

4 **PRESENT:** Agard-Jones, Bareford, Bhat (for Oratio), Bing, Bolyai, Burns, Cho, Chung,  
5 Coomes, Danzinger, Dye, Edelstein, Goldstein, Gulbranson, Hartley, Jaber, Kearney (for Duffy),  
6 Kelly, Levitan, Link, Makarec, McClean, Miller, Morganstern, Murphy, Mwaura, Nag,  
7 Overdorf, Owusu, Parras, Phadia, Principe, Rabbitt, Sesay, Scala, Steinhart, Strasser, Swanson,  
8 Tardi, Tirado, Torres-DiMaio, Villar, Wagner, Wahrman, Weltman

9 **ABSENT:** Garcia, Hayden, Kim, Maheshwari, Rothman

10 **GUESTS:** Felton, Finnegan, Fountakidis, S. Goldstein, Peterman, Schaeffer, Silgailis, Ulmer,  
11 M. Williams, Wolk, Zeman P **PRELIMINARIES:** Chairperson Edelstein called the Senate to  
12 order at 12:36 PM. Levitan and Wahrman moved and seconded the adoption of the agenda,  
13 which passed unanimously. M. Goldstein and Wahrman moved and seconded acceptance of the  
14 minutes of the February 14, 2002 Senate meeting and this was also passed unanimously.

15 **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Edelstein congratulated the men's basketball team for their entry into the  
16 2002 NCAA Division III tournament to be held Saturday, March 2 at 7 PM. Edelstein introduced  
17 head coach Jose Rebimbas and the team: Press, Coursey, Constantine, Blakewood, Pela, Everett,  
18 Schirick, Charles, Barner, Vieira, Lauer, Christensen, Fisher, McNeal, Hardy and Caswell. The  
19 Senate gave the team a round of applause for their accomplishment and Edelstein, on behalf of  
20 the Senate, wished them good luck in the tournament. Edelstein mentioned the recent death of  
21 Professor Prabhaker Nyak, College of Business, and said that his service to the faculty and  
22 university will be missed. Edelstein remarked that the Provost/Senate Forum on Recruitment &  
23 Conversion of Students held on February 21 has received positive feedback. He announced that  
24 on Thursday, February 28 the Graduate Council is sponsoring a Forum on the impact of  
25 increased enrollment on graduate programs. The event will be held in the Atrium Auditorium  
26 from 12:30-2 PM. Edelstein announced that the department of Special Education and Counseling  
27 has asked the Senate to find tenured faculty to serve on a retention/tenure committee. Dye  
28 volunteered. Moved and seconded by Morganstern and Danzinger, this was approved  
29 unanimously. Edelstein announced that Senate general elections will be held on April 17 and 18  
30 with seats in Communication, Music, Accounting & Law, Elementary/Early Childhood  
31 Education, Special Education & Counseling, Biology, Communication Disorders, Community  
32 Health, Environmental Science & Geography, History, Languages & Cultures, Psychology,  
33 Sociology, Women's Studies, four at-large, one Library and two professional staff seats  
34 available. Nominations will open on March 4 and conclude on April 4. Please direct questions to  
35 the Senate Office or Victoria Wagner, Chair of the Elections Council, 720-3190 or  
36 [wagnerv@wpunj.edu](mailto:wagnerv@wpunj.edu) . On behalf of the absent Vice-Chair, Edelstein announced that two  
37 vacancies exist in Councils: Research, Professional Staff and Assessment, Science/Health.  
38 Professor Kathleen Connolly, Department of Nursing, stands nominated for the Assessment  
39 Council opening. Additional nominations should be sent to the Senate Office or brought forth at  
40 the next Senate Meeting and a vote will be taken to fill this vacancy. Edelstein remarked that in  
41 light of rapid communication possible using e-mail and the Senate Discussion List, the  
42 Governance Council might reevaluate the need for the Cheo Rule in some Senate contexts.  
43 Edelstein suggested that this be a topic for consideration by the Governance Council.

