

1 William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES –February 10, 2015  
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --  
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4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopolous, Avdeev, Broome, Cano, Decker, Diamond, Dinan, Duffy,  
5 Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Furst, Gazzillo-Diaz, Griswold, Kearney, Kim, Kothandaraman, Ku,  
6 Levitan, Maduro, Magaldi, Makarec, Martin, Martus, McNeal, O'Donnell, Owusu, Perez,  
7 Polchak, Rosar, Sabogal, Sandmann, Schwartz, Sheffield, Simon, Smith, Snyder, Steinhart,  
8 Tirado, Verdicchio, Villar, Wagner, Waldron, Wallace, Wicke  
9

10 **ABSENT:** Alon, Swanson  
11

12 **GUESTS:** Arevalo, Brenenson, Burns, Chabayta, Corso, Ferris, Figueroa, Fuller-Stanley, Godar,  
13 Hahn, Hollema, Jones, Kernan, Liautaud, Louie, Mankiw, Martinez, Meyer, Miller, Moore,  
14 Noonan, Peck, Rabbitt, Razzore, Refsland, Rosenberg, Ross, Schneider, Sherman, Shojai,  
15 Tiernan, Trelisky, Van Dyk, Vignier, Weiland, Wolf, Yoo, (and one unintelligible)  
16

17 **PRELIMINARIES:** Levitan called the Senate to order at 12:35PM. The Agenda, moved by  
18 Diamond and Martus, was approved unanimously. The Minutes of the 12/9/2014 meeting,  
19 moved by Martus and Diamond, were also approved unanimously.  
20

21 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Levitan advised senators that, given the amount of work yet to be done on  
22 regular Senate business and the upcoming results of the Administrative Evaluations, there may  
23 be a need for an extra meeting later in the semester. She thanked Wicke and the rest of the Ad  
24 Hoc Committee for their efforts. She noted that the response rates for the deans were higher than  
25 for the Provost.  
26

27 Makarec's report of the Board of Trustees' Finance, Audit and Institutional Development  
28 Committee was posted in the Packet. There were no questions.  
29

30 Public Health asked that Bliss be approved as an outside member for Grodner's DAC. Duffy and  
31 Martus nominated Bliss, who was approved unanimously.  
32

33 The Assessment Workshop has been rescheduled to February 23 from 10am to noon in the  
34 Cheng Library auditorium.  
35

36 In-house counsel Glenn Jones updated the Senate regarding the recent sexual assault case. The  
37 Passaic County Grand Jury did not indict the five accused students. The University respects the  
38 legal process and will continue to conduct its own Title IX investigation as required by law.  
39 There is also a separate Student Conduct process in progress. Both of these are confidential and  
40 are intended to assure that all the students involved are treated fairly and impartially. In response  
41 to Sheffield's question, Jones said that the Title IX investigation will be completed fairly quickly,  
42 but that the Student Conduct process is out of the University's direct control. Kim noted that the  
43 negative publicity has been a disaster for the University.  
44

45 **VICE CHAIRS REPORT:** Dinan shared news from the Research and Scholarship Council.  
46 Slightly more than half the faculty responded to the survey of faculty research needs. The  
47 Council will analyze the results and present them along with recommendations to the Senate at  
48 the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

49 Dinan announced that there are still vacancies on the Elections Council for a Professional Staff  
50 member and on the Research and Scholarship Council for a faculty member from Arts and  
51 Communication. Adjunct faculty are needed for several councils, including Undergraduate.

52 For the Writing Intensive Review Panel, Liane Robertson and Christopher Salerno will  
53 temporarily replace two members of the English department who are on leave this semester.  
54 Carrie Masia of Psychology will serve as a regular member.

55 **GRADUATE COUNCIL: MASTERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH:** Yoo and Duffy moved  
56 approval of the new graduate degree program. Sheffield and Trelisky asked questions, to which  
57 Kernan provided answers. The proposal was then approved unanimously.

58  
59 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: MINOR IN PUBLIC POLICY AND**  
60 **ADMINISTRATION:** Mankiw and Duffy moved approval of this minor in the Political Science  
61 Department. It was approved unanimously without debate.

62  
63 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: LIBERAL STUDIES MAJOR:** Mankiw and Martus  
64 moved approval of the proposal to add additional tracks to the Liberal Studies major. Broome  
65 pointed out that the English track had been revised which was not reflected in the proposal.  
66 Tirado and Rabbitt noted that the process used was correct. Steinhart requested that affected  
67 departments be notified when changes to tracks are made. The proposal was approved  
68 unanimously.

