

**West Chester University of PA**  
**Faculty Senate**  
**2007/2008**  
**November 16, 2007, Full Assembly Minutes**

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

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

**Minutes:**

- Walt Cressler presented a report on behalf of the Strategic Planning Research Council (SPRC) concerning its 5-year review of the West Chester University Plan for Excellence, originally created in 2001. This review occurs at the midpoint of the university's Middle States ten-year evaluation cycle. He distributed copies of the update and itemized the revisions made. The names of the five transformations remain intact, but some of the contents of each have changed. Chief among these changes are a sharper focus on the university's growing international and global emphasis, as well as on concerns about environmental sustainability. This last point led to an impromptu discussion about the need for a more effective campus recycling program, and it was suggested that WCU faculty contact Royston Gathings at Facilities to expedite this. Walt concluded his presentation by requesting input about the revisions, asking Senators to consider what else might be revised and what else might be done better to promote the Plan.
- At the invitation of the Faculty Welfare Committee, John Baker, chair of the Art Department and of the Tenure and Promotion Committee (TEP), was our guest to discuss TEP procedures. He clarified the four documents the TEP committee relies on to assess each application for tenure and/or promotion. In order of importance, they are 1) the rubrics concerning tenure and promotion in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA); 2) WCU's internal criteria for tenure and promotion as published by the Provost's Office; 3) the Statement of Expectations binding every faculty member employed at WCU; and 4) The Teacher/Scholar model recently developed by every academic department. The goals of a fifth document, the WCU Plan for Excellence, are also a potential factor, though ultimately of less importance given that those goals can be so variably applied to different types of faculty positions. John emphasized that the best

applications for tenure and promotion are those in which the written narrative demonstrates how an applicant's achievements satisfy the goals and expectations of the five documents outlined above. A question was asked whether prevailing TEP procedures will be any different under the terms of the new contract. The answer was no.

- On behalf of the Faculty Mentoring Committee, Nadine Bean announced the inauguration of a new faculty mentoring program to begin in Spring 2008. The faculty survey conducted two years ago by WCU Professors Lori Hyers and Tim Brown suggests that new faculty at WCU are woefully undermentored, and the new program hopes to correct this by matching tenure-track professors with experienced tenured professors. There is a \$100 stipend for tenured professors who participate, with the expectation that meetings between mentor and mentee will occur at least once a month. (In addition, the committee will meet as a body once a month.) Nadine asked for help in finding mentors in each of the following WCU schools/colleges/areas – Library, Math and Science, Education and College of Visual and Performing Arts.
- Cynthia Haggard, President of the Senate, reported on her meeting with President Adler this past week:
  - The presidential search is progressing well.
  - PASSHE's funding formula for the 14 state universities is currently undergoing its 5-year review. The current formula already netted WCU less funding than did the previous formula, and while WCU made up for that shortfall thanks to its success in meeting benchmarks established by PASSHE's Performance Funding program, there is concern that WCU's funding will decline under the terms of the new formula once it is established.
  - Dr. Adler will shortly be attending a national conference on the subject of campus security in higher education. She believes that WCU is ahead of other campuses in its planning for emergency procedures. This point prompted discussion of the successes and failures of the procedures employed during the campus evacuation on 11/13 following a bomb threat to Main Hall. Security's knocking on individual classroom doors throughout campus was praised as an effective measure, as was the text message that went out to text-message subscribers. On the other hand, one classroom high up in Anderson's third floor was apparently missed by Security, and it was felt that evacuated students should not have been allowed to mill about the premises of the quad afterwards. An earlier incident, one in which a student attempted to use a faulty campus emergency call box, was also cited as an area needing improvement.
  - Dr. Adler encouraged faculty to attend the various holiday gatherings and parties hosted by WCU in December.
  - The WCU Women's Soccer team is in the NCAA tournament.
  - Commenting on campus facilities, Dr. Adler observed that all buildings except for Old Library have been renovated and/or improved in some way during that time.
  - The parking garage planned for the corner of Nields and New Street, recently put on hold due to neighborhood resistance, looks like it might very well go through. Plans include a submerged level that would make the building lower to the ground, and thus less objectionable. The fact that West Chester Borough has already received a downpayment from the University also provides a strong incentive for the project's completion.
  - Senators broke into committees to work on their various projects. Senators who were not in attendance at the October meeting were encouraged to join a committee whose work interested them. Individual progress reports, submitted to the recording secretary via email, include the following:
    - Student Welfare – Senate President Cynthia Haggard briefed the Student Welfare committee on the 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. President Haggard reported progress toward having a

representative from the Faculty Senate on a committee dealing with these issues. Student Welfare Committee Chair, Ellie Brown, was selected to serve on this committee. The Student Welfare Committee generated a list of areas of concern regarding prevention of and response to issues of student behavior and mental health. The committee will begin generating ideas for possible ways to address these areas of concern.

- Curriculum and Research – [facilitated the discussion led by John Baker of TeP on the Teacher Scholar Models; began the major project for this year, which is an assessment of the history of diversity education and multiculturalism as it relates to the college curriculum.](#)
- Membership and Elections – continued preparations for the Spring 2008 election; continued preliminary discussions concerning the revision of faculty senate bylaws
- Faculty Welfare – no report submitted
- Communications – no report submitted
- Ethics – no report submitted.

Meeting was adjourned by President Haggard.

Respectfully submitted by:

Julian Onderdonk  
Recording Secretary  
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