

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

April 12, 2010

Present: C. Parrish; L. Romano; M. Sengstock; H. Tse; A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz; P. Vroom; J. Whittum-Hudson; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson; J. Woodyard

Guests: John Davis, Vice President, Finance and Facilities Management; Jay Noren, President; Hilary Ratner, Vice President for Research

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of April 12, 2010.

1. Meeting with President Noren: Policy Committee members discussed with the President the most recent news from Lansing about the state appropriation for higher education for fiscal year 2011. Reports have improved, but there is much uncertainty about the state budget for the next fiscal year. Rather than developing scenarios for cuts up to 15%, Deans have been asked to plan for cuts of 3% for next year.

The President was asked about the possibility of community colleges offering four-year degree programs. He noted that there is legislation before the House of Representatives to allow that.

Members also discussed with President Noren the plans for Oakland University, Western Michigan University, and Central Michigan University to get medical schools. Oakland University is the closest to admitting students.

A member noted that Wayne State lacks major equipment and core facilities for research. In the past, year-end balances were used to purchase research equipment. Vice President Ratner said that the research facilities group is looking at the issue.

Another member noted that for faculty in the social sciences and humanities, cuts to the Libraries affects their ability to do research. The Libraries is facing a \$1 million cut out of a budget of \$8 million.

In response to a question, President Noren said that the University is preparing a proposal for the next round of awards for the CTSA (Clinical and Translational Science Awards) from the National Institutes of Health. The deadline is in October.

[President Noren, Vice President Davis, and Vice President Ratner left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair: In response to a question, Acting Provost Vroom said that letters notifying faculty about tenure and promotion decisions would be mailed soon.
3. Tenure and Promotion Issues: Members discussed with the Acting Provost issues that have been raised about the procedures followed in considering applications for tenure and promotion.
4. Report from the Senate President: Mr. Wolfson presented the proposed schedule of Policy Committee meetings for the spring/summer term.
- *5. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of April 5, 2010, were approved as submitted.

6. Meetings with Provost Candidates: Policy Committee reviewed the schedule of meetings for the candidates for the position of Provost.
7. Committee to Review Policies re Dissemination of Research Results: Vice President Ratner asked the Policy Committee for nominations of faculty to serve on a committee to review policies of other research universities that allow restrictions to dissemination of research results under limited circumstances. Policy Committee solicited nominations from the Senate's Research Committee. Policy Committee reviewed the nominations and revised the list. After obtaining agreement to serve from all nominees, Mr. Wolfson will send the list to Vice President Ratner.
8. Parking Advisory Committee Issues: Executive Vice President Andrea Dickson, in a memorandum dated April 8, 2010, responded to concerns about the work of the Parking Advisory Committee that Policy Committee had communicated to her on March 9, 2010. One of the issues that a member wants to be addressed is the issue of consultation with the Academic Senate or one of its committees prior to the submission of requests for increases to the Board of Governors. It was noted that the consultation needed to be timely so the Senate could provide a response. Mr. Wolfson will communicate this request to Ms. Dickson.
9. WSU Smoking Policy: At its meeting of March 10, 2010, the Academic Senate passed a motion in support of the University's current smoking policy with enforcement. Mr. Wolfson communicated that action to Executive Vice President Dickson. Ms. Dickson responded, asking that the Academic Senate consider recommending a comprehensive smoking ban. The full Senate has acted, and the Policy Committee took no further action on the question.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of April 19, 2010