

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

February 9, 2009

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

Absent with notice: J. Whittum-Hudson

Guest: N. Simon

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of February 9, 2009.

1. Report from the Chair: Provost Barrett was pleased with the attendance and the enthusiasm of the students and parents who attended the Scholars Days on February 7 and 8. Scholars Days are also scheduled for February 14 and 15. In total about 1500 students will attend. It is expected that two-thirds of the students who attend the Scholars Days will attend Wayne State starting in the Fall 2009. That is the average that has registered in past years. High school seniors with a grade point average of 3.5 are invited to attend. Students who attend and register for classes receive a minimum scholarship of \$2,000 per year for four years. Policy Committee discussed follow up with the potential students. There was also concern about the need for a system that starts to contact these students in the previous Fall and continues to keep in touch with them through Scholars Day and up through registration for classes in Fall.
2. March Senate Meeting: Policy Committee discussed agenda items for the March 11 Academic Senate meeting.
- \*3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of February 2, 2009, were approved as modified.
4. Fall Academic Calendar: With classes in the Fall 2009 term beginning Thursday, September 3, classes are scheduled for the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. A Senate member, believing that neither students nor faculty would want to be on campus that Wednesday evening, suggested that classes held 6:00 p.m. or later meet for the first time on Wednesday evening, September 2. The Thanksgiving break would then begin at 6:00 p.m. the day before Thanksgiving. Policy Committee thought classes should begin with the first time period on Thursday, September 3.
5. Reports from Liaisons:
  - a. Ms. Vlasopolos announced that the Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty Affairs, and Student Affairs Committees would meet with Dean of Engineering Ralph Kummler and Associate Dean Gerald Thompkins to discuss the Center for Academic Excellence. Policy Committee discussed some of the issues that have been raised about the Center.

b. Mr. Yamazaki said that the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee would meet this week. Jon Frederick, Director of Parking and Transportation Services, will be the guest.

6. Strategic Planning: Policy Committee discussed the role of faculty and academic staff in the

strategic planning process.

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Approved as corrected at the Policy Committee meeting of February 16, 2009