

**PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY ASSEMBLY MEETING**  
**Friday, September 16, 2016**  
Rieke Science Center – Leraas Lecture Hall

Call to Order – Chair Gregson called 150 people to order for the regular September meeting at 4:00 pm.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Jen Rude, University Pastor, offered an opening prayer with a theme of listening to go along with the PLU listening campaign.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes of the May 13, 2016 meeting were approved as distributed.

Question and Answer Period – President Krise received and responded to four questions:

1. The first question was regarding the fundraising themes that were mentioned at Fall Conference and how PLU plans to invest in its faculty and students, and the salaries of faculty and staff.
2. The second question asked how the salaries of PLU administrators compare to those of similar institutions, and if PLU has the same discrepancy in salaries for its administrators as it does for its faculty and staff.
3. The third question was regarding the process of relocating the Garfield Bookstore, and the decision to move it to the library instead of the University Center.
4. The fourth question was about further cuts to the library's acquisition budget, and any plans to either restore the library's budget or revise the role of scholarship in PLU's tenure and promotion policies.

Faculty were invited to a fika – coffee hour with the President – on Wednesday September 21, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in AUC 134 to further discuss these or other issues. No questions for President Krise were received from the floor.

Unfinished Business: [NONE]

New Business:

- A. Andrea Munro (Chemistry), Governance Committee presented nominations for a special election to fill vacancies on the Instructional Resources Committee as presented in Attachment A.  
**Speaking to the Motion:** Andrea Munro (Chemistry)

**There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was closed.** Ballots will be distributed Monday, September 19 and voting will be open until Friday, September 23.

- B. Amy Stewart-Mailhiot (Library Services) and Kristin Plaehn (President's Office), Admission and Retention of Students Committee, presented a motion to change the Spring 2017 Commencement date.

Whereas, the Faculty Handbook, Section III, Part VII, Section 5, Part D, Section 4h specifies that "Commencement is on Saturday following the last day of Final Exam Week and takes place no later than Memorial Day weekend";

Whereas, the Tacoma Dome has confirmed that it is unavailable to PLU for commencement on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday of Memorial Day weekend 2017; and

Whereas, Faculty Assembly previously voted to hold the 2017 Commencement on May 27, 2017 and any change to the Academic Calendar requires faculty approval;

Resolved, that the 2017 Commencement ceremony be held on Thursday evening, May 25, 2017.

**Speaking to the Motion:** Amy Stewart-Mailhiot (Library Services), Kris Plaehn (President's Office), Patricia Dolan (Biology and Nursing)

### **MOTION PASSED**

- C. Keith Cooper (Philosophy), Educational Policies Committee, and Jan Lewis (Associate Provost), General Education Council presented a motion for an Informal Discussion regarding upper-division courses.

Resolved, that the faculty hold an Informal Discussion lasting no longer than 20 minutes regarding issues surrounding upper-division courses, including their role in the General Education Program. Introductory remarks lasting no more than 8 minutes will be provided. Discussion will be led by the chairs of EPC and the General Education Council.

**Speaking to the Motion:** Keith Cooper (Philosophy)

### **MOTION PASSED**

**Following a brief presentation by Jan Lewis (Associate Provost), speaking in the informal discussion:** Dave Huelsbeck (Anthropology), Karen Travis (Economics), Rebekah Mergenthal (History), Michael Stasinos (Art and Design), Rebecca Wilkin (Languages & Literatures) Karen McConnell (Kinesiology), Hal DeLaRosby (Academic Advising), Norris Peterson (Economics), Andrea Munro (Chemistry), Timothy O'Neill (History), Jan Lewis (Associate Provost), Keith Cooper (Philosophy)

## 7. Announcements and Communications:

- A. Introduction of Faculty Committee Chairs and review of committees' charges – Joanna Gregson (Sociology), Chair of the Faculty

**Introducing themselves:** Amy Siegesmund (Biology), Parliamentarian; Marianne Taylor (Psychology), Rank and Tenure Committee; Bridget Yaden (Languages and Literatures), Campus Life Committee; Michelle Ceynar (Psychology), Vice Chair of the Faculty; Neal Yakelis (Chemistry), Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents; Norris Peterson (Economics) representing Seth Dowland (Religion) for the Faculty Affairs Committee; Keith Cooper (Philosophy), Educational Policies Committee; Jordan Levy (Anthropology), Faculty Secretary; Amy Young (Communication and Theatre), Instructional Resources Committee; Antonios Finitsis (Religion), Global Education Committee; Andrea Munro (Chemistry), Governance Committee; Amy Stewart-Mailhiot (Library), Admission and Retention of Students Committee; Thomas Krise (President), Long-Range Planning Committee.

- B. Lutheran Studies Conference on September 29, 2016 – Samuel Torvend (Religion), University Chair in Lutheran Studies

The annual Lutheran Studies Conference will take place on Thursday, September 29. The keynote speaker will be Dr. John Nunes, former CEO of Lutheran World Relief and former Jochum Chair in Religion and Public Life at Valparaiso University. In Spring 2015, Dr Nunes was selected as the president of Concordia College in New York City. He is the first African American elected president of a Lutheran college or university in North America. The conference is free and open to the public.

C. Continuing Education Call for Proposals – Geoff Foy (Graduate Programs & Continuing Education), Associate Provost

Call for proposals regarding continuing education for new programming (online & face-to-face). For more information about the proposal process please go to the Continuing Education website.

D. Withdrawal fee – Kevin Berg, Registrar

Beginning fall 2016, there will no longer be any fee to withdraw. Other than the fee change, the standard process and deadlines are still in place, as is the \$100 late add fee. Please send any questions regarding this change to the Registrar's Office.

E. Announcement Protocol – Michelle Ceynar (Psychology), Vice Chair of the Faculty

As Chair Gregson mentioned in her address to the faculty during fall conference, the Faculty Executive Committee discussed possibilities for alternative routes to making announcements at the end of Faculty Assembly meetings, with the goal of making our meetings both efficient and meaningful. In months where announcements will take longer than 10 minutes of our time, FEC will decide which submissions to prioritize as oral announcements and which will be featured in alternative formats, such as the announcement preview reel. The FEC also encourages everyone to take full advantage of the Provost's new Faculty Newsletter that will be conveniently delivered each week to your inboxes and packed with helpful information and events you won't want to miss. Many of the academic events and programs we have in the past announced during Faculty Assembly are ideally suited for this newsletter.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jordan Levy  
Faculty Secretary