

**West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
Faculty Senate  
2009/2010  
February 5, 2010 Full Assembly Minutes**

**Members Present: *designated by an X***

Alessandria, Tina	X	Kelly, Leonard	X
Bean, Nadine	X	Leonard, Robin	X
Bill, Debra	X	Li, Huimin (Amy)	X
Boyle, Michael	<i>Absent</i>	Means, Jennifer	X
Brown, Eleanor	<i>Proxy, J. Hutton</i>	Metz, Stacie	X
Chilcote, Kathryn	<i>Absent</i>	Morgan, Tanya	X
Cooke, Lynne	X	Murphy, Corinne	X
Cressler, Walter	X	Norris, Bruce	<i>Proxy, T. Alessandria</i>
DeHope, Eli	X	Onderdonk, Julian	X
Dobrzelewski, J. C.	<i>Absent</i>	Polk, Denise	<i>Absent</i>
Garthwait, Clayton	X	Sharpe, Heather	<i>Absent</i>
Ghetie, Dora	X	Shivde, Geeta	X
Gilboy, Mary Beth	X	Smith, Paul K.	<i>Proxy, S. Metz</i>
Haggard, Cynthia	X	Staruch, Liz	X
Halko, Gabrielle	X	Stiefel, Van	X
Heinerichs, Scott	<i>Proxy, J. Means</i>	Verden, Claire	X
Hutton, Jane	X	Wandry, Donna	<i>Proxy, C. Murphy</i>
Kara, Orhan	<i>Proxy, H.(Amy) Li</i>	Winterton, Sally	X
	<b>Richardson, Shayna, Student Gov't</b>		<b>X</b>

Faculty Senate Meeting, Friday February 5, 2010

President Eli DeHope opened the meeting with a report on her discussion with the Associate Provost, Dr. Darla Spence Coffey, about potential opportunities for Senate linkages with other campus organizations and committees. Since Senate is focusing on issues of campus climate such as student mental health and campus safety which are also concerns of the Associate Provost's office, Dr. Coffey would like to establish regular communications with Senate. A Campus Climate Survey project is currently underway (see <http://www.wcupa.edu/sharedvision/climatesurvey/>). Initially Dr. Coffey will meet with the Senate Executive Committee, and the Senate President and Vice-President will meet with President Weisenstein to plan for ongoing exchanges and support for Senate activities. The monthly meetings between the WCU President and Senate President will continue.

Senate reviewed the list of fourteen campus organizations and committees generated at the last meeting and agreed to seek participation in the following groups:

1. Faculty Mentoring Committee
2. New Faculty Orientation Committee (NFO)
3. Campus Climate Intervention Team (CCIT)
4. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Ally Advocacy Committee (LGBTQA)
5. Mental Health Awareness Committee
6. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)

7. Threat Assessment Team Training
8. University Budget Committee (for information communication purposes)

Many of the above-listed organizations and committees already have an active Senator as a member. Senate will need to determine how or whether this established participation will be built into our new initiative.

After discussion of the organization's function Senate agreed that participation on the following group would not be pursued:

9. Faculty Grant Development Committee (formerly Faculty Development Committee)

Senators concluded that more information is needed before determining possible participation in the following groups:

10. Multicultural Faculty Commission
11. Employee Health and Wellness Committee
12. Space Allocation Committee

There were questions about the difference between this group and the Space Management Committee, and which is an active committee. General agreement was reached that this is an important campus climate issue but perhaps space allocation issues and plans could be monitored generally by one of the Senate sub-committees, i.e. Faculty Welfare.

13. Global Development Collaborative (GDC)

President Weisenstein arrived during discussion of this group and called attention to the International Task Group which convened in fall 2009 (see <http://www.wcupa.edu/sharedvision/taskgroups/interTaskGroupCharge.asp> ) and has completed recommendations to the President and Provost which may affect the future of the GDC. The purpose is to create and expand international opportunities for students and faculty.

14. Social Equity Advisory Board

An update on this group and its activities is being pursued.

A suggestion was made to form a Senate "Committee on Committees" which would have the responsibility for continuous scanning of University committees and organizations and make recommendations for Senate participation. Such a group could also provide information to faculty about what University committees and organizations are active. Senator Nadine Bean pointed out that the Faculty Mentoring Committee does provide an updated list of these faculty service opportunities which can be found in the "Documents" section of the WCU Faculty Mentoring Program organization site in Blackboard. Any faculty member can self-enroll in this organization, listed under "Faculty Organizations" in the Blackboard Organization Catalog.

Guest: President Weisenstein

President Weisenstein provided an update on WCU global initiatives (see #13 above), remarking on an upcoming trip in March to Costa Rica for faculty and administrators as well as developing relationships in Norway and China. He called our attention to the new University webpages, "Shared Vision," <http://www.wcupa.edu/sharedvision/> (available from the WCU homepage), which provides information on new task forces and activities.

President Weisenstein also discussed the decision to replace the Blackboard learning management system with Desire2Learn (D2L). The entire PASSHE system will be migrating to this common teaching/learning software which will save us all considerable financial resources. Thus far, from a sampling of representative WCU faculty, the majority favors migrating systems in summer 2010 rather than running parallel learning management systems for fall semester

and then finalizing the switch in January 2010 before spring semester begins. For more about D2L, including a list of current university customers, see <http://www.desire2learn.com/>.

Regarding the budget, President Weisenstein noted that one round of Stimulus Funds has been allocated and there will be a total of three rounds. These funds are being used for one-time initiatives, not for ongoing expenses. Student enrollment has increased which is a real positive for the University. New tuition dollars are being sent to the college where growth has occurred, to support optimal teaching/learning. Likewise new faculty positions are being funneled to growing programs.

President Weisenstein took questions from the floor, including the following:

- What about “high-cost programs”? Is there difficulty in supporting these?
  - Response: PASSHE is reviewing tuition structures (graduate vs. undergraduate; in-state vs. out-of-state, fees, etc.) and Dr. Lamwers is on the committee which has just begun its work.
- Is there a movement toward common admissions across PASSHE?
  - Response: There will be a common *application system*. Students will indicate 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> choices on the application form. This won't negatively affect WCU and can positively route prospective students to other state universities. For example, in 2009 a pilot project was done with WCU and Lock Haven University in which applicants not accepted by WCU attended an orientation session run by LHU. Several of these student subsequently enrolled at LHU.
- How do increased student enrollment funds get rolled into other areas such as counseling? As more students enroll it adds to the need for additional services. There is currently a long waiting list of students awaiting counseling and we will probably have more military veterans with counseling needs in future student populations.
  - Response: We do not want to be neglecting these important aspects of student support and should figure out a way to address the needs. President Weisenstein requested that the Senator from Counseling and Psychological Services contact him directly with specific details.

In conclusion President Weisenstein emphasized that “Quality is terribly important”: WCU has a reputation of investing personally in students and we want to keep that positive image. We will keep getting less & less from the State budget so WCU must plan to generate sufficient resources. However he noted that “generating money is not a goal in itself,” it's an objective that gets us to our goals.

The Senate meeting concluded with a three item action plan before the March meeting of the full Senate.

- President DeHope will meet with Cliff Johnston of APSCUF.
- The Executive Committee will meet with Associate Provost Coffey.
- President DeHope and Vice-President Julian Onderdonk will meet with President Weisenstein.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Hutton  
Recording Secretary  
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