44 **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE REVISED QUESTIONNAIRES TO**  
45 **EVALUATE THE PRESIDENT, PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENTS:** Edelstein  
46 proposed that the Senate return to the Committee of the Whole for discussion of the evaluation  
47 survey. Weltman and Rabbitt moved and seconded and it was approved unanimously. Terry  
48 Finnegan, Chair of the ad hoc formed to revise the questionnaire, reported that suggestions made  
49 at the last meeting had been incorporated into the draft document he distributed. Parras noted that  
50 in questionnaire one, part two, question 12, the phrase "...image on and off campus" should omit  
51 "off campus" because the previous question deals with the President's portrayal of the image of  
52 the institution off campus. Morganstern voiced agreement. Bareford asked that the demographic  
53 questions be explicitly labeled as "optional". Finnegan said this would be changed. Tardi  
54 expressed concern that if the section were not clearly "optional" some individuals would not  
55 complete the questionnaire and discard it. Rabbit pointed out that in section one, part one,  
56 question five two things are being evaluated in one question and this should be changed.  
57 Wahrman asked that the questionnaire's scale be explained, particularly the value of the  
58 unlabeled "4" and "2" options. Schaeffer noted that for consistency and comparison to previous  
59 surveys, a standard scale should be employed. Tardi countered that the scale should be improved  
60 if possible and comparisons could be made in later evaluation cycles. Overdorf pointed out that  
61 aside from last year's low return rate, the evaluation has a return rate that is about average. Burns  
62 moved and Overdorf seconded coming out of the Committee of the Whole. With two abstentions  
63 the motion passed. Burns moved that the suggestions made be incorporated into the  
64 questionnaire. Mwaura seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

65 **PROBLEMS AT THE BOOKSTORE:** Edelstein spoke of various problems with bookstore  
66 orders and late arrivals and then recognized Steve Bolyai, Vice-President of Administration and  
67 Finance. Bolyai introduced Minnie Ulmer, Acting Manager of the Bookstore, and thanked the  
68 Senate for inviting him to speak. He said that things unraveled this year at the bookstore for a  
69 combination of reasons and that poor customer service was particularly evident. Follett, the  
70 retailer that runs the bookstore, has been told that the University will accept bids for this  
71 franchise. Two companies, Follett and Barnes & Noble, will vie for the contract. Bolyai  
72 introduced John Carbona, a Follett district manager in charge of our account. He said that in the  
73 future 100% of orders will be fulfilled and a customer service representative will be brought in to  
74 assure quality. He said this would involve additional staff training. Carbona said that WPUNJ's  
75 bookstore is the second largest one of Follett's contracts in the region and they are committed to  
76 improving and he apologized for the problems. He mentioned problems with understaffing that  
77 have contributed to the situation. Steinhart said that the image of the University suffers because  
78 of students' experiences at the bookstore. Morganstern agreed with this and mentioned an  
79 instance of being cursed at by a bookstore employee. Bolyai and Carbona said that such behavior  
80 is not tolerated. Dye spoke of student and parent frustration at the crowded checkout lines. Burns  
81 asked whether more used books could be made available for students to purchase. Bolyai  
82 promised improvements to come and asked that the faculty email feedback directly to him.

83 **ASSESSMENT OF GENERAL EDUCATION:** Miryam Wahrman and the General Education  
84 Committee presented a status report on their work on assessing GE. Wahrman said that  
85 departments and programs are encouraged to evaluate courses and see what GE is  
86 accomplishing. She handed out a list of definitions of assessment terms, a student learning  
87 outcomes, and a chart of strategies for assessing outcomes. Wahrman challenged departments to  
88 not focus on every outcome but rather to focus on one or two outcomes and develop means of  
89 assessing them. She discussed options including standardized testing, course-embedded

90 assessment, self-reported measures and portfolios as assessment tools. Dona Fountakidis said  
91 that Professors Principe and Villar are both using course assessment instruments. Principe said  
92 that his approach was not intended to compare one course to another but rather to assess the  
93 effectiveness of a specific political science course. Villar spoke of the questionnaire used in the  
94 Anthropology Department's basic courses, with questions such as time spent preparing for class,  
95 feelings of preparedness, satisfaction with course organization and teaching methods, clarity of  
96 text, reaction to activities and exams, and contentment with feedback. She said that these  
97 questionnaires helped the faculty to understand the relationship between the students' self-  
98 expressed expectations and how they feel the courses met these expectations. She provided some  
99 anecdotal samples of responses to illustrate how these instruments can be used as 'quality control'  
100 and to heighten awareness of students' perspectives. She summarized by saying that improving  
101 courses and programs helps attract students to the discipline. Wahrman reiterated that faculty  
102 should focus on one learning outcome at a time and devise ways to assess them singly. She  
103 encouraged departments to work together on this.

104 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate adjourned at 1:49 PM. The next meeting will be  
105 Tuesday, March 12 at 12:30 PM in SC 203, 4 & 5.

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

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