



**TO: New Faculty and Academic Staff**  
**FROM: Randy Olson, Chair, Faculty Senate**  
**SUBJECT: Faculty Governance**  
**DATE: August 2013**

Faculty governance has traditionally played a strong role at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. (*Please note*, for purposes of institutional governance, “faculty” is defined as persons holding at least 50% FTE faculty or academic staff appointments). While curriculum is the faculty's major area of responsibility, faculty also play an important role in recommending policies to the administration in many other areas as well. Chancellor Patterson has demonstrated a commitment to strong faculty governance, the success of which depends upon the administration's openness to listening to and consulting with the faculty, and the faculty's willingness to participate in this important responsibility.

Chapter 36 of the Wisconsin Statutes directs the faculty and academic staff to determine its own organization to participate in institutional governance. The *Constitution of the Faculty Senate-University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point* specifies the Faculty Senate as the primary governance representative body. The *Constitution of the Faculty Senate* is available on the Faculty Senate website: <http://www.uwsp.edu/facsen/Pages/default.aspx> and the faculty governance SharePoint site, myFacultySenate, under “Reference Materials”: <https://committees.uwsp.edu/facsen/Site%20Pages/Home.aspx>. In addition to the constitution, faculty governance meeting agendas, meeting materials, minutes and attachments are accessible through myFacultySenate.

An additional body under the statutes representing the academic staff is the Academic Staff Council. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point “Faculty Governance Organizational Structure” is provided on the following page. This chart details the faculty governance hierarchy, which includes the chancellor, Faculty Senate, Executive Committee, standing committees, and permanent subcommittees.

We are always looking for capable individuals to serve on committees, run for the Faculty Senate, and serve in other positions. If you would like more information or would like to discuss governance in general, please call me (ext. 3360) or any other member of the Executive Committee. A listing of Executive Committee members is available on the Faculty Senate website.

**Faculty Governance Organizational Structure**

