Call to Order: Jill Whitman, Chair of the Faculty, called the regular November meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. There were 130 persons in attendance.

Opening Prayer: The Reverend Nancy Connor, University Pastor, offered the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of Oct. 10, 2014: The minutes were approved as distributed.

Question and Answer Period with the President: President Thomas W. Krise answered a question sent him about the financial relationship between PLU and the new Garfield Station and its potential impact on residential life. He said PLU is a one-third investor in the project and also a tenant. Three of the 19 apartments already leased have been rented by students. Regarding incentives for students to live on campus, he said things have been done this year to encourage local students to live on campus instead of at home, and that this approach is being evaluated. (Also, residence halls are used by outside groups between academic terms, as managed by Conferences & Events.)

Unfinished Business: [NONE]

New Business:

A. Steve Starkovich (Provost) introduced a motion to approve graduation candidates for December 2014.

*Resolved*, that the Faculty Assembly approve the graduation candidates for December 2014, pending completion of all requirements.

**MOTION PASSED.**

B. Pauline Kaurin (Philosophy), Chair of the Governance Committee, announced the slate of candidates for a vacancy in Spring 2015 on the Admission & Retention of Students Committee: Adela Ramos (English) and Tim Mooney (Business). Also nominated from the floor was Rona Kaufman (English). The election will be conducted electronically as usual.
C. Pauline Kaurin (Philosophy), Chair of the Governance Committee, introduced a motion to revise the Faculty Handbook.

Whereas, the current Faculty Handbook language is unclear;

Resolved, that Part VII, Section 4.C, of the Faculty Handbook be revised as presented in Attachment B.

MOTION PASSED.

D. Pauline Kaurin (Philosophy), Chair of the Governance Committee, introduced a motion to create the Committee on Honorary Degrees as a university standing committee.

Whereas, the Faculty Handbook calls for the president to convene an ad hoc university awards committee to consider nominations for honorary degrees;

Whereas, the ad hoc university awards committee has ongoing business and meets consistently throughout the academic year; and

Whereas, the policies and procedures of the ad hoc university awards committee require revision for clarification and consistency with practice;

Resolved, that the Faculty Assembly remove the Honorary Degrees section from the Faculty Handbook (Section III, Part VII, Section 1, pp. 74-75, 8th edition) and establish the University Committee on Honorary Degrees, a university standing committee whose general purpose is to solicit and review nominations for honorary degrees. The required legislation, including the membership and specific duties, are included as Attachment C.

Speaking to the motion were Martin Wurm (Economics) and Fabio Ambrosio (Business).

MOTION PASSED.

E. Michael Schleeter (Philosophy), Chair of the Campus Life Committee, introduced a motion to ratify changes to the Academic Integrity Policy.

Whereas, the Campus Life Committee is charged with the task of reviewing PLU’s academic integrity policy every three years;

Whereas, PLU’s current academic integrity policy does not accurately reflect recent changes in university practices and institutions;

Whereas, PLU’s current academic integrity policy does not enable faculty members formally to distinguish between minor and major violations of the policy;

Whereas, PLU’s current academic integrity policy could better enable staff members to monitor the quantity and nature of academic dishonesty incidents and to track students who repeatedly commit acts of academic dishonesty; and
Whereas, PLU’s current academic integrity policy could better enable students suspected of violations of the policy to receive additional education in order to avoid future violations or suspected violations;

Resolved, that the academic integrity policy, as included in Section III, Part III of the Faculty Handbook (pp. 58, 59, and 61, 8th edition), be revised as presented in Attachment D.

Speaking to the motion were Mary Ellard-Ivey (Biology), Lorena Guerrero (Nursing), Amanda Sweger (Communication & Theatre), Douglas Oakman (Religion), Jon Grahe (Psychology), and Norris Peterson (Economics).

MOTION PASSED.

Announcements and Communications:

A. Peace Scholars Program. Claudia Berguson (Languages & Languages), Coordinator of the Peace Scholars Program, asked faculty to encourage qualified students to apply for this program. Students attend the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis and a 7-week summer-school program in Norway. The application deadline is Jan. 31.

B. Event for Ayotzinapa. Adela Ramos (English) announced an event at 5:30 today in the Regency Room, to honor and acknowledge the missing students in Ayotzinapa, Guerrero (Mexico). There will be a panel discussion followed by a time of remembrance and reflection, including reading of the students’ names.

C. Board Report. Kevin O’Brien (Religion), Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents, reported on the October meeting of the Board. Topics of most discussion were enrollment and budget. Frequent themes in reports from university administrators were a commitment to transparency, the importance of integrity and openness in university leadership, and that the university is undergoing important changes in response to the changing context. Conversations frequently returned to the PLU mission statement and the best ways to achieve it.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith J. Cooper
Faculty Secretary