69  
70 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: BIOLOGY AND BIOTCHNOLOLOGY PROGRAM**  
71 **CHANGE:** Mankiw and Duffy moved the proposal. After Martus suggested some clerical  
72 corrections, the program change was approved unanimously.

73  
74 **UNDERGRADAUTE COUNCIL: ART CONCENTRATIONS:** Mankiw and Duffy moved  
75 the entire package of six concentrations. The names of the concentrations will now appear on  
76 diplomas, thus enhancing the marketability of our graduates. After brief discussion, the  
77 concentrations were approved unanimously.

78  
79 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: BA/MS IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS:**  
80 Mankiw and Martus moved the proposal, which was approved unanimously after brief  
81 discussion.

82  
83 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: BSN MAJORS IN NURSING:** Mankiw and Duffy  
84 moved the small changes in the majors, which were approved without discussion.

85  
86 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: BS IN PUBLIC HEALTH:** Mankiw and Martus moved  
87 the small changes in the major, which were approved without discussion.

88  
89 **UNDERGRATUATE COUNCIL: BS IN EXERCISE SCIENCE:** Mankiw and Duffy moved  
90 the small changes in the major, which were approved unanimously after brief discussion.

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92 **UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL: JOURNALISM MINOR:** Mankiw and Martus moved the  
93 new minor. After Peck briefly explained some details, it was approved unanimously.

94

95 Kim voiced concern that the proposals lacked enrollment numbers and asked that future  
96 proposals include enrollment data.

97  
98 **ONLINE COURSE CAPS:** Levitan presented a motion from the Executive Committee  
99 (seconded by Sheffield) as a revision of the Online/Hybrid Policy passed last Spring. She noted  
100 that the Technology Council debated the issues at length, but could not come up with a  
101 consensus proposal of its own.

102  
103 McNeal questioned why the proposal on caps had been brought to the Technology Council,  
104 arguing that the issues are academic, not technical. She raised a number of objections: conditions  
105 of employment, caps tied to economic issues, the impact of students repeating courses,  
106 connection to academic standards, etc. She moved and Tardi seconded a motion to postpone  
107 discussion of this motion indefinitely. Polchak pointed out parliamentary procedure problems  
108 that could stop further debate on the issue. Simon and others suggested that further discussion  
109 could continue. Martinez and Snyder noted that there hadn't been enough time for adequate  
110 discussion. The motion to postpone was defeated by a vote of 7 Yes, 24 No and a significant  
111 number of abstentions.

112  
113 Snyder asked that the senators present the results of the discussions that have already been held  
114 during departmental meetings.

115  
116 Sheffield said that Political Science was unanimous in recommending that the online caps be  
117 held at 20. Lum (Communication) and Falk-Romaine (Music) reported that their departments  
118 want the cap to remain at 20.

119  
120 Perez's department (Marketing & Management) wants to hold the caps at 20, and wants a  
121 minimum GPA for a student to take online classes. The department also wants the  
122 Administration and the Union to create a less toxic environment than currently exists. Kim (at-  
123 large) said that each department is different so caps might be different.

124  
125 Andreopolous asked if any department actually voted to raise the caps? Wallace (AWS) said her  
126 department agreed to raise caps to encourage enrollment. McNeal spoke against writing policy  
127 to help individual chairs, stated the need to assure academic integrity and standards and called on  
128 the Administration to explain why it feels caps must be raised.

129  
130 Villar (Anthropology) said there was no consensus in her department, but noted that few teach  
131 online. Snyder (Biology) said most of his faculty teach lab-based courses which are necessarily  
132 limited by safety and space issues.

133  
134 Broome asked why hybrid courses are not being addressed. Makarec noted that hybrid courses  
135 have a face-to-face cap. Diamond said that issues are being conflated without adequate use of  
136 research.

137  
138 Levitan noted again that setting course caps is an administrative prerogative, but that we have a  
139 long history of online caps being held at 20. Faculty arrange their pedagogy around that cap.  
140 Academic standards must be maintained as well.

141  
142 **ADJOURNMENT:** Upon Perez's motion, the Senate adjourned at 1:50pm.

143

144 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> in Ballroom C.

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146 Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

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148 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

149 [www.wpunj.edu/senate](http://www.wpunj.edu/senate)