

1 William Paterson University – **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES** – September 13, 2011
2 FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate> --
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4 **PRESENT:** Andreopoulos, Cruz Paul, Barrow, Bernstein, Bhat, Boroznoff, D'Haem, Diamond, Dinan,
5 Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Finnegan, Gardner, Gazzillo Diaz, Godar, Kearney, Kelly, Kim, Levitan,
6 Lindsey, Mathew, McNeal, Ndjatou, Nyamwange, Overdorf (for Ferris), Parras, Pavese, Perez, Quicke,
7 Rady, Rosar, Scala, Schwartz, Sheffield, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi, Verdicchio, Wagner,
8 Waldron, Walsh, Weil, Weisberg, Wong

9 **ABSENT:** Garcia, Healy, Physics seat is VACANT
10

11 **GUESTS:** Adeniran, Basu, Bliss, Burns, Chabayta, Cohen, Daniel-Robinson, DeYoung, Fanning,
12 Ferguson, Goldstein, Hahn, Jemmott, Kaplan, Kashyap, Liautaud, Malanga, Miller, Olaye, Nauta,
13 Noonan, Rabbitt, Seal, Tiernan, Trelisky, Williams, Zeff

14 **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Parras welcomed the Senate with comments pertaining to a vision of a
15 Senate that is courteous, reasonable, and fair as the Senate is a place that has a real opportunity to make a
16 difference at the University. The Senate was then called to order at 12:33. **Acceptance of the Agenda**
17 **was moved by Duffy, seconded by Quicke, and approved unanimously** after Falk Romaine amended it
18 to add Retention Committee Membership under the Vice Chair's Report. **The Draft Minutes of the May**
19 **5, 2011 meeting were moved to be accepted by Scala, seconded by Tardi, and accepted unanimously**
20 after the year on line 33 was amended.

21 There were three announcements:

22 I – A Business Concept Competition was announced by Dean Basu. It is open to all majors and will be
23 held on 11/17/2011. See flyer of website for more information: [http://www.wpunj.edu/ccob/business-](http://www.wpunj.edu/ccob/business-concept-competition.dot)
24 [concept-competition.dot](http://www.wpunj.edu/ccob/business-concept-competition.dot)

25 II – Trelisky announced four training sessions for banner and advisement notes. The Advisement Council
26 had suggested these sessions. These are hands-on trainings. Please remind faculty. See flyer for more
27 information.

28 III – Daniel-Robinson announced that 9/14 is convocation for first year students to be held in Shea 103.
29 Members were encouraged to participate and to inform colleagues. Levitan asked what happens if
30 students have class. Daniel-Robinson noted that faculty are encouraged to excuse students. Athletes who
31 do not have games are excused from practice during this time as well.

32 Parras requested that items for the Senate agenda be submitted directly to directly to him in a timely
33 fashion, preferably ten days before the meeting, if possible.

34 **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

35 Chairperson Parras discussed that there are two Board of Trustees Liaisons, one for the Educational
36 Policy and Student Development Committee and one for the Finance and Audit Committee. He thanked
37 Kathleen Korgen for serving on the Educational Policy and Student Development Committee and then
38 announced his appointments, which he stated were made based on their backgrounds and experience.

39 Parras appointed Finnegan to the Finance, Audit and Institutional Development Committee and Godar, to
40 the Educational Policy and Student Development Committee.

41 Tardi motioned a point of order - a year ago the process of how the selection of faculty to be liaisons to
42 the Board of Trustees was supposed to go to the Governance Council. Tardi recommended that the Vice
43 Chair should immediately charge the Governance Council with this and these liaisons be temporary until
44 a process is decided upon for appointments by the Governance Council.

45 Parras ruled Tardi's interruption out of order as this has gone before the Governance Council and this will
46 come to the floor of the Senate in the near future.

47 Tardi noted that her comments are not personally directed but that the importance of the positions is such
48 that they should be elected and candidates should be made to state what they bring to the table to
49 appropriately represent the faculty and staff.

