Call to Order: Jill Whitman, Chair of the Faculty, called the regular April meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. There were 115 persons in attendance.

Opening Prayer: The Reverend Dennis Sepper, University Pastor, offered the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of March 13, 2015: The minutes were approved as distributed.

Question and Answer Period with the President: President Thomas W. Krise had received a question about a reported plan to reduce University of Washington tuition by 25% over the next two years; what plan is in place to mitigate the effects on PLU of such a plan? Dr. Krise noted first that private-university presidents in the state have lobbied loudly against this plan as well as the proposed reduction in the state need grant. He urged those present to contact their legislators. Because UW is our number-one overlap school, this matter is of concern to us, but we need to remember that price does not equal value. Our continued involvement in enrollment (and retention) activities is crucial to helping with the perception of value.

Unfinished Business:

A. Justin Lytle (Chemistry), from the Faculty Affairs Committee, introduced a motion to amend the Bylaws to the Faculty Constitution. **THIRD READING.**

   Whereas, the faculty of Pacific Lutheran University and its governing documents repeatedly mention the role of academic freedom as a central principle of the academy; and

   Whereas, the Bylaws of Pacific Lutheran University do not reference Pacific Lutheran University’s Principles of Academic Freedom;

   **Resolved,** that the Faculty Bylaws, Article III, Section 1, be revised to reference Pacific Lutheran University’s Principles of Academic Freedom as presented in Attachment A.

   **MOTION PASSED.**
New Business:

A. Steven Starkovich (Provost) introduced a motion to approve degree candidates:

*Resolved*, that the Faculty Assembly approve the candidates for Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees for Spring 2015, pending successful completion of all degree requirements.

**MOTION PASSED.**

B. Steven Starkovich (Provost) introduced a motion to approve the academic calendar for 2017-18:

*Resolved*, that the Faculty Assembly approve the Academic Calendar for 2017-18 as presented in Attachment B.

**MOTION PASSED.**

C. Pauline Shanks Kaurin (Philosophy), chair of the Governance Committee, presented the slate of nominations for 2015-16 faculty committees. (This slate was not the one included with the agenda, but a revised version of Attachment C emailed earlier with a paper copy distributed at this meeting.) Additional nominations from the floor – with prior consent from those nominated required – were as follows:

- Governance: Position 14 – JP Avila (Art and Design)
- Long-Range Planning: Position 19 – Harry Papadopoulos (Kinesiology)
- Faculty Affairs: Position 9 – Karen McConnell (Kinesiology)

The election will be conducted in the usual way, electronically, with subsequent runoffs as needed.

D. Martin Wurm (Economics), chair of the Educational Policies Committee, introduced a motion regarding the scheduling best practices document:

Whereas, the university currently has no policy or codified practice of scheduling classes throughout the week;

Whereas, better weekly scheduling of classes and planning of the weekly schedule could improve the utilization of capacity and make it easier for students to meet their class requirements; and

Whereas, improvement of scheduling practices serve to improve admission and retention of students;

*Resolved*, that the faculty adopt the scheduling best practices document as a recommendation, to be added to the Chairs and Program Directors Resources Sakai Folder and to the Registrar’s website.

Speaking to the motion was Sid Olufs (Political Science). **MOTION PASSED.**
E. Martin Wurm (Economics), chair of the Educational Policies Committee, introduced a motion to hold an Informal Discussion.

Resolved, that the faculty hold an informal discussion lasting no longer than 10 minutes regarding the revision of the EPC manual. Introductory remarks lasting no more than 10 minutes will be provided.

MOTION PASSED.

Following an opening presentation by Martin Wurm (Economics), participating in the discussion was Tina Saxowsky (Chemistry).

F. JoDee Keller (Social Work), chair of the Rank & Tenure Committee, introduced a motion to hold an Informal Discussion.

Resolved, that the faculty hold an informal discussion lasting no longer than 10 minutes regarding the revision of the EPC manual. Introductory remarks lasting no more than 10 minutes will be provided.

MOTION PASSED.

Following an opening presentation by JoDee Keller (Social Work), participating in the discussion were Sid Olufs (Political Science), Patty Dolan (Biology), Jon Grahe (Psychology), Mary Ellard-Ivey (Biology), Rebekah Mergenthal (History), Andrea Munro (Chemistry), Mary Moller (Nursing), Fabio Ambrosio (Business), Doug Oakman (Religion), Kaitlyn Sill (Political Science), Laura McCloud (Sociology), Dave Veazey (University Assessment, Accreditation & Research), Michael Zbaraschuk (Religion), Dave Huelsbeck (Anthropology), Marit Trelstad (Religion), and Teresa Ciabattari (Sociology).

Announcements and Communications:

A. NCAA Division III Week and Postgraduate Scholarship. Keith Cooper (Philosophy), Faculty Athletics Representative, provided some information about the NCAA’s “Division III Week” and also recognized the recent awarding of a NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship to football player Greg Hibbard – the university’s fifth recipient in the past ten sports seasons.

B. Lutheran Studies Conference. Samuel Torvend (Religion), Chair of Lutheran Studies, asked that faculty consider how their fall courses might connect with the Lutheran Studies Conference being held Sept. 24, marking the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps and the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II statement on Christian-Jewish relations. The keynote address will be given by historian Yaakov Ariel of the University of North Carolina.
C. Update on EPC Review of the Computer Engineering major. Martin Wurm (Economics), chair of the Educational Policies Committee, provided an explanation of EPC’s review of the recent vote on eliminating the Computer Engineering major, and its decision not to bring the matter to the faculty again this year. The process of seeking a solution will continue.

D. KPLU Night. Norris Peterson (Economics) announced the upcoming KPLU Night at University House, Friday, April 24, beginning at 5:00 p.m. Performing will be trumpeter Lance Bullard and the Roadsters. If you’re a member, come; if you are not a member, come and join.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith J. Cooper
Faculty Secretary