

**West Chester University of PA**  
**Faculty Senate**  
**2007/2008**  
**October 18, 2007, Full Assembly Minutes**

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

Alessandria, Tina	Proxy J. Means	Li, Huimin (Amy)	Proxy O. Kara
Azorlosa, Jay	X	Marvin, Stephen	X
Bean, Nadine	Proxy C. Haggard	McVey, Randy	X
Bedford, Robert		Means, Jennifer	X
Bill, Debra	Proxy B. Thompson	Metz, Stacie	
Boyle, Michael	X	Morgan, Tanya	Proxy E. DeHope
Brown, Eleanor	X	Nolan, Karen	X
Cai, Wei Wei		Onderdonk, Julian	X
Chilcote, Kathryn	Proxy J. Onderdonk	Polk, Denise	X
Cressler, Walter	X	Sandhu, Bim	X
Dannessa, Karen	Proxy J. Onderdonk	Smith, Paul	X
DeHope, Eli	X	Stiefel, Van	X
Friedman, Jonathan	Proxy T.T. Taylor	Thames Taylor, LaTonya	X
Haggard, Cynthia	X	Thompson, Brent	X
Hashimoto-Sinclair, Yoko		Wandry, Donna	Proxy C. McCarthy
Hutton, Jane	X	Williams, Dian	Proxy R. McVey
Hyers, Lauri	X	Sally Winterton	Proxy K. Nolan
Kara, Orhan	X	Zimmer, Peter	X

**Minutes:**

- The Minutes from the September 21, 2007 faculty senate meeting were approved with minor revisions.
- Dr. Linda Lamwers, Provost of the University, visited and presented her annual report to the senate:
  - The Board of Governors approved the APSCUF contract, recently ratified by PASSHE faculty, and approved a budget increase of 5% for AY 2008/2009 to cover total PASSHE costs. It remains for Governor Rendell and the Pennsylvania House and Senate to pass this increase into law.
  - 8% of the WCU budget comes from moneys procured by the University in meeting benchmarks established by PASSHE's Performance Funding program. WCU received more money than any of the other 13 PASSHE campuses, thanks to its success in categories ranging from retention and graduation rates, class size, and student success on Praxis examinations. Provost Lamwers expressed lingering concerns about WCU's low graduate enrollment, its relatively poor minority graduation rate, and its low percentage of minority faculty. Some discussion followed about the nature of said Performance Funding and Senator Tonya Thames Leonard shared with the Senate the website address where detailed information about each campus' performance can be found: [www.passhe.edu/content/?/administration/systemrelations/communications/media/releases&item=21931](http://www.passhe.edu/content/?/administration/systemrelations/communications/media/releases&item=21931)
  - The Chancellor of the PASSHE system, Judy Hample, will be retiring effective July 2008.

- PASSHE continues to work on ways to simplify the process for transfer students within the PASSHE system.
  - The administration continues to pursue the idea of privatized campus housing, especially as the need for more dorms is increasingly felt.
  - The renovations of Boucher Hall and 25 University Avenue—the old Swope Hall building—will include geothermal heating and cooling systems.
  - Middle States Accreditation will hopefully be achieved by 2009.
  - The scaling back of regular part time faculty (RPTs) under the terms of the new contract raises the question of what to do with current RPTs. It is unclear if they can be “grandfathered” in so as to retain their positions under the new contract; similarly, there are concerns about whether current RPTs would succeed if placed in tenure-track positions.
  - The administration is currently exploring ideas of a “faculty friendly/family flexible” arrangement whereby faculty could regulate the terms of their employment under specific circumstances. These include extension of the tenure clock, occasional half time loads, and phased retirement. An open forum to discuss these matters is planned.
  - The Presidential Search is well underway, with an advertisement now published. It is unclear if the faculty senate will interview the candidates on its own or be invited to attend an open forum with other campus faculty groups.
- Cynthia Haggard, President of the Senate, reported on her meeting with President Adler this past week. Much of their discussion echoed points already canvassed by Dr. Lamwers, like the budget increase, Performance Funding and the Board of Governors’ actions. Points not already raised by Dr. Lamwers included:
    - The faculty bonus, agreed upon by the terms of the new contract, begins next week.
    - The dedication ceremony for the new plaza/circle in front of Lawrence Hall will take place on Saturday 10/20. It is dedicated to Herb Lee, long-time and much-loved WCU faculty member.
    - The fund raising for the undergraduate Business School is going well.
    - The parking garage planned for the corner of Nields and New Street is currently on hold due to neighborhood resistance. This raises contractual issues with West Chester Borough, who previously agreed to build the garage and have received a downpayment from the University.
    - The new WCU emergency response system was tested on 10/15, one of the days of Fall Break. Very loud sirens were heard campus-wide. This will be the first stage of the response system, though precisely what means the system will use in following up the sirens to inform the campus community of an emergency is unclear.
    - On the same subject of campus security, a university committee devoted to studying student mental health is currently being formed.
- Senators broke into committees to work on their various projects. Senators who were not in attendance at the September meeting were encouraged to join a committee whose work interested them. Individual progress reports, submitted to the recording secretary via email, include the following:
    - Faculty Welfare -- reported on creating a survey of faculty concerns. A list of issues has been created. A draft will be worked on at the next meeting. A WebMonkey survey will go out in December or January. The committee welcomes any additional concerns for the survey from members of the Senate.
    - Student Welfare – Diane DeVestern and Mary Ann Hammond visited the Student Welfare committee to discuss initiatives currently under development for prevention of and response to those issues of student behavior and mental health that might negatively impact the campus community. Committee members provided input about faculty concerns regarding these issues and made

- suggestions about how the Faculty Senate might contribute to the initiatives under development. A tentative plan for follow up on this discussion was made.
- Curriculum and Research – reported on three projects: 1) Faculty Evaluation Measures (ie. teacher/scholar models, statements of expectations, etc.) John Baker has been invited to speak at the next session of the Faculty Senate. 2) Diversity and Curriculum. This is in the beginning stages of research, and the committee is working towards drafting a statement. Tim Brown and Tonya Thames Taylor from the Multicultural Commission have been invited to speak at the March session of the senate. 3) The new Faculty Mentoring Program, which had its origins in the Curriculum and Research committee, commences in Spring 2008.
  - Membership and Elections – reported on preparations for running the Spring 2008 election and on preliminary discussions concerning the revision of faculty senate bylaws
  - Communications – has created a direct link from Provost's webpage (under "Committees") to Faculty Senate website and continue work on efforts to make the Faculty Senate website more prominent when doing searches; also pursuing the idea of adding Faculty Senate information to the "Upcoming Events" and "What's New in Academic Affairs?" WCU email announcements.
  - Ethics – no report submitted.

Meeting was adjourned by President Haggard.

Respectfully submitted by:

Julian Onderdonk  
Recording Secretary  
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