50 Kearney motioned point of order.

51 Tardi requested why she was ruled out of order by the chair of the Senate.

52 Kearney explained that it is a deviation from the Chair's report.

53 Parras noted that this is past practice and the practice of appointments will be on the agenda again this
54 fall.

55 Barrow discussed that this was not resolved from last year so it is pertinent this year.

56 Parras ruled this interruption of the Chair's report out of order.

57 Andreopoulos supported a timeline to resolve this issue.

58 Parras gave his word that this issue would be resolved and that the elections could be held right away.

59 Parras then discussed the second Committee, Finance and Audit and his Appointment of Finnegan who
60 will submit written reports.

61 Parras then yielded the floor to Godar for a report on the Educational and Student Policy Committee
62 which met last week.

63 Godar presented that the Educational Policy and Student Development Committee of the Board of
64 Trustees met on Sept. 8. At the meeting, they agreed to recommend that the Board approve four
65 curricular changes: BA in Sport Management, BS in Environmental Sustainability, a name change for BS
66 in Public Health, and a graduate Certificate in Learning Technologies. They received updates on the
67 Information Technology Plan 2010-13 and preliminary Fall enrollment numbers. Of teaching interest in
68 the former is the target for full implementation of smart classrooms by Fall 2012. The enrollment
69 numbers show an upward trend, despite lower application numbers. Finally, the committee members
70 heard a recommendation from the Administration that WPU become an NSSE-Focused Institution
71 centered on three benchmarks: Student/Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experiences, and
72 Supportive Campus Environment.

73 McNeal motioned point of order as this presentation was not on the agenda.

74 Godar noted that this has been the past practice.

75 Perras confirmed this is past practice.

76 Perras noted in the future the liaisons reports will not be in the Chair's report, they will appear in the
77 agenda under the vice chair's report.

78 Perras introduced his appointment of Richard Kearney as the new Parliamentarian and welcomed new
79 Senators.

80 **VICE-CHAIR'R REPORT:**

81 Falk Romaine described the process for selecting council membership once there were volunteers. Falk
82 Romaine presented a long list of volunteers to fill various vacancies on Senate councils. For full-time
83 positions, the only slot that needed to be filled was on the Advisement Council (from the College of Arts
84 and Communication) and Leshner has volunteered. Adjunct faculty are still needed in several slots. **Falk
85 Romaine moved that the volunteers on the list be appointed to fill the vacant slots, Walsh seconded,
86 and the motion approved unanimously.**

87 Sheffield asked about when appointments would be made for the review panels for UCC,

88 Falk Romaine noted that these would be discussed in a week with Malanga.

89 Falk Romaine then discussed the proposed Council Charge document that was distributed. These were
90 derived from the year-end reports of the councils and some charges are new. **This list of council charges
91 was moved by Falk Romaine and seconded by Godar with an amendment by Duffy and seconded
92 by Tardi for the Governance Council to look at how liaisons are appointed to the Board of
93 Trustees. Motion was approved.**

94 Falk Romaine announced that two departments, Environmental Science and Professional Sales need
95 external members on their Retention and Promotion Committees.

96 **Falk Romaine moved to nominated Becker (Env. Sci.), Sebetich (Biology) and Swanson (Env. Sci.)
97 for Callanan (Environmental Science) and Betts (Marketing & Management) , Healy (Professional
98 Sales) and Mir (Marketing & Management) for both Aganhotri (Professional Sales) and
99 Kathandaraman (Professional Sales), Tardi seconded, and both sets of nominations were approved
100 unanimously.**

101 Bernstein recommended that the Research and Scholarship Council do something a bit more ambitious.

102 Vice Chairperson Falk Romaine encouraged Bernstein and all members to email her with suggestions
103 about councils.

104 **OLD BUSINESS:**

105 *Transfer Credit Applied to Undergraduate Majors - From May 5, 2011*

106 **Moved by Kearny and seconded by Boroznoff. Discussion ensued.**

107 Bliss spoke noting that nursing would have to be an exception.

108 Tardi questioned about the practice that occurs at sister institutions.

109 Kearney noted that while he does not know about this specific issue, currently, there is a fixed number of
110 maximum credits allowed to transfer in the major yet majors vary in requirements and this policy is
111 simply to relativize the majors but still set a maximum number of credits allowed to transfer in.

