

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

January 26, 2009

Present: N. Barrett; V. Dallas; C. Parrish; L. Romano; A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz;
J. Whittum-Hudson; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson; J. Woodyard; R. Yamazaki

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of January 26, 2009.

1. Institute for Materials Research: President Noren held a meeting about the recommendations for the Institute for Materials Research with Provost Barrett, Vice President for Research Ratner, and Mr. Wolfson. Mr. Wolfson reported that President Noren said that Ms. Ratner must hire a new Director and develop a new plan for the Institute in the next four months. If that fails, the institute should be terminated. The Policy Committee will be able to review the new plan.
2. Attendance at Committee Meetings: Mr. Wolfson reported that the chairperson of one of the Senate committees complained that two of the committee members had attended no meetings this year. In addition, they have been assigned to the committee for a few years and have attended no meetings in the past. Policy Committee determined that since the Senate Bylaws do not provide recourse for non-attendance at committee meetings, nothing could be done.
3. Strategic Planning: Policy Committee discussed the strategic planning process.
4. NSSE Survey: Policy Committee asked for the data from the National Survey and Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) report and the FTIAC opt-out survey of students done in fall 2008.
- *5. Proceedings of December 15, 2008: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of December 15, 2008, were approved as amended.
- *6. Proceedings of January 12, 2009: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of January 12, 2009, were approved as submitted.

[Provost Barrett and Ms. Whittum-Hudson left the meeting to attend to other University business.]

7. School/College Representation on the Academic Senate: The Policy Committee discussed whether the Senate Bylaws had to be amended to include representatives from the Honors College and from the School of Library and Information Science. The Bylaws do not have to be revised to include a new college or a new school, but the language referring to the Library and Information Science Program will be eliminated. Representation is granted to a new college or school in the language that states that all schools and colleges are represented in the Senate.

8. Senate Elections: Mr. Woodyard, who chairs the Elections Committee, discussed the work of the Committee in codifying the procedures used for the member-at-large election.
9. Academic Senate Meeting: The drafted agenda for the February 4, 2009, Senate meeting was

approved.

10. Reports from Policy Committee Liaisons to the Standing Committees:

- a. Mr. Woodyard, the liaison to the Budget Committee, said that the Committee was interested in the uses for the \$39 million in additional revenue the University received in fiscal year 2008. It was noted that the money has been encumbered. Steven Salley, Interim Dean of the Graduate School, made a presentation to the Committee about graduate enrollment.
- b. Mr. Yamazaki, the liaison to the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee, reported that James Sears, Associate Vice President for Facilities, Planning and Management, told the Committee that the University community responded well to his memo asking people to help protect University property during the cold weather over the holiday break; there were no major incidents. He has instructed his staff who plow the campus sidewalks to also plow the city sidewalks and crossings that are adjacent to University property. Mr. Sears's office is trying to obtain green ratings for the buildings that are under construction. Joseph Sawasky, the Chief Information Officer, told the FSST Committee that the University is renting its old educational television frequencies to Sprint. The money will support the Division of Computing and Information Technology, which has used some of the revenue to purchase a classroom scheduling system. The first step in the testing of the new e-mail system, Zimbra, is underway with personnel in C&IT being the first group to use it.
- c. Ms. Dallas, the liaison to the Student Affairs Committee, said that Mr. Woodyard attended its meeting last week to solicit their help in conducting a survey of students. The SAC agreed to work with the Elections Committee. It is expected that the survey will provide information for decision-making.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of February 2, 2009