

1 William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES –February 24, 2015
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --
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4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopolous, Avdeev, Cammarata, 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, Polchak, Refsland (for
7 Smith), Rosar, Sabogal, Sandmann, Schwartz, Sheffield, Simon, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson,
8 Tirado, Verdicchio, Villar, K Wagner, Waldron, Wallace, Wicke
9

10 **ABSENT:** Alon, Broome, Owusu, Perez
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12 **GUESTS:** Arevalo, Betts, Bolyai, Brenenson, Burns, Chabayta, Cook, Daniel-Robinson, DeDeo,
13 Escobar, Flint, Fuller-Stanley, Godar, Hahn, Harris, Hollema, Jackson, Kollia, Liautaud, Louie,
14 Luzzi, Martinez, McCoy, McLaughlin-Vignier, Miller, Moore, Phillips, Rabbitt, Rosengart, Ross,
15 Ruiz, Sandford, Shojai, Suess, Tiernan, Trelisky, V Wagner, Weisberg, Williams, Wolf, Yucel,
16

17 **PRELIMINARIES:** Levitan called the Senate to order at 12:32PM. The Agenda, moved by
18 Martus and Ku, was approved unanimously. The Minutes of the 2/10/2015 meeting, moved by
19 Dinan and Martus, were also approved unanimously.
20

21 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Levitan welcomed Anne Ciliberti back for a three-month stint as Interim
22 Dean of the Cheng Library.
23

24 The Executive Committee and the Administration have continued their discussion of class caps.
25 The Provost will address the issue later in the meeting. In Banner, the total cap for a cross-listed
26 class is under XL. It does not reflect students who have withdrawn from courses. The Executive
27 Committee withdraws its earlier motion on the issue. Other motions may be made in the future.
28

29 The Board of Trustees has revised its Dashboard Indicators (posted in the 2/10/2015 Packet). VP
30 Ross will discuss them at the March 24th meeting.
31

32 The Institutional Research and Advancement website has links to the materials distributed at the
33 Assessment Workshop (and links to other data and relevant material).
34

35 There have been questions about revising the rules of UCC courses in areas 4, 5 and 6. No
36 specific proposal has yet been forwarded to the Executive Committee.
37

38 **VICE CHAIRS REPORT:** Dinan announced that there will be a Graduate Policy Forum on the
39 topic "Extending Our Global Reach: Attracting Foreign Students," on Friday, 3/27 from 11:30-
40 1:15. More details to follow.

41 **GRADUATE COUNCIL: CHANGE IN MSN ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:** Yucel and
42 Dinan moved approval of the change, which remove the requirement of GRE or MAT scores.
43 Kothandaraman commented on the conflicting literature about the correlation between GRE
44 scores and success in a program. The proposal was then approved unanimously.
45

46 **GRADUATE COUNCIL: REMOVAL OF NON-DEGREE ADMISSION TO MSM**
47 **PROGRAM:** Yucel and Dinan moved approval of this change, which was approved
48 unanimously without debate.

49
50 **ACADEMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL: KINESIOLOGY:** Sandford and Sheffield moved
51 the change regarding grades below C in the Athletic Training Professional Preparation major.
52 After McNeal raised several questions that Gazzillo-Diaz answered, the proposal was approved
53 unanimously.

54
55 **ACAMDMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL: CHANGE IN GRADE REQUIREMENT TO**
56 **REMAIN IN MAJOR:** Sandford and Aktan moved the proposal which would reduce the
57 number of grades below C that a nursing major could have from three to two. It was approved
58 unanimously without debate.

59
60 **ACADEMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL: CHANGE IN NURSING ADMISSION**
61 **REQUIREMENTS:** Sandford and K Wagner moved changing the minimum GPA for
62 admission into the nursing program from 2.5 to 3.0. Steinhart, Aktan and Gazzillo-Diaz all noted
63 that the University must work to find alternate majors for students affected by higher standards
64 in various programs. The change was the approved unanimously.

