

## Draft

### University of Puget Sound Faculty Meeting Minutes March 9, 2004

1. President Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. in McIntyre 103. Twenty-eight voting members of the faculty were present by 4:20 p.m.
2. Minutes of the February 2, 2004 faculty meeting were approved as distributed.
3. In response to President Thomas's call for announcements, Chris Kline invited us to attend an April 5<sup>th</sup> wine-and-hors d'oeuvres opportunity to discuss the Women Studies program, which this year is undergoing its five-year review. John Finney announced the April 5-6 visit of three Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities evaluators, on campus to conduct our five-year interim accreditation review. Keith Ward asked what in particular they would be looking at. Finney responded that their attention will focus primarily on the physical therapy program and student outcomes assessment.
4. President Thomas gave a brief report on the trustees' February board meeting. He said the meeting was productive, with much attention paid to the master planning process. President Thomas thanked faculty for their cooperation and collaboration with this process. He invited us to attend the next master plan open forum on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. He directed our attention to the master plan web site (at <http://www.ups.edu/mp/>) that, among other things, provides opportunity for giving comments, suggestions, and feedback. He invited us to continue to follow the master planning process as it shapes up, and he conveyed to us his excitement at the impressive plans that are emerging to guide us in the next years of our development.

President Thomas reported on another agenda item the trustees discussed at their February meeting—the enrollment situations in the occupational therapy (OT) and physical therapy (PT) programs. He said that, in light of increased numbers of applications in both programs, the board has agreed that we may enroll another class to enter fall 2004. PT has more than doubled the application benchmark. OT has experienced slower growth, but has made a dramatic advance this year, with the hope that fall enrollment may be almost double last year's. President Thomas thanked in particular George Tomlin and Terry Cooney for their work to strengthen the numbers in OT.

President Thomas reported also that he recommended to trustees that we incorporate OT and PT into the overall educational program as “signature” assets. He suggested that, perhaps along with the departments of exercise science and psychology, OT and PT could become part of a center for health and human sciences. He suggested we might explore how these four clinical-based fields could become a strong ensemble of disciplines and a potential “signature” for the university. He noted that all four programs need new physical space, and said he wants to explore the possibility of locating these programs together to capitalize on

the synergies that might develop between them. He suggested that the four programs together, along with our Schools of Business Leadership and Education, could add distinctiveness to set us apart from other liberal arts colleges.

President Thomas then asked George Mills to give a brief report on the current status of admissions for fall, by way addressing the freshman class size issue that emerged from recent Budget Task Force recommendations. Mills reported that every application area except for one has seen an increase this year over last. He said applications to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree program numbered 78 as of March 1, compared with 64 last year on March 1. The increase in applications to PT has been very significant. The number of undergraduate transfer applications for fall was 181 on March 1, compared with 121 last year on March 1. He added that the number of undergraduate transfers we will enroll will not increase significantly, and that we should expect between 75 and 80, about the same number as last fall. With regard to new freshmen for fall, Mills said that applications were up about ten per cent over last year and that we would probably end up with about 3000 admits (we're currently at 2950 with 50 still to be admitted from 700 remaining applications) from 4500 applications, allowing greater selectivity in working toward a class of 675. He reported that interest is also up in secondary areas, particularly music (this is the second highest year for music auditioners in the history of the college), business leadership, and the honors program.

David Scott asked how our situation compares with other schools' around the country. Mills responded that New England and upper Midwest schools are down this year; California schools are down or flat; and that four of the five northwest liberal arts colleges have reported and all are up, with Puget Sound enjoying the second highest increase in percentage of applications.

George Tomlin asked Mills if he had any read on student diversity. Mills responded that the African American count is down slightly and that he and his staff are looking back through the applications to determine if it might not be possible to meet last year's count at least. He said the Hispanic application count is up from 130 to 170, and that other minority groups are flat compared to last year, when we increased the diversity of the class slightly.

President Thomas added that that the 2950 students so far admitted to next fall's freshman class are stronger in terms of quality than any previous admit pool we have ever had.

5. Academic Vice President Terry Cooney reported that, of the nineteen advertised tenure line faculty searches, fourteen are "in the door" with signed offers and acceptances. Only one search "failed" this year, and the other searches are still in process. He suggested that the high success rate this year might mean fewer searches will be necessary next year (perhaps ten or twelve), particularly if the number of retirements is low.

President Thomas said that he had met many of the finalist candidates and thought they were terrific. He added that he was particularly impressed by the fact that seven departments had brought persons of color among the finalists and that three have accepted offers of employment.

6. Faculty Senate Chair Bill Beardsley reported that the trustees at their February meeting approved the proposed amendment to Chapter 3 in the Faculty Code that the faculty approved last October. He said he was embarrassed by the fact that the trustees had to approve a version that corrected a typographical error in the version we sent forward. The error was a reference to chapter II, section A.(1) (a section that does not exist), when the correct reference should have been to chapter V, part A, section 2.a.(1). There were no objections at today's meeting to simply correcting that typographical error.

7. Senate Chair Beardsley then made the first reading of the proposed amendment to the Faculty Bylaws, attached to these minutes. Action on the proposal will take place at the next faculty meeting. He explained that the Faculty Senate approved the proposed amendment on December 1, 2003, to expand the Faculty Senate's membership from sixteen to seventeen with the addition of a staff person chosen by the Staff Senate. He said the Faculty Senate currently includes two students and ASUPS President Darrel Frost suggested that a staff member also be included.

There was no other business and we adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Finney  
Secretary of the Faculty

*Proposed amendment to the Faculty Bylaws, 12/1/03*

ARTICLE IV  
THE FACULTY SENATE

Sec. 1. Purpose. The Faculty Senate, hereafter referred to as the Senate, shall serve as an Executive Committee of the Faculty and shall study, advise, recommend, and initiate programs of action for the good of the University and communicate its findings and proposals to the Faculty, the Administration, the Board of Trustees, and other appropriate bodies.

Sec. 2. Membership.

A. The Senate shall consist of seventeen (17) members representing the University in the following way:

Deleted: sixteen (16)

- a. A Chairperson (III, 1, C).
- b. Eleven (11) Faculty members (III, 1, D)
- c. The Dean of the University (ex-officio) and the Dean of Students (ex-officio).
- d. Two regularly enrolled students chosen by the Associated Students in a manner to be decided by them.

e. One member of the University staff chosen by the Staff Senate in a manner to be decided by them.

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