

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

March 21, 2011

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

Guests: M. Brockmeyer; D. Cinabro; K. Feathers; F. Fotouhi; G. Heppner; S. James;
M. Sengstock; N. Simon

Mr. Romano, the Vice Chair of the Senate, chaired the meeting until Provost Brown arrived.

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of March 21, 2011.

1. Type II Centers and Institutes Advisory Committee: Gloria Heppner, Associate Vice President, and Sarah James, Research Support Liaison, attended the meeting to complete the selection of the members of the Type II Centers and Institutes Advisory Committee (CIAC-II). Half of the members are appointed by the Policy Committee and half are appointed by the Vice President for Research, each acting in consultation with the other. Each group accepted the other's selections. Fourteen faculty will comprise the CIAC-II. Their terms will be staggered. Policy Committee had identified whom among their choices would serve one-, two-, and three-year terms. Ms. Heppner will do the same for their selections. It was decided that the members would serve for the calendar year. The Policy Committee and Ms. Heppner jointly selected David Kessel to chair the Committee for the 2011 calendar year and Rodger MacArthur to chair the Committee for the 2012 calendar year.
2. Review of the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute: Last year the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute (MPSI) was reviewed but one step in the review process was not completed. A subcommittee of the CIAC-II is to review a center/institute and write a report that the whole CIAC-II reviews before submitting the report to the Policy Committee. The entire CIAC-II did not review the report of the MPSI. It was suggested that the newly formed CIAC-II review the report and resubmit it to the Policy Committee, and Ms. Heppner agreed.

[Provost Brown arrived during the discussion of item 2.]

[Ms. Heppner and Ms. James left the meeting.]

3. Report from the Chair:
 - a. The search for a new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will begin in the summer. The search for the Dean of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts continues.
 - b. Traditionally pay increases have not appeared in the paychecks of faculty when a new academic year begins due to a payroll IT problem. That is being remedied.

- c. Provided that IT issues can be resolved, nine-month faculty who choose to receive their salaries over a twelve-month period will be able to do so.
- d. The Huron Consulting Group (HCG) is looking at the University's administrative systems to determine if changes can be made to improve service. HCG assisted the University in revising its effort reporting system. The Provost said the consultants would meet with the Policy Committee. A member of the Policy Committee thought it important that they meet with the business officers in the schools and colleges. He suggested that the consultants provide a list of the groups or persons they will interview so Policy Committee might comment.
- e. The Provost has hired a consulting group to review the Counseling and Psychological Services office.
- f. A member asked the Provost about the status of the Help@wayne.edu program, a program where members of the University community would be able to report problems that need to be addressed. The Provost will check with Chief Information Officer Joseph Sawasky.

[To discuss the proposal to transfer the Department of Computer Science from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering, the following people joined the meeting: Monica Brockmeyer, the Interim Chair of the Department of Computer Science, Farshad Fotouhi, the Dean of the College of Engineering, David Cinabro, the Chair of the Senate's Research Committee, Karen Feathers, the Chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee (C&I), Mary. Sengstock, the Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC), and Naida Simon, the Chair of the Student Affairs Committee (SAC).]

4. Proposal to Move the Department of Computer Science: In January 2011, the Policy Committee charged the FAC, SAC, and C&I and Research Committees with reviewing the proposal to move the Department of Computer Science from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering. A draft of the Committees' report was sent to Mr. Fotouhi, and he responded to the issues raised. The discussion began with Ms. Brockmeyer and Mr. Fotouhi making statements.

Ms. Brockmeyer stated that the faculty in the Computer Science Department overwhelmingly support the move. She told the Committee about the historical placement of Computer Science Departments in various colleges. The faculty in Computer Science feel that what they do is an engineering discipline. The Department has been well supported in Liberal Arts and Sciences, but they believe moving to Engineering will help them to continue to grow. Students in the program were surveyed, and they supported the move.

Mr. Fotouhi also spoke of the support of the faculty and students in Computer Science as well as the support of the majority of the faculty, students, and alumni in Engineering. He believes that the College of Engineering will be strengthened by the move with the increase in enrollment, an increase in funding, and an increase in research expenditures. The move also will contribute to the computing needs of the College. The ranking of the College of Engineering should improve.

Ms. Sengstock had been given the responsibility of coordinating the recommendations of the committees. She responded to some of the comments that Mr. Fotouhi had made to the report of the Senate committees. She said that the committees were unhappy with the short length of time they had to study the issue and people thought more information was needed before the decision should be made. Generally, people wanted to see more documentation and quantitative data about students and grants. The FAC was concerned that faculty were not aware of differences between Computer Science and the College of Engineering in such areas as teaching load and tenure and promotion factors when they voted whether or not to move the Department. Ms. Sengstock mentioned that some people did not respond to surveys but expressed concerns about the lack of information and the lack of quantitative data.

Mr. Cinabro reported that the Research Committee did not believe collaboration between members of the Computer Science Department and other departments would be more difficult if the Department moved. The major concern was whether there were dedicated resources in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences that would be moved to the College of Engineering. If not, greater demand would be placed on the resources of the College of Engineering.

Ms. Simon spoke about the issues raised by the Student Affairs Committee. Questions were raised about the differences in the general education requirements in the two colleges. SAC has been assured that current students would be grandfathered. Students are being admitted for fall 2011 but there is no definitive statement about the program they will follow. The Mathematics requirement for the B.A. in Computer Science is different from the Math requirement for Engineering. There were questions whether students who began a Masters program in Computer Science in CLAS would have to pay the differential tuition if the Department moved to Engineering. Another issue raised was how the move would affect students at community colleges now taking courses in preparation for transferring to WSU to major in Computer Science. Students at other institutions are taking courses according to the current requirements. If those requirements are changed before the students transfer, how will the transfer of credits be handled? Ms. Simon reported some of the results of the Committee's survey of students. The students were overwhelmingly in favor of the move but they, and others, wanted to know what the program requirements would be.

[Ms. Dallas joined the meeting.]

Mr. Fotouhi has proposed that the B.A. in Computer Science remain in CLAS and the B.S. be moved to Engineering. The major difference in the degrees is the level of mathematics required. Asked about the general education computer literacy requirement, Ms. Brockmeyer said the Department would continue to offer a computer literacy course and administer the computer literacy test. Ms. Brockmeyer did not expect the Department's research focus to shift from software to hardware as a result of the move. There is collaboration on research now between the Departments of Computer Science and Electrical and Computer Engineering. The move

result in increased collaboration between the Departments. In addition, Computer Science faculty collaborate with faculty in other schools and colleges.

Ms. Feathers reported that the Curriculum and Instruction Committee did not think the move should not occur. However, members were concerned that there was no concrete plan. The impact of the proposed move on the students and on course offerings apparently had not been considered. For example, students currently in Computer Science have the option of taking several speech classes but students in Engineering take one particular course. When the Computer Science students are required to take the one course, course offerings will be affected. The same is true of other general education courses. No thought had been given to the impact of the move on other departments. Ms. Brockmeyer pointed out that if the current students pursuing a B.A. degree are grandfathered into CLAS while the new degree in Engineering is put into place, the impact on other course offerings would be gradual. Ms. Feathers noted that the Senate committees are asking for a proposal that takes the issues into consideration.

Mr. Woodyard commented. The Senate Committee's report to which Mr. Fotouhi and Ms. Brockmeyer responded was not the final report. The draft report did not request budget information, but the final report did.

Mr. Romano noted that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences had invested in the Computer Science Department, building it into a very good department. Ms. Feathers noted that one of the concerns expressed by members of C&I was the lack of consideration about the effect of the move on CLAS.

Provost Brown stated his reasons for proposing the move: (1) to house the Department where it would thrive; (2) to make the large College of Liberal Arts and Sciences more manageable; and (3) to nurture other departments in CLAS without losing the momentum of other good departments.

The Senate members listed the issues that should be covered in the rationale for the proposed move: tenure and promotion factors; differences in course teaching loads; differential tuition for graduate students; and budget issues. What will the degree be that remains in CLAS and will the requirements remain as they are now? What will the requirements be for the degree in Engineering? How will the courses offered for the degree in CLAS be covered?

Ms. Brockmeyer and Mr. Fotouhi were asked to provide the information by March 25 so the issue could be on the agenda of the Policy Committee meeting of March 28 and on the agenda of the Academic Senate meeting of April 6.

[Ms. Brockmeyer, Provost Brown, Mr. Cinabro, Ms. Feathers, Mr. Fotouhi, Ms. Sengstock, and Ms. Simon left the meeting. Mr. Romano resumed chairing the meeting.]

*5. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of March 7, 2011, were approved as submitted.

6. Library Privileges for Retirees, and Faculty, Staff and Employees on Long-term Disability: The Policy Committee had asked the Dean of the Library System Sandra Yee to give access to the Libraries' electronic databases to all retirees and to all members of the faculty and staff who are on long-term disability. In a memorandum dated March 11, 2011, Dean Yee informed the Committee that all retirees have access to 77 electronic resource databases that cover thousands of journal titles. Access to all databases, she said, is not possible due to licensing restrictions. All contract reviews and new contracts are being negotiated with a retiree access requirement. Access to electronic resources beyond the approved list is offered on an exception basis with specific titles being made available. A coding error had prevented employees on long-term disability from accessing the databases. That has been corrected. Policy Committee had additional questions about access to the journals on the restricted list, and asked Mr. Wolfson to follow up with Dean Yee.
7. Post Approval Monitoring of Animal Research: A faculty member contacted Mr. Wolfson about the post-approval monitoring program for research using animals. The Senate Research Committee met with Gayle Kusch, Director for the Responsible Conduct of Research, last year. That Committee's report will be sent to the researcher.
8. Issues to Discuss with the President's Cabinet: Policy Committee selected topics to discuss with the Cabinet at the March 28, 2011, meeting. [That meeting was canceled later in the week.]
9. Graduate Council Meeting: Policy Committee received the materials for the Graduate Council meeting of March 23, 2011.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of March 28, 2011