65
66 **ACAMDEIC STANDARDS COUNCIL: LATIN HONORS:** Sandford and Martus moved a
67 reduction from 48 to 45 credits that must be earned at WPU to qualify for Latin honors. Martus,
68 Trelisky, Dinan, Tardi and Sandmann spoke to the issue, which primarily affects transfer
69 students. The proposed change was approved by voice vote with one negative and one abstention.
70 *Gaudeamus igitur!* (Let us therefore rejoice!) quipped Duffy as this long-standing issue was
71 resolved.

72
73 **SCHEDULING AND COURSE CAPS:** Provost Sandmann presented a PowerPoint (archived
74 in the Packet for today's meeting). Among the points he emphasized: sections are up but
75 enrollment is down, the average class size for undergraduate courses is about 18 and 8 for
76 graduate courses, the student-faculty ratio, currently 14, is below national figures, the number of
77 full-time and adjunct faculty has increased. We are spending more on smaller classes: this is not
78 sustainable. We must return to a more balanced situation like we had five or six years ago. We
79 must match revenue with student numbers. Some courses, especially in graduate programs and
80 certain majors, require smaller class sizes. The deans and chairs must consult on these issues. We
81 must use the resources we have to serve the students we have. When we get more students, we'll
82 have more money to work with. New Jersey is facing a serious deficit which may affect our level
83 of State funding. Class size, caps, must be a factor under consideration, as well as educational
84 quality. The Board of Trustees wants a 19-1 student-faculty ratio (the norm for our cohort).
85 Currently our online course enrollments average is 18. Deans are not only looking to raise caps;
86 some courses might get lower caps, if justified.

87
88 Snyder asked how transfer students affect the numbers. Sandmann replied that more than 50% of
89 our students are transfers. Verdicchio asked about increases in staff and administration.
90 Sandmann said there were modest increases and promised to supply data. Kothandaraman
91 wanted to know what will happened if the expected enrollment increases do not happen.
92 Sandmann reiterated the Board's (and the Strategic Plan's) goals. Steinhart noted the
93 challenging demographics. He also would like to see more information about adjunct budgets,

94 ART, administrative accountability, etc. Sandmann replied that all administrators are
95 accountable. He pointed to the Fact Book for a great deal of data and said that a comprehensive
96 report on administrative released time is being prepared.

97
98 Kim is concerned with enrollment. He fears that if caps go to 25 now they'll eventually creep to
99 30. Sandmann reiterated that there are no hard numbers on the table, but that the deans and the
100 departments need to work on the issue. He noted that the University doesn't have any huge
101 classes and that specific classes can have higher or lower caps, as appropriate. There must be
102 some variability.

103
104 Tardi raised several issues: boutique courses skew the numbers, lack of equity among colleges,
105 the lack of shared governance in decision making pitting faculty against faculty, the lateness of
106 the Provost's explanation, conversations are turning into negotiations, chairs are being forced to
107 make decisions administrators should be making. Sandmann agreed equity is important, but
108 maintained that the uniqueness and difference among classes demand classes of variable sizes.
109 He said that the deans and the departments work together.

110
111 Andreopoulos said that all parties must collaborate to maximize revenue. Sandmann said that VP
112 Ferguson will speak about external funding at an upcoming meeting. He said that talk should not
113 only be about cutting things: some programs are expanding.

114
115 **ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION COUNCIL: REPORT ON WITHDRAWAL**
116 **PROCESS:** V. Wagner presented the Council's Report on the withdrawal situation. No
117 resolution is being put forward at the present time. Some important points to consider: faculty
118 should talk with students prior to withdrawal; a pop-up suggesting consultation with faculty and
119 noting some of the financial and other possible consequences should appear before students and
120 effect a withdrawal; the Student Success Team should explore these options in Banner. The
121 Council is also working with the Academic Standards Council to clarify the course repeat and
122 withdrawal policy.

123
124 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Senate adjourned at 1:48pm.

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126 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Tuesday, March 10th in Ballroom C.

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128 Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

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130 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:
131 www.wpunj.edu/senate