

Citation of Faculty Chair Whitman – May 13, 2016

Madame Chair, I have an additional motion, which will require a few short comments to the assembly.

I would like to honor our outstanding Faculty Chair, Jill Whitman. This day represents the culmination of four years of dedicated service to the faculty and to the university—first in her two years as Vice Chair of the faculty, and then in two years as Chair.

In her most visible role as Faculty Chair, Jill has guided us through Faculty Assembly: through informal discussions on the Mellon grant and attendance policies and teaching evaluations; through a very long, very memorable meeting last spring that revealed our collective grace and patience; through announcement after announcement that eventually necessitated her introducing a two-minute timer; and through our enthusiasm that has, at times, seen her bring out the gavel to call us to order.

But the real work of faculty chair takes place behind the scenes, in representing the faculty to various constituencies and organizing our governance work. As our representative to the Board of Regents, Jill strove to make the work of faculty visible, and to educate the Board about both the *way* shared governance works and *that* shared governance works. At the same time, she has been a staunch advocate for the Board's role in prioritizing faculty development.

Similarly, Jill represented faculty interests at the Provost's Academic Council, Budget Advisory Committee, at monthly meetings with the provost and president, and by co-chairing the search for our next provost. In each of these capacities, Jill advocated for the faculty, the university, and the university's mission.

As chair of the Faculty Executive Committee, Jill facilitated the creation of our agenda for Faculty Assembly and shepherded the work of the various committees. From the revised mid-term warning process of the ARTS committee and FAC's principles of academic freedom to EPC's scheduling guidelines, all of these changes were made possible thanks to Jill's leadership. As chair of the faculty, Jill not only spearheaded the effort to create a standing committee on Honorary Degrees, she also helped facilitate the awarding of such a degree to a real live king. In her fall conference speeches and throughout the year, Jill educated all of us about the important role of faculty governance (and yes, she also taught us about Robert's Rules of Order).

With this rationale in mind, I offer a final motion for us to consider today.

Whereas, Professor Jill Whitman

- *Has served with distinction as Faculty Chair at Pacific Lutheran University, including chairing this assembly, representing the faculty to the administration and to the Board of Regents, and leading our faculty governance system;*
- *And, has worked to educate the board, the administration, and the faculty of PLU about the importance, vitality, and possibilities of shared governance;*
- *And, has evidenced an abiding belief in the quality of this institution, its faculty, and our shared mission;*
- *And, has represented the faculty accordingly in all forums and with all constituencies;*

BE IT RESOLVED that the faculty of Pacific Lutheran University, on this day May 13, 2016, meeting in assembly, commends and thanks Jill Whitman for her service to us and to Pacific Lutheran University.