1. Call to Order

2. Opening Prayer – Rev. Dennis Sepper, University Pastor

3. Approval of Minutes of the November 14, 2014, Meeting

4. Question and Answer Period – President Krise

5. Unfinished Business:

6. New Business:

   A. Motion to approve the January 2015 degree candidates, pending completion of all requirements – Steven Starkovich, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. ACTION ITEM.

      Resolved, that the Faculty Assembly approve the January 2015 degree candidates, pending completion of all requirements.

   B. Motion to revise the Faculty Bylaws, allowing the Faculty Secretary and the Chair of the Governance Committee to jointly certify faculty election results – Pauline Shanks Kaurin (Philosophy), Governance Committee. FIRST READING.

      Whereas, the current Faculty Handbook language is unclear; and

      Whereas, confirming election results ought to be handled by more than any one individual to ensure transparency;

      Resolved, that Article III, Section 2.C. of the Faculty Bylaws be revised as presented in Attachment A.

   C. Motion to approve revisions to the Faculty Handbook, 8th ed., Section II, Part IX, Section 7, Graduate Council (and Graduate Program Committees) – Pauline Shanks Kaurin (Philosophy), Governance Committee. ACTION ITEM.

      Whereas, current language needs to be updated to reflect changes in position titles; and

      Whereas, the current Faculty Handbook language is unclear regarding council membership and purpose;
Resolved, that Section II, Part IX, Section 7 of the Faculty Handbook (8th ed.) be revised as presented in Attachment B.

D. Motion to recommend the nomination of King Harald V of Norway for an honorary doctorate degree – Martin Wurm (Economics), Educational Policies Committee. ACTION ITEM.

Resolved, that the faculty recommend to President Krise the nomination of King Harald V of Norway for a Doctor of Laws jure dignitatis as detailed in Attachment C.

E. Motion for an Informal Discussion regarding proposed language to revise the Faculty Handbook to include a Statement of Academic Freedom – Svend Rønning (Music), Faculty Affairs Committee. ACTION ITEM.

Resolved, that the Faculty Assembly hold an Informal Discussion lasting no longer than 15 minutes regarding the addition of a Statement of Academic Freedom to the Bylaws to the Faculty Constitution, Article II, Section 1 (page 12), as presented in attachment D. Introductory remarks lasting no more than 5 minutes will be provided. Discussion will be led by representatives from the Faculty Affairs Committee.

F. Motion for an Informal Discussion regarding student retention initiatives – Neal Yakelis (Chemistry), Admission and Retention of Students Committee. ACTION ITEM.

Whereas, the Admissions and Retention of Students (ARTS) Committee has prepared an update with regard to its investigations into the University’s efforts in improving retention rates;

Resolved, that the faculty hold an informal discussion lasting no more than 15 minutes about two recommendations that have emerged from their discussions presented in Attachment E. Introductory remarks lasting no more than 10 minutes will be provided prior to the discussion. – Neal Yakelis (Chemistry), Hal DeLaRosby (Academic Advising), Admission and Retention of Students Committee

7. Announcements and Communications:

A. Fall Grades due 5:00 pm on Friday, January 2, 2015 – Kevin Berg, Registrar
B. Upcoming Intellectual Property Rights Discussion – Steven Starkovich, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.
C. Next Steps in Assessment – Steven Starkovich, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.
D. Call for Proposals for course development around place-based learning – Joel Zylstra, Director of Community Engagement and Service
E. Spring 2015 "It's On Us" campaign – Joanna Gregson (Sociology), Vice-Chair of the Faculty
F. Deadline for the Wang Center for Global Education research grants is March 31, 2015; Call for nominations for Program Directors for three PLU Gateways – Tamara Williams, Executive Director, Wang Center for Global Education
G. Second memorial lecture in honor of U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 7:30 p.m – Tamara Williams, Executive Director, Wang Center for Global Education