

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

February 4, 2013

Present: L. Beale; V. Dallas; R. MacArthur; L. Romano; W. Volz; P. Vroom;
A. Wisniewski; J. Woodyard

Absent with notice: D. Kessel; C. Parrish; A. Vlasopolos

Guest: Bonita Stanton, Vice Dean for Research, Medicine

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of February 4, 2013.

1. Article XXX Committees: Last week the Policy Committee selected the faculty and academic staff members they would like to serve on most of the university-wide committees formed according to Article XXX in the Agreement between the University and the AAUP-AFT. They had not selected the members of three of the committees. Prior to today's regular meeting, they met without Deputy President Vroom to identify the faculty and academic staff they would like to serve on the Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee, the Sabbatical Leaves Committee, and the Educational Development Grant Committee. Later in the meeting, the Deputy President and the Policy Committee will jointly select the members who will serve on the committees.

[Bonita Stanton joined the meeting.]

2. Research Funding at the School of Medicine: At Mr. Kessel's request, Ms. Stanton attended the meeting to respond to concerns that Policy Committee members had raised about the hiring of faculty and about research in the School of Medicine. Ms. Stanton said that the Medical School hired 11 faculty who either are on the tenure track or have tenure. Two of those are Department Chairs (Anesthesiology and Family Medicine). Many of the new faculty have joint appointments. Ms. Stanton is trying to get information about how the School's hiring compares with prior years. There were no tenure hires the previous year. In response to a question, Ms. Stanton reviewed the research and scholarship of the new Chairs.

A Policy Committee member mentioned that what was important was whether the number of faculty were increasing or decreasing. The number of hires in a year may not offset the faculty who retired or who accepted positions at other institutions.

Policy Committee asked for the names of the newly hired faculty, the percent of tenure they have, whether the number of tenure-track faculty have increased over the last five years, and which faculty have current funding from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Defense.

Ms. Stanton reported that in the first quarter of fiscal year 2012 the School of Medicine submitted 207 proposal applications requesting \$177 million. This figure

includes non-competing renewals. In the first quarter of FY 2013 264 proposals, including one for the Perinatal Research Branch, were submitted for a total of nearly \$295 million. Without the PRB the total is \$173 million. The School of Medicine began a research incentive program on June 1, 2012, to encourage faculty to apply for grants. For grants starting after June 1, 2012, this program will pay as a bonus 20% of the salary that is covered on a grant for the principal investigator and faculty collaborators. The School has an incentive program to encourage departments to support not only research but also faculty development. Ms. Stanton talked about the status of research grants as well as the difficulty in obtaining grants. Mr. Romano noted that in most medical schools, researchers are expected to have two grants and to be the principal investigator on at least one of them.

Ms. Stanton was asked for the following information. How many Ph.D. faculty are in the basic science departments and how many of them are the principal investigator on a major federal grant? How many Ph.D. faculty are in clinical departments and how many of them are principal investigators on a major federal grant? How many of the faculty on the clinician-educator track have a major federal grant?

The Medical School used to have four tracks: (1) research track where a researcher was hired by someone who had a grant and left when the grant expired; (2) research-educator which was a tenure track category; (3) clinicians only, which is like the full-time affiliate, non-tenure position; (4) clinician educator, which makes up about 70% of the faculty in the Medical School. The clinician educators are expected to teach and to get promoted. They have to publish and do a variable amount of research. A new tenure-eligible track, the clinician-scholar track, will promote faculty within the clinician-educator track. Mr. Romano asked for the factors for each of the tracks in the Medical School.

Most of the faculty in the Medical School, Ms. Stanton said, would be clinical and teaching faculty. They will not be writing grants, but hopefully some will be on other researchers' grants, which is why the School is encouraging clinical-translational research. She agreed that the School needs more research.

