein announced the Senate-Provost sponsored forum to be held
27 February 21, 2002 on the topic of the role of the faculty in student recruitment and conversion.
28 The forum will be held in the Atrium Auditorium from 12:30-1:50 PM and a light lunch will be
29 served. Edelstein also announced the upcoming Graduate Council forum to be held Thursday,
30 February 28 from 12:30-2:00 PM, also in the Atrium Auditorium and including a light lunch.

31 **Vice-chair's Report:** Garcia announced that there are three openings in the Councils: a
32 representative from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences is needed for Governance.
33 Garcia, on behalf of the Executive Committee, nominated Stephen Thompson. Additionally, he
34 nominated Stephen Newton for the Athletic Affairs Council and Kate Makarec for the
35 Assessment Council. M. Goldstein enquired whether the Cheo Rule applied in this case and if
36 this must wait until the next Senate meeting for ratification. Weltman said that it is so difficult to
37 find people willing to serve on the Councils that these are not contested positions. He suggested
38 that these be termed "temporary appointments" so that the Councils' work can continue until duly
39 elected representatives can be emplaced. Dye said that the Cheo Rule has a place, especially in
40 instances of contested slots on the Assessment and General Education Committees. Dye said that
41 she supported the underlying tenet of the Cheo Rule in which the Senators take the information
42 back to their constituencies and at the next meeting the process can conclude. Morganstern
43 voiced concern that the Cheo Rule is being selectively applied and didn't recollect provisions for
44 "temporary appointments" in the Bylaws. Burns asked that the Cheo Rule be explained to those

45 who might not be familiar with it. Edelstein explained the idea that there is a waiting period after
46 an opening is announced and nominations are made to allow more nominations to come forth.
47 Garcia said that the process of canvassing for volunteers, reporting the Executive Committee and
48 thence to the Senate takes over a month. Kelly said that these openings were announced at the
49 January 29th Senate meeting and that Stephen Newton was nominated at that time. Danzinger
50 moved and Burns seconded the nominations and with one nay the motion passed. Garcia
51 suggested that he would try to publicize Council openings on the Senate listserv in order to
52 expedite the process of getting these positions filled.

53 **Presentation by Public Relations:** Provost Sesay thanked the Senate for providing the time for
54 this presentation. Lorraine Terraneo, Stuart Goldstein and Mary Beth Zeman showed a video of
55 WPUNJ promotional commercials, a news feature from MSBC in which Professor Maya Chadda
56 discussed events in Afghanistan, and interviews with members of the WPUNJ championship
57 cheerleading squad. Goldstein moved that letters of commendation be sent to the cheerleading
58 squad and anyone else appearing in the media in support of the University. Torres-DiMaio
59 seconded the motion. Levitan spoke in support of the motion. Weltman and Rabbitt moved and
60 seconded an amendment to include a congratulatory newspaper ad in the Beacon and Pioneer.
61 This motion to amend passed unanimously and the original motion also passed unanimously.
62 Principe added that Professor Chadda's husband is recovering from heart surgery and both would
63 appreciate your encouragement.

64 **Senate Calendar-Fall 2002:** It was moved and seconded by Levitan and Dye to accept the Fall
65 2002 Senate Calendar. The motion passed unanimously.

66 **Discussion of the Revised Questionnaire to Evaluate the President, Provost and Vice**

67 **Presidents:** Edelstein asked for a Committee of the Whole for this discussion. Burns and Garcia
68 moved and seconded this, which passed unanimously. Professor Terry Finnegan, chair of the ad
69 hoc committee to revise the questionnaire said that the goal was to make the tool more accurate
70 and understandable and to ensure that the questions pertained to the positions. The committee
71 attempted to streamline the questionnaire and reduce the number of question. Morganstern asked
72 for the response rate. Finnegan said that Bill Duffy would know that, but it was low.
73 Morganstern asked what was done with the results. Finnegan said that the scores were published
74 but comments were passed along to the evaluatees confidentially. A compilation of the scores is
75 sent to the Board of Trustees. Morganstern suggested that evaluation of the President's and
76 Provost's "Personal Qualities" is inappropriate and should be stricken. Levitan said that she didn't
77 feel the faculty had the ability to adequately evaluate the performance of the Vice President for
78 Financial Affairs. Strasser asked that the survey be limited to the front and back of a single page.
79 Tardi said that any question with two evaluative phrases needs to be separated into two
80 questions. Hayden suggested that in addition to "no opinion" as a response there should be a "no
81 basis for judgment" option. Edelstein referred to a 1995 document discussing these evaluations
82 that reported a 36.2% response rate. Bing expressed concern over low response rates and said
83 that the Board of Trustees takes this evaluation seriously and that other colleges and universities
84 do not have this opportunity to evaluate their administrations. Bareford said that the evaluation
85 should be restricted to paper to protect confidentiality. Maheshwari supported an online
86 evaluation and said that confidentiality can be assured. Morganstern expressed doubt that this
87 would be confidential. Tardi recommended elimination of demographic questions that could
88 compromise the respondent's confidentiality. Morganstern suggested making the demographic
89 section optional. Burns and Hayden moved and seconded coming out of the Committee of the

90 Whole, which passed unanimously. Murphy and Garcia move and seconded to send the
91 suggestions back to the committee for revision. This passed unanimously.
92 **Adjournment:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:52 PM. The next meeting will be Tuesday,
93 February 26 in SC 203, 4 & 5.

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95 Respectfully Submitted, [Kurt W. Wagner](#), Secretary

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