

Faculty Senate Chair Report to the Faculty  
In advance of 02/02/2015 Faculty Meeting  
By Ariela Tubert

- At our first meeting of the spring semester last week, the senate welcomed two new senators for the semester: William Beardsley and Pierre Ly. Pierre has replaced Brendan Lanctot as secretary of the senate for the spring semester. I would like to encourage faculty members to contact any members of the senate with suggestions for issues that they would like the senate to pursue.
- A couple of the senate meetings at the end of the fall semesters were taken up by confidential discussions of the recommendations of the Committee on Honorary Degrees. The senate considered the nominees as well as the criteria used in selecting those nominees. Recommendations from the senate were forwarded to the president.
- At the November 24, 2014 meeting, the senate endorsed a letter from ASUPS requesting changes in building codes to accommodate more gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.
- At the December 8, 2014 meeting, the senate heard a report from the ad hoc committee of the senate reviewing the Faculty Medical, Family Leave, and Disability Policies. The committee will also be presenting at this upcoming faculty meeting on 2/2/15.
- At its most recent meeting, the senate approved a motion endorsing changes in the schedule for evaluations of third year associate and full professor evaluations. The Professional Standards Committee had recommended such changes in their last end of year report to the senate. The senate worked out the language for the proposed changes and it will be brought to the faculty for discussion at this upcoming faculty meeting on 2/2/15 and for vote at the following meeting on 3/10/15.
- The senate heard a report from the Budget Task Force last week. The report, presented by Brad Dillman, Kris Bartanen, and Sherry Mondou, contained interesting information about the recommendations for the budget for the next year. The senate was able to ask various questions about the process and the recommendations. The report is available by following this link <http://www.pugetsound.edu/files/resources/btf-report-2015-16-final-3.pdf>. You can send any comments about the budget recommendations to the president till February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015. President Thomas will forward his recommendations to the Board of Trustees at the Board Meeting in February.
- Thinking ahead to the Board Meeting, I will be preparing my report to the Board of Trustees next week. I welcome suggestions from faculty on things to mention or emphasize in the report.