A member of the Policy Committee asked about the rumors that the Medical School would become self-supporting. Ms. Stanton said that the possibility has been discussed but she did not know the status of the discussions. Some administrators in the School might be open to the change if it provided better tracking of funding. However, Ms. Stanton said that they do not want such a change to interfere with the interdisciplinary work with the main campus.

Ms. Stanton said that Dean Valerie Parisi is committed to strengthening research in the Medical School. Focus has not been on research for some time and the administration in the School wants that to change.

[Ms. Stanton left the meeting.]

- *2. Article XXX Committees: Deputy President Vroom and the Policy Committee jointly selected the members of the committees formed according to Article XXX of the

Agreement between the AAUP-AFT: the Excellence in Teaching Awards Committee; the Academic Staff Professional Development Committee; the Academic Staff Tenure and Promotion Committee; the Sabbatical Leaves Committee; the Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee; the General Education Oversight Committee; the Educational Development Grant Committee; and the University Research Grant Committee.

3. Report from the Chair:

- a. Deputy President Vroom reported that the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association revised the standards for accreditation. Kelley Skillin, the Director of Professional and Academic Development in the Provost's Office, will inform Policy Committee of the changes next week.
- b. The Deputy President has formed a group to look at the Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (formerly known as the Minority Biomedical Research Support Program) begun by Associate Vice President for Research Joseph Dunbar. The program was instituted in the Medical School in 1978 and has been successful in supporting minority students in completing their degrees. Deputy President Vroom would like to see if that program could be expanded to retain low-income students and minority students of color on the main campus. Mr. Romano asked that a member of the academic staff and a faculty member be added to the group, and the Deputy President agreed. Dr. Vroom wants the University to take action before she leaves her position.
- c. There are many programs throughout the University that work with K through 12 schools, most within the City of Detroit. Associate Provost for Student Success Monica Brockmeyer is holding meetings with the leaders of the programs. These programs can assist in the recruitment and retention of students. Either a booklet will be published or the information about the programs will be online.

*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of January 28, 2013, were approved as amended.

5. Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Karen Feathers resigned as Chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. Policy Committee appointed Abhilash Pandya (Electrical and Computer Engineering, Engineering) to serve as Chair for the remainder of the academic year and to serve as the faculty alternate representative to the Board of Governors Academic Affairs Committee.

6. Board of Governors Agenda: Policy Committee discussed items on the agendas of the Academic Affairs Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Governors of February 6, 2013.

- a. Academic Affairs Committee Meeting: At this meeting Monica Brockmeyer, the Associate Provost for Student Success, will present the Annual Report on Undergraduate Student Success. The report contains data about the APEX Summer Bridge Program. Policy Committee asked for information about the status of the students who completed the summer program and matriculated in the fall. The Provost will provide the information. Ms. Dallas reported that Corinne Webb, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, has asked the colleges what impediments their students are experiencing that prevent them

from completing their degrees. The University might be able to help them toward graduation.

- *b. Budget and Finance Committee Meeting: The Senate Budget Committee and the Policy Committee were concerned about the proposal to issue \$92 million in bonds for three building projects: (1) the renovation of the Student Center Building; (2) the Science and Engineering Laboratory Classroom Building at the Macomb Center; and (3) a new laboratory classroom building. The Committees were concerned that there had not been adequate analyses of the building projects. They believed that priority should be given to the renovation of State Hall. The Committees recommended that the administration form a joint committee composed of Senate members and administrators to determine what could and should be done to make State Hall a better teaching facility. The Committees also recommended that a joint committee be formed to examine the need to construct a new building with 30 laboratory classrooms. As the faculty representative and the faculty alternate representative to the Board of Governors Committee, Mr. McIntyre and Mr. Romano will make these recommendations to the Board Committee.

- 7. Library Collection: A member mentioned that the reduction in funding for the Libraries is affecting his research. Major journals are being discontinued and the number of years that journals are available is limited. Deputy President Vroom noted that Dean Yee is aware of the concerns and they are addressing them.

Approved as corrected at the Policy Committee meeting of February 11, 2013