

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

November 19, 2012

Present: L. Beale; R. Brown; V. Dallas; R. MacArthur; C. Parrish; L. Romano;
A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz; A. Wisniewski; J. Woodyard

Absent with notice: D. Kessel

Guest: Corinne Webb, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of November 19, 2012.

1. Enrollment: Policy Committee invited Ms. Webb to the meeting to talk about the current enrollment and to learn what initiatives are planned to increase enrollment. Ms. Webb presented a profile of the current student population, characteristics of financial aid, observations and signals from the federal government and others regarding aid, and initiatives to bring students back who had attended in the past.

The Enrollment Office mails packets with information to new first-year students and to transfer students. The packets include a letter of welcome, a leaflet explaining the next steps the students should take to enroll, and a booklet with information about the University and the surrounding area. First-year students are asked to indicate that they will attend Wayne State by May 1, the national response date.

Ms. Webb compared enrollment for fall 2012 to enrollment for fall 2011. Enrollment for undergraduate students, graduate students, and professional students has declined.

Ms. Webb discussed WSU's yield, i.e., the number of students who enroll compared with the number who are admitted. At this point in 2011, 1275 students with ACT scores of 25 or higher had been admitted for the 2012 fall term. This year 1603 students with ACT scores of 25 or higher have been admitted for the 2013 fall term. Ms. Webb spoke about the efforts being made to attract more students from community colleges.

She explained the process used to admit students to the APEX (Academic Pathways for Excellence) program.

Seventy-one percent of our students receive financial aid. Ms. Webb estimates that the total of all types of financial aid for the current academic year will reach \$360 million. Over the last year the University awarded 5,591 undergraduate and graduate degrees.

The Enrollment Office has begun a program to get undergraduate students who recently left before completing their degrees to return to the University. The Office sent postcards and e-mail messages to 1,432 students who were enrolled in fall

2011 but who did not return. These students were in good academic standing and did not have registration or financial holds. They were offered assistance to return and expedited financial aid packages. To date 159 students in this group have registered for the winter term 2013.

Members requested additional information. One member asked for the number of students who apply to the special programs such as Med Start in the Medical School and the B Program in the School of Business Administration as well as the combined yield from these programs. He asked how successful the students were in completing the programs. Another member asked how many students have all of their tuition and fees paid, and have no out-of-pocket expenses for these charges. Also, what is the retention rate for these students? Another question was how many students who enrolled had an ACT score of 30 or greater. In what programs did these students enroll? What did the University do in the recruitment that appealed to them? Were all of their tuition and fees paid? Why did the students choose Wayne State over other schools?

Ms. Webb will provide the information. She offered to return at another time to update the Committee.

[Ms. Webb left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair:

- a. Dean of Education Carolyn Shields inquired about the procedure to charter an institute. Mr. Romano explained the procedure.
- b. In response to a question from the Provost, Policy Committee members made brief comments about the candidates they interviewed for the position of Associate Provost and Director of the Office for Teaching and Learning.
- c. The firm assisting in the search for the Dean of Business Administration has advised the University to continue the search but to move slowly because any candidate would be reluctant to accept the position until a new President is named.
- d. The Dean of Law resigned and Provost Brown appointed an Acting Dean until an Interim Dean could be appointed. The committee to advise on the selection of the Interim Dean will make its recommendation to the Provost. However, a member of the Policy Committee believed that the Law School committee should meet with the entire faculty before the recommendation is submitted to the Provost. Provost Brown will advise the committee to meet with the faculty.
- e. Provost Brown expects to receive the report of the Huron Consulting Group on the question of whether the Graduate School and the Office for Research should be separate or combined offices. Policy Committee members discussed whether some Masters programs should report to the Graduate School or should stay within the colleges. It was decided that this question should be revisited at a later date.
- f. The Provost and the Policy Committee discussed the appointment of a permanent Dean for the Graduate School. A member noted that the School needs additional or new space.

- g. Some Deans thought changes were needed in the way the graduate teaching assistantships were distributed to colleges. A subcommittee of the Council of Deans is meeting to determine what issues will have to be addressed and to make suggestions on how the positions might be awarded. The Provost will bring the suggestions to the Policy Committee for discussion.
- *3. The Graduate School: It was the Policy Committee's understanding that the Huron Group would recommend that the Graduate School be separate from the Office of the Vice President for Research. Policy Committee approved that decision.
 - 4. Report from the Senate President:
 - a. The committee reviewing the proposed increase in the budget for the Development Office is writing its report, which will be sent to the Policy Committee and the Senate's Budget Committee for comment prior to sending it to the Board of Governors. Members of the Senate committee will meet with the Board on December 3, 2012, to discuss the report.
 - b. John Oliver, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, and Alexey Petrov, a Senate member and a faculty member in the Physics Department, will present information about the University's research ranking at the Policy Committee's meeting of November 26, 2012.
 - *5. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of November 12, 2012, were approved as amended.
 - 6. Meeting with the President's Cabinet: Policy Committee listed the issues it would like to discuss with the President's Cabinet when they meet on November 28, 2012. Mr. Romano will send the list to the administration.
 - 7. Establishment of a Credit Hour Definition: The federal government requires universities to define a credit hour. The Policy Committee reviewed the document *Establishment of a Credit Hour Definition* that will be on the agenda of the Board of Governors Academic Affairs Committee on December 5, 2012. The Policy Committee did not see a need for changes.
 - 8. U.S./Canada Border Policy Institute: In June 2011 a temporary charter was granted to the U.S./Canada Border Policy Institute through August 2012. On September 11, 2012, Interim Dean Margaret Williams of the School of Business Administration requested that the temporary charter be extended for one year. The Policy Committee recommended to the Provost that the temporary charter be extended through August 31, 2013. However, it noted that very little progress had been made towards the goals set out in the charter submitted in August 2011 and that it would be extremely reluctant to recommend additional extensions without a substantial improvement.
 - 9. Report from Liaisons:
 - a. Student Affairs Committee: Mr. Woodyard reported that at its meeting of November 14, 2012, the Student Affairs Committee discussed the overcharges at

the parking lots that are to have a reduced rate; \$1,036 was refunded. At its meeting of December 5, 2012, the Board of Governors will receive a recommendation for funding the renovation of the Student Center Building. The Academic Senate has not been consulted about the funding and the renovation. The SAC gave the student survey team good ideas about additional marketing schemes to encourage students to complete the survey. To date 3600 students have responded to the survey.

- b. Faculty Affairs Committee: Ms. Vlasopolos reported that Hammid Siddiqui from the Office for Testing, Evaluation and Research Services, met with the Faculty Affairs Committee on November 13, 2012. He told the Committee that only 11% of the students who take online courses fill out the student evaluation of teaching forms. With reminders, it goes up to 17%. In relation to WSU's peer institutions this is the lowest response for online courses.

–

Approved as amended at the Policy Committee meeting of November 26, 2012