

4 **PRESENT:** Aktan, Andreopolous, Basch, Brillante (for K. Decker), Broome, Clarke, Cook,  
5 Diamond, Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Fallace, Flint, Griswold, Harris, Kearney,  
6 Kothandaraman, Kromidas, Levitan, Magaldi, Makarec, Martin, Martus, Mukherjee (for  
7 Maduro), Najarian, O'Donnell, Potacco, Pozzi, Rosar, Sandmann, Schwartz, Simon, Snyder,  
8 Swanson, Tardi, Verdicchio, Vishio, Waldron, Wallace, Watad, Weisberg, Wicke  
9

10 **ABSENT:** Guerrieri, Helena, Owusu, Scala, Steinhart, Swanson, Tesfaye  
11

12 **GUESTS:** Brenenson, Burns, Cammarata, Chabayta, Corso, Daniel-Robinson, Darby, D.  
13 Decker, Diaz, Geerdis, Goldstein, Kollia, Lincoln, McLaughlin-Vignier, Moore, Owusu-Ansah,  
14 Pinkston, Rabbitt, Refsland, Rosenberg, Ross, Sabatino, Schneider, Seal, Shojai, Theus, Tiernan,  
15 Trelisky, Vasquez, Weiner, Wolf  
16

17 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Makarec called the Senate to order at 12:32pm. She noted that  
18 Item #7, the UCC Assessment report, was not ready, and should be removed from the Agenda.  
19 The amended Agenda, moved by Najarian and Wicke, then was approved unanimously. The  
20 Minutes of the February 14, 2017 meeting, moved by Najarian and Martus, were also approved  
21 unanimously.  
22

23 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Diamond announced that the Graduate Policy Council would be holding  
24 an all-afternoon Graduate Forum on March 24<sup>th</sup> starting with lunch at 11:30 in UC 211. The flyer  
25 for the Forum is archived in the Packet of this meeting.  
26

27 Cammarata gave a brief update on three highly successful, but little known WPU sports teams  
28 and clubs. The rugby team is ranked #2 in the tri-state area. The ice hockey club has an 18-3-3  
29 record, and is ranked #1 in our region and #9 in the country among college clubs. The bowling  
30 club is ranked #3 among all college clubs in the country – and #10 among all teams and clubs.  
31

32 She also announced that the Alternate Spring Break emphasizing civic engagement will be held  
33 at the local YMCA camp.  
34

35 Duffy urged attendees to print their names and asked that the Attendance Sheet be passed to the  
36 guests after the senators have all signed in. The last person holding it should send it back to the  
37 Secretary.  
38

39 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** No report.  
40

41 **ACADEMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL: INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY:** Brillante and  
42 Martus moved acceptance of the Council's policy resolution. Levitan, Potacco, Martus, Pozzi,  
43 Trelisky, Kothandaraman, Makarec, Tardi, Diamond and Ellis discussed various aspects of the  
44 use of independent studies (e.g., course replacement, vehicles to aid in timely graduation, etc.).  
45 Tardi asked about the negotiated rate of compensation and Sandmann said that if an independent  
46 study is approved, it will be appropriately compensated. Weisberg and Martus moved to delete  
47 "in person," which was approved unanimously. The amended Independent Study Policy was then  
48 approved unanimously.

49

50 **NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT:** Seal presented a PowerPoint  
51 [archived in the Packet of this meeting] highlighting the major findings of this year's NSSE.  
52 Weisberg asked if there were any recommendations arising from the results. Seal replied that the  
53 NSSE is descriptive not prescriptive, but its findings should prove to be useful to campus  
54 constituencies. Wallace suggested that the Provost convoke a forum to turn the findings into  
55 recommendations. Kothandaraman asked if the raw data were available, to which Seal said yes.  
56 Martus and Seal agreed that freshmen may be too optimistic and seniors too jaded. It is not  
57 possible to distinguish between high and low performing students.

58

59 Watad wanted to know more about the profile of the respondents, and Andreopoulos wants  
60 college-level data. Seal replied that the Board of Trustees wants to use the data at the college and  
61 major field level. The deans have the full data sets for their individual colleges. Verdicchio said  
62 that many issues could and should be addressed by faculty and staff, who should be kind and  
63 supportive. Snyder was distressed by the lower scores on academic challenge.

64

65 Seal suggested that these issues should be discussed in the colleges and those discussions should  
66 feed into WPU's preparations for the next Middle States visit. Potacco recommended using focus  
67 groups. Griswold was also dismayed by the lower scores of the seniors on higher order learning.  
68 Sandmann noted that there were two significant findings: the need to emphasize high impact  
69 practices and the value of our emphasis on civic engagement and service learning.

70

71 **ADJOURNMENT:** Upon Levitan and Wicke's motion, the Senate adjourned at 1:42pm.

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73 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on **THURSDAY**, March 9, 2017 in Ballroom C.

74

75 Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

76

77 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

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