

Faculty Meeting – 11/11/2014
Faculty Senate Chair Report
By Ariela Tubert

- We had two senate meetings since our last faculty meeting. During those meetings we approved some additional charges to standing committees, including charges to the International Education Committee to look into the very low numbers of international students and the decline in the number of students studying abroad.
- We also approved charges to the Library, Media, and Information Systems (LMIS) committee, including charges to continue to develop a preservation strategy for digital archives of faculty research and university documents, to continue to support initiatives to raise awareness and use of the Archives and Special Collections, to continue to monitor the implementation of Optimize and to solicit feedback on areas for system improvement, and to reconsider the 2014 announced process for applying library fines to faculty.
- With regards to this last charge, LMIS has endorsed the library's document explaining the changes to the circulation policy that went into effect this past summer during its September 23rd meeting. At yesterday's meeting, the senate approved a motion to delay the senate's approval of the document regarding the circulation policy until we have had a chance to discuss it and gather further input from the faculty. Item #10 in the agenda for today's meeting deals with this issue and it is part of our effort to gather faculty feedback. For reference, the relevant LMIS minutes can be found through the following link and they include a summary of the circulation policy at the end: <http://www.pugetsound.edu/files/resources/lmis-2014-09-23-2.pdf>
- Together with James Bernhard and Associate Dean Martin Jackson, I have been involved in providing feedback on faculty needs for the new Portal. The members of LMIS have also been involved in providing feedback and testing. If you haven't tried it yet, it is available at <https://my.pugetsound.edu>. MK Smith and Vikram Nilakantan who worked on developing the faculty portal have been great at listening to our suggestions and taking them into account as much as possible within the constraints of the system and the time available to develop it. If you haven't already, please try it out and send any feedback to the address mentioned in the welcome screen, Martin, James, and I are compiling faculty suggestions for further improvement. The senate will also be considering adding faculty

governance information to the portal so if you have any ideas, feel free to send them to me or to any member of the senate.

- The senate received reports from the three faculty representatives to the Committees of the Board of Trustees with the hope of increasing communication between faculty representatives, the board, and the senate. My own participation in the Board of Trustees meeting in October was a learning experience about a whole side of the university that I am not usually exposed to. One of the most interesting discussions I participated in was the report from the Enrollment Work Group. Jenny Rickard will be providing an enrollment report today (item #7 on the agenda) and in addition, the Enrollment Work Group will be running a longer session on December 9th (4-5pm, Tahoma Room) to discuss the recommendations of the work group. Faculty interested in learning more about these recommendations and changes in admissions policies will want to attend that session in addition to looking at the report available in SoundNet (<https://soundnet.pugetsound.edu/sites/Team/WorkTeams/Dean/SitePages/Home.aspx>.)