112 Levitan questioned the intent of this policy particularly with regard to co-requisites.

113 Kearney referred to paragraph “B”, and noted that the Council tried to accomplish this with prepositions.

114 Diamond questioned what was meant by the term “conjunction” and “accrediting body” and what is the
115 policy specifically trying to say by this.

116 Kearney described that specific considerations had to be given to professionally accrediting bodies,
117 particularly education and health sciences, while working in tandem with state bodies.

118 Diamond questioned whether that would then mean more than half or less than half the credits and
119 brought up whether a comma should be used in the policy.

120 Kearney asked if a motion should be made to amend the language of the policy.

121 Perras discouraged amending exact language on the floor of the Senate.

122 Diamond discussed the intent was not to parse language but to accomplish what was intended in policy.

123 **Steinhart moved to call the question and Finnegan seconded. The motion failed. The discussion**
124 **continued.**

125 Dean DeYoung took the mike and discussed how this policy is important to science, as these are heavy-
126 credit majors. The Dean described how many potential science transfer students are turned away or they
127 come and are over-qualified because their transfer transcripts are more than half filled with credits in their
128 major.

129 Trelisky noted that transfer credits do not have to be in the subject in order to be in the major. For
130 example, in specific science majors.

131 Kelly noted that since there are significant concerns about this transfer credit policy she recommends it
132 goes back to the council. **Kelly moved that the Transfer Credit Applied to Undergraduate Majors is**
133 **referred back to the Council and Weisberg seconded. The motion was approved with a majority.**

134 **NEW BUSINESS:**

135 *Resolution on 120 Credit Minimum for Undergraduate B.A. or B.S.*

136 **Levitan moved to change the dates in the first sentence from Spring 2010 to Spring 2009, and Fall**
137 **2009 to Fall 2010 and Steinhart seconded.**

138 **Levitan moved and Quicke seconded to amend the following language:**

139 Third bullet should read “General Education program including the foreign language requirement”

140 Fourth Bullet to read “Not the 9 credits of upper level electives.”

141 Tardi questioned if there could then be an asterisk, since all degrees at the university are not included,
142 there are exceptions. She was concerned as to whether this resolution was written clear enough for our
143 colleagues who were not present.

144 Weil discussed how the BM and BFA are not included because they are beyond the 120 credits because of
145 accreditation.

146 Scala had questions about the statement regarding needing to take 3 credits in Fall 11 and what would
147 happen if students took the semester off.

148 Trelisky noted that the students would need to be enrolled when the catalog with this policy is in effect
149 and if they were not enrolled they would need to be readmitted.

150 Snyder questioned where NJ came up with the law relating to 120 credits particularly as it related to
151 science and their 4 credit classes.

152 Parras noted that Snyder's comments were not germane to the resolution under discussion

153 **Gardner supported Tardi in that clarification was necessary in the language. Gardner moved and**
154 **Godar seconded:**

155 **That the minimum number of credits required for the award of the BA of BS degree at William**
156 **Paterson University for students enrolled in the Fall 2011 in subsequent semesters is 120 earned**
157 **credits.**

158 **Parras called the question. The motion passed.**

159 *Discussion of Framework of the University's Strategic Plan, 2012-22*

160 Chairperson Parras introduced the Strategic Plan then yielded the floor to President Waldron, Chair of the
161 Strategic Plan Committee

162 Waldron noted that this is an early document and the beginning stages of a public discussion of the
163 framework. The Strategic Plan document and background information are on the WPUNJ website, on its
164 homepage, (on the center left) and there are instructions on how to give feedback. On September 22nd the
165 faculty meeting is devoted to an open discussion. There is also a Town Hall meeting on September 28th
166 and this is open to other members of our community. There will also be another meeting. The timeline is
167 public information. Waldron then thanked the Senate.

