

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

March 23, 2015

Present: J. Artiss; L. Beale; V. Dallas; R. N. Frank; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano; A. Sankar; W. Volz; A. Wisniewski

Absent with notice: M. Winters

In the absence of Provost Winters, the Vice Chair, Joseph Artiss, chaired the meeting.

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of March 23.

1. Report from the Chair: Mr. Artiss made the report given to him by Provost Winters.
  - a. Budget reduction numbers have been sent to all administrative units. The average budget decrease was about 4%.
  - b. The University Tenure and Promotion Committee continues to meet. The work is going well with an engaged committee.
  - c. The Provost is interested in Policy Committee's comments on the agenda for the meeting with the President's Cabinet.
  - d. Enrollment for the spring/summer term is up 2% overall. It is down in the professional schools.
2. Recruitment and Retention of Students: This is an issue that Policy Committee would like to discuss with the President's Cabinet, but the agenda has been set. Policy Committee will propose to Provost Winters that Associate Provost for Student Success Monica Brockmeyer meet twice a term with them to present new data about efforts related to student recruitment and retention.
3. Report from the Senate President:
  - a. Policy Committee met with the candidates for the position of Vice President for Finance and Business Operations. They sent their recommendation to the search committee and to President Wilson.
  - b. Policy Committee will tour the iBio building next week after its regular meeting.
  - c. The meeting that the Budget Committee holds for the Chairs of the Budget Advisory Committees in the schools and colleges is scheduled for April 23. At that meeting, Provost Winters, Rick Nork, and Rob Kohrman will present information about the budget for FY 2016.
- \*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of March 9, 2015, were approved as submitted.
5. Provost's Fellows: The Provost has announced the creation of the Provost's Fellows, a group of faculty who will work to increase student retention and improve time to graduation. Among their duties will be engaging their colleagues in these efforts. This issue will be discussed with the Provost at the next meeting.

6. New Center Chartering: Some centers are being formed without following Statute 2.23.1 *Centers and Institutes; Policy on Creation, Operation, Review, and Discontinuance*. The formal procedure may take some time, but there is a procedure for issuing a one-year temporary charter while the permanent charter is being prepared and approved. Policy Committee will discuss the procedure for creating centers with Provost Winters.
7. Board of Governors Meeting: The Board of Governors will meet March 27. On the agenda for the Student Affairs Committee is a presentation about the Undergraduate Academic Advising Initiative. The Senate Budget Committee met on March 23. The budget cuts to some colleges were announced, but Mr. Romano pointed out that they are not firm. A committee convened by President Wilson, and on which Mr. Romano sits, will meet with the Deans and the Vice Presidents to review their proposed budgets. Cuts that have been proposed may be changed based on the meeting. It appears that the University will experience significant budget cuts in the foreseeable future. Utilities will increase, the appropriation from the state has been flat or almost flat and that is likely to continue, and tuition revenue is declining.

Metrics will be used for two-thirds of the cuts. They are change in enrollment, retention, degrees awarded, professional test results, research funding, philanthropy, and profitability.

One of the metrics that the administration will use in finalizing unit budgets is a change in enrollment. If the change is based on a percentage increase, an increase in enrollment for a small college would garner a higher percentage than an increase for a large college, even if more students are admitted to the larger college.

Also on the agenda for the Board meeting are recommendations to increase the room and board rates in University housing for fiscal year 2015-2016.

8. Graduate Council: On the agenda of the March 25 meeting of the Graduate Council are an update on the BEST (Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training) Program Activities and a report on Graduate Recruitment.
9. Academic Senate Meeting: The Policy Committee received the revised agenda for the Senate meeting of April 1, 2015.

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of March 30, 2015