

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

February 12, 2018

Present: L. Beale; B. Roth; V. Dallas; r. hoogland; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano;  
N. Simon; W. Volz; K. Whitfield

Guest: Ellen Barton, Associate Provost for Academic Personnel

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of February 12, 2018.

- \*1. Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee: Three faculty selected for the Committee are unable to attend most of the meetings. Provost Whitfield and the Policy Committee jointly selected replacements. Associate Provost Barton participated in the selection process.

[Ms. Barton left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair:

- a. Provost Whitfield raised the possibility of revising the policy for closure in severe weather conditions. The current policy does not provide for delaying the start of classes. Policy Committee saw no reason not to include that as an option if the weather conditions are expected to improve later in the day.
- b. Sheryl Kubiak will assume the position of Dean of the School of Social Work as of July 1.
- c. The Provost expects the airport interviews for the candidates for the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences to be held in March.

3. Report from the Senate President:

- a. Mr. Romano, Ms. Beale, and Mr. Volz are members of the Budget Planning Council. The BPC is meeting with the Deans of the schools and colleges and the Vice Presidents of the divisions to discuss their budgets for the 2019 fiscal year.
- b. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is considering whether to change its group requirements to the University's general education requirements with the exception that students would have to take two semesters of a language course and a minor.

- \*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of January 29, 2018, as revised.

5. Endowment Funding: In addition to the issues discussed on January 29, a Policy Committee member noted that the competitive University research grants for undergraduate students are considered financial aid even when the grant covers expenses incurred for the research. Another member pointed out that the federal cost of attendance calculation may be customized for individual students so that the cost of research or travel can be included in the calculation.

6. Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws: The proposal to amend Article X, Section 9 of the Bylaws was not adopted at the February 7 Senate meeting. Policy Committee revised the proposed amendment. It will be presented to the Senate for discussion at the March 7 meeting. The vote to amend the Bylaws will be scheduled for the April 4 meeting.
7. Wayne State University Foundation: Policy Committee received the Quarterly Investment Report for the University Foundation for the period ending December 31, 2017.
8. Research Design and Analysis Unit: On January 22, Provost Whitfield had told Policy Committee that the Research Office was interested in using the Psychology Department's Research Design and Analysis Consulting (RDA) Unit to assist faculty in obtaining grants. Policy Committee had not heard about the Unit and asked the Provost for more information, which he provided today. The RDA is staffed by a faculty director and two graduate student assistants. It has a budget of about \$100,000 per year to support the graduate students and a summer stipend for the director. The Office of the Provost, the Graduate School, and the Research Office provide the funding. The RDA has assisted about 120 researchers per year for the last three years with research design, statistical analysis, psychometric analysis, and software usage. Until now the RDA has not been involved in securing grant funding. The main clientele are researchers and graduate students who do not have grants or other sources of funding.

Many members of the Policy Committee spoke to the need for assistance to faculty to secure grants. This, of course, requires an influx of money. Research funding is flat. Expansion of the RDA may help faculty get more grant funding.

9. Online Committee: A Letter of Agreement in the Agreement between the University and the AAUP-AFT calls for the establishment of a 2N committee appointed by the Administration and the AAUP-AFT to deal with matters related to online education. The Senate Office was informed that the Union of Part-Time Faculty and the Graduate Employees Organizing Committee wanted to have members on the committee. In order to get the committee functioning, Policy Committee pushed for the Administration and the AAUP-AFT to make their appointments. More than two years ago, faculty, academic staff, and administrators had been appointed to the Committee but it has never met. Policy Committee reviewed the names of the faculty and academic staff who had agreed to serve two years ago and added another name. Mr. Romano will contact the nominees to determine if they are willing to serve.
10. Agenda for March Senate Meeting: Policy Committee members suggested issues that might be on the agenda for the March meeting.
11. Reports from Liaisons:
  - a. Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Ms. Dallas reported that Kimberly Morgan (Academic Advisor III, Mathematics), who is a member of the committee that is developing the co-requisite courses for the new math general education requirement, explained the process to the CIC. Two members of the General

Education Oversight Committee told the CIC that courses in the current program with general education indicators were moved to the new program. At a later date, the GEOC will review the old courses to determine if they meet the learning outcomes of the new general education program. The GEOC is reviewing new courses proposed for the general education program.

- b. Research Committee: Mr. Kessel reported that Assistant Vice President for Research Terrence Monks told the Committee that IBio has hired many faculty with funded research.
- c. Budget Committee: Mr. Volz is the liaison to the Budget Committee. The Board of Governors met on February 2. The University moved \$100 million off its balance sheet to Corvias for the construction and maintenance of campus housing. This gave us additional debt capacity. The Board of Governors authorized the issuance of up to \$138 million in bonds with a probable interest rate of slightly under 4.5 percent.

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of February 19, 2018