168 Parras then opened the floor up for discussion.

169 Tardi began the discussion by thanking the committee and noting all of the work that went into the
170 framework. Tardi went on to note that her comments were being presented in the spirit of constructive
171 criticism. Obviously lots of work went into the document but it is a vision, not a plan. It currently begs
172 some key questions: What are the objects? The tasks? It needs specific components. She questioned
173 whether the goals could be realistically achieved. Tardi then went on to mention the lack of the following
174 in the framework: the objectives, tasks, timelines, responsibilities, metrics, and the follow-up monitoring,
175 evaluation and communication process. She asserted that this be renamed a ten-year strategic goal setting
176 process or the framework be expanded to include specific components regarding an action plan with
177 timetables and milestones. As the plan currently stands, it lacks substance. The vision framework is
178 incomplete. It lacks 2 key components – an environmental analysis and a GAP analysis. This is the
179 analysis between WPU as it exists today and where we envision it to be in 10 years. Why was the SWOT
180 (strength, weakness, opportunity, threat) analysis reviewed by the Board not included?

181 Tardi continued by noting that the framework was silent on addressing challenges that are unique to
182 WPU. For example, the university lags behind its competition in the last few years in terms of enrollment
183 growth, retention, and graduation rates, fundraising / grants, and we have one of the highest
184 administrative expenditure rates per student when ranked against our peers. The university was once
185 ranked nationally (*US New and World Report*) and is no longer ranked. It does not address what is
186 exceptional at WPU. How do we operationalize this? We really do not have a mission statement. How
187 do we have a strategic plan without a mission statement? She questioned how can we be well-positioned
188 for the future if we are not presently well positioned now. This plan lacks rigor, has lots of
189 generalizations, and little specifics. Lastly, there is significant concern about the lack of union
190 representation on the Strategic Plan Committee.

191 Weisberg addressed the make up of the committee and the fact that no one from the arts is on the it.
192 Someone did put their name forth. The needs of the arts have been historically ignored. This idea about
193 evaluating “excellent programs” may be a justification about denial of resources to programs; programs
194 may be punished further for succeeding.

195 Godar discussed how the plan is much like an outline from students. It is very rough, nothing of
196 substance, and there is no indication of who will be making decisions.

197 Kim discussed data from the *USA Today College Guide* whereby as of 2011 there were 2474 four-year
198 colleges in the USA and 1666 two-year college. Four-year colleges are divided into the following
199 categories for ranking: most competitive, highly competitive (in NJ these are Rutgers New Brunswick and
200 Ramapo), Very Competitive (Monmouth, NJIT, Rowan, Stockton, Rutgers Camden, and Rutgers
201 Newark), Competitive (Kean, Montclair, NJ City, and WPU), Less competitive, and Noncompetitive.
202 Kim noted that for the strategic plan WPU should move from the competitive category to the very
203 competitive category as soon as possible because of the number of guidance counselors and high school
204 students who use guides such as *USA Today* to influence college application and enrollment decisions.
205 He highlighted the need for the strategic plan to put more emphasis on visibility. With regard to
206 visibility, WPU spent approximately one million dollars for promotion and advertising but this is still an
207 area of weakness. So much money was spent on the Lipman-Hearne report and what are the results and
208 how is this followed up in the strategic plan?

209 Perras stated that a number of points made in the Lipman-Hearne report are incorporated in the Strategic

210 Plan.

211 Quicke liked the idea of engaging the community in the strategic planning process. He noted that Goal
212 1A (pg 5) has to be handled with care. He questioned who is deciding what these “exceptional academic
213 programs” are. If you are not a key program, will other programs be able to have a come back?

214 Parras asked Waldron if she would like to respond.

215 Waldron responded by stating that she would not like to respond to this as this is the first forum and this
216 is a framework. This is not a draft yet so your comments are valuable and well taken and it is not an
217 implementation at this point.

218 Walsh suggested that Marketing be considered goal 1G.

219 Scala noted the absence of AFT representation on the committee. There is undergraduate and graduate
220 representation so there also needs to be faculty representation. The union is the faculty representation.

221 Perez called attention to pg. 7 as there is an institution included (NSSE) in the plan. It is preferred not to
222 have names as this limits us already.

223 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:46 at which time Parras made a gesture of
224 solidarity with the Union, as we are working without a contract. Tardi then encouraged all Senators to
225 attend the Union meeting on September 20th.

226 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on at 12:30pm on Tuesday, September 27th in the
227 University Commons, Ballroom C.

228 Respectfully submitted: K. McNeal

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