

William Paterson University – FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – May 6, 2021
FACULTY SENATE WEB PAGE <http://www.wpunj.edu/senate>

PRESENT: Alford, Andreopoulos, Brillante, Christensen Crick, Diamond, Duffy, Elleithy, Fuentes, Gazzillo Diaz, Hack, Helldobler, Hill, Hong, Jurado, Kaur, Kecojevic, Kollia, B. Marshall, McDonald, McNeal, Monroe, Natrajan, Nyaboga, O'Donnell, Orr, Powers, Rosar, Schwartz, Simon, D. Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi, Tosh, Vega, Verdicchio, Wallace, Watad, M. Williams, S. Williams, Wright

ABSENT: none

GUESTS: Abouk, Abraham, Alaya, Andrew, Astarita, Bannister, Bartle, Basu, Betts, Bolyai, Boucher, Bowrin, Brenenson, Broome, Brown, Cammarata, Cannon, Cauthen, Chauhan, Chavez, Chen, Choi, Corso, Datchi, Davi, Davis, Da Silva, DeLoatch, De Veyga, Diaz, Fanning, Felson, Feola, Ferguson, Galetz, Gill, Ginsberg, Godar, Goldstein, Gramiccioni, Griffin, Gritsch, Guo, Guzman, Harris, Hinkle, Jackson, Jian, Jones, Kashyap, Keane, Lauby, Liautaud, Lincoln, Lockhart, Lowe, Lubeck, Mandik, Mankiw, Marks, I. Marshall, Mattison, McLaughlin-Vignier, McMahan, McNeal, Miles, Mongillo, Moore, Nassiripour, Ndjatou, Newman, Noonan, Nyulassy, Ortiz, Owusu-Ansah, Panayides, Park, Peek, Phillips, Plaskow, Potacco, Rabbitt, Razzore, Refsland, Ricupero, Rosenberg, Ross, Salvesen, Scardena, Schneider, Sharma, Sheffield, Sherman, Skoloda, T. Snyder, Spero, Stella, Tesfaye, Tiernan, Tormino, Torres, Weiland, Weiner, Zeleke, Zeman, Zito

PROCEDURAL NOTE: All senator's microphones should be muted. When one wishes to speak s/he should type SPEAK in the Chat box. Duffy and Ricupero will keep track of those desiring to speak, and the Secretary will recognize each in order. When recognized, the speaker will then unmute the microphone. Only the Chair's screen will be visible. The session will be recorded, but only the Secretary will have access to the recording.

PRELIMINARIES: Chairperson Natrajan called the meeting to order at 12:32pm. Kecojevic and Hill moved acceptance of the Agenda, which was adopted without objection. Marshall and Crick moved acceptance of the Minutes of the April 27th meeting, which were approved unanimously.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COUNCIL: TEACHER OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM CHANGE: Choi and Hill moved acceptance of the Council's resolution. Hong suggested that the department clarify the delivery modes in its recruitment documents. The program change was then approved unanimously.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COUNCIL: TEACHER OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM: ALTERNATE ROUTE CHANGE: Choi and Duffy moved acceptance of the Council's resolution. The resolution was approved unanimously.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COUNCIL: GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN K-16 ONLINE LEARNING: Choi and Fuentes moved acceptance of the Council's resolution. Hong asked what will happen to this course (offered via WP Online) if WP Online eventually ends. An

replied that she and Lincoln are working to make this a regular online program that may move to WP Online. The program was approved unanimously.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COUNCIL: MBA HEALTHCARE ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT TRACK: Choi and Andreopoulos moved acceptance of the Council's resolution. Andreopoulos noted that healthcare is an expanding area and this will be a very competitive program. This will give our students a career, not just a job. It was approved unanimously.

Wallace thanked the Graduate Programs Council and the Undergraduate Council for their hard work this year getting the many programs to the Senate in a timely fashion.

Natrajan thanked everyone who made the Senate work this past year – senators, council members, and the President and Provost (who kept things professional despite some very difficult dialogues we've had). He thanked those who suggested that he run for a third term. He hopes he has upheld the dignity of the office in the spirit of decolonizing and not monopolizing. He wants new leadership with a diversity of voices to emerge within all university spaces.

TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL: PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT TO 1000 LEVEL COURSE INSTRUCTORS: Guo stated that the Technology Council responded to the Senate's three resolutions regarding 1000 level course: taking attendance, having an assessment early in the course and direction students to learning support centers.

He displayed a PowerPoint [archived in the Packet of this meeting]. Feedback from 1000 level teaches indicates that many professors take attendance manually and input the data online at a later time. Several other factors actually create situations where 5-10% of the class time is consumed in just taking attendance. The Council made several recommendations detailed in the PowerPoint. Schwartz noted that the attendance system lacks a "late to class" option. Snyder called for flexibility in creating and changing the system. Powers thanked the Council and said that he would convene a group to discuss possible changes. Wright stated that the BlackBoard attendance tool is easier to use and might be a better option. Powers will investigate. Monroe supports the suggestions, especially attendance by default. In response to Vega's questions, it was noted that the default setting is 1.25 hours, but it can be changed to the actual minutes. Natrajan thanked the Council for its work to help improve our most important issue: student retention.

GOVERNANCE COUNCIL: RESOLUTION ON COUNCIL REPRESENTATION IN RESPONSE TO THE COAC – COHSS MERGER: Galetz and Duffy moved acceptance of the Council's resolution [detailed in the document archived in the Packet of this meeting.] Crick spoke in support of the resolution. The motion was approved unanimously.

ELECTIONS COUNCIL: ELECTION OF THE 2021-2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Tardi called upon Powers to make an announcement regarding Senate officers before the election takes place. Powers stated that there will be no release time for any of the Senate officers this year.

Miles and Salvesen conducted the election. Miles called for nominations for the position of Chair. Diamond and Duffy nominated Wallace. There were no other nominations. Duffy and Crick called for nominations to Chair be closed. Even though Wallace is running unopposed, Senate By-Laws require a formal vote. The ballot will have two choices: Wallace or No ballot. Wallace briefly described her accomplishments. She emphasized that students are of primary importance and the Senate must act with their best interests in mind. When true shared governance takes place, it is in the Senate where the most important discussions occur.

Miles sent out 39 ballots. Senators are advised to check their SPAM folders of the ballot doesn't appear in their Inbox. If someone doesn't get a ballot, please indicate that in the Chat and Miles will send another ballot. (No one is able to vote twice.)

35 votes were cast. Wallace received 28 votes and there were 7 No votes. Wallace was elected to be the Chair of the 2021-2022 Senate.

Miles then called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Verdicchio and Hill nominated Christensen. There were no other nominations. Christensen briefly described her accomplishments. We need strong faculty voices and a forum for those voices. The Senate is the place for shared governance.

34 votes were cast. Christensen received 26 votes and there were 8 No votes. Christensen was elected to be the Vice-Chair of the 2021-2022 Senate.

Miles then called for nominations for Secretary. S. Williams and B. Marshall nominated Duffy. There were no other nominations. Duffy spoke briefly about the value of having experienced members with a knowledge of the Senate's history on the Executive Committee. (Verdicchio noted that his life at WPU goes back to 1961. He and Duffy recounted some of the history and a few anecdotes about WPC back in the day.)

33 votes were cast. Duffy received 25 votes and there were 8 No votes. Duffy was elected to be the Secretary for the 2021-2022 Senate.

Miles called for nominations for the three at-large members of the Executive Committee. Natrajan and Hill nominated Fuentes. Hong and Hill nominated Alford. Verdicchio and Hill nominated B. Marshall. All three nominees briefly described their accomplishments and the viewpoints they will represent. Alford received 28 votes, Fuentes received 26 votes, Marshall received 22 votes and there were 5 No votes. Alford, Fuentes and B. Marshall were elected to be the at-large members of the Executive Committee for 2021-2022.

ADJOURNMENT:

Natrajan was thanked for his leadership (and Verdicchio for the musical and historical interludes). The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm.

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate, the first meeting of the Fall semester, will be held on Tuesday, September 14th at 12:30pm in the Library Auditorium. Since seating is limited to around 100 persons – fewer with social distancing – the meeting will also be livestreamed. The link will be sent out prior to the meeting. Please “check in” as early as possible (ideally, before 12:30 so the secretaries can confirm attendance).

Respectfully Submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary