

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

April 6, 2009

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

Absent with notice: J. Woodyard

Guests: R. Ackerman; S. Calkins; P. Hammer

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of April 6, 2009.

*1. Proposal for the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and Community Development: Dean of Law Robert Ackerman, Professor of Law Peter Hammer, and Associate Vice President Stephen Calkins attended the meeting to present the proposal to charter the Center. Dean Ackerman explained the plans for the proposed Center. It will be the major way in which the Law School engages with the broader community. It is to be funded through an endowment and fundraising. Dean Ackerman and Mr. Hammer responded to questions about funding and how the Law School expects to achieve the goals in the proposal.

Policy Committee recommended that the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and Community Development be chartered with the addition that the charter include the appointment of an external advisory committee.

2. The University Budget: Provost Barrett updated the Committee on the discussions among various groups in Lansing for the funding of higher education in the next few years.

3. Report from the Senate President:

a. Undergraduate Research Awards: Mr. Wolfson announced that six members of the Academic Senate Research Committee have volunteered to serve on the committee that will review the applications for the Undergraduate Research Awards this year.

b. University Foundation Board: Mr. Wolfson informed the Committee that the University Foundation Board, on which he serves, had a meeting last week to consider the new policy for investing its money. The University's investors are doing better than the market in general. However, a vote whether or not to adopt the new policy could not be taken because a quorum was not present. It is Mr. Wolfson's understanding that the Foundation is following the policy even though it has not been approved.

c. May Senate Meeting: President Noren will address the Senate at the May 6 meeting and he will host a reception after the meeting.

*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of March 30, 2009, were approved as submitted.

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5. New Degree Program: Mr. Parrish reported on the approval by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Faculty Council of a new Bachelor of Arts degree program between the Department of Nutrition and Food Science and Macomb Community College. He noted that the degree would allow

the transfer of many more credits than the current WSU policy allows, and this would require the approval of the Board of Governors. There is also the concern of this setting a new precedent, which has to be carefully monitored.

6. Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education: Provost Barrett discussed with the Policy Committee whether the University should join the Collaborative, a consortium of colleges and universities that provides presidents and provosts data and solutions to make the academic workplace more attractive and equitable for early career faculty. Policy Committee did not object.
7. Meeting with President Noren: Policy Committee considered issues it would like to discuss with President Noren at the meeting of April 27, 2009.
- *8. Agenda for the Senate Meeting: Policy Committee revised the agenda for the Academic Senate meeting of April 8, 2009.
9. Committee Minutes: Policy Committee received the minutes of the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee meeting of February 11, 2009, the Research Committee meeting of February 17, 2009, the Student Affairs Committee meeting of January 21, 2009, and the joint meeting of the Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty Affairs, and Student Affairs Committees of February 12, 2009.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of April 13, 2009