

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

May 23, 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: Beth Callahan, Assistant Director for Acquisitions, University Library System;
Sandra Yee, Dean, University Library System

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of May 23, 2011.

1. Access to Library Databases for Retirees: The fact that retirees do not have access to all of the University Libraries' databases was brought to the attention of the Policy Committee in February 2011. The Policy Committee has been corresponding with Dean Yee about according retirees access to all the databases. Questions remained and Dean Yee and Ms. Callahan attended the meeting to discuss the issues.

Dean Yee said that the goal of the Library staff is to provide access to the Library's resources to all faculty whether they are active or retired. She explained that the issue was not budgetary but legal. The Library has a large number of electronic resources. The databases and electronic journals are licensed with the publisher, which means that the University has a contract to access or purchase the material. The contract is a legal document. With all legal documents, the Library works with the General Counsel's Office to ensure that the contract meets the criteria set by the University. The General Counsel's Office may suggest or make changes in the contracts. The Library staff returns to the vendors or publishers to reach agreement.

Ms. Callahan said that Wayne State has access to 60,000 active online journals. Access to online journals is obtained by direct subscriptions to publishers or through databases and aggregators that have full text journals. Faculty retirees have access to 77% of the online journals available through the University. Ms. Callahan said that the Library needs to renegotiate 200 licenses because they do not specifically state that retirees are included. Adding 500 retirees to a contract does not increase the cost. The licenses are silent on retirees, and the General Counsel has determined that if a license is silent, the Libraries must have them specifically included.

Dean Yee said that if anybody is in need of a specific journal or piece of scholarship, the Library staff will ensure that they get it.

Both the University of Michigan and Michigan State University have less restrictive policies than Wayne State and it was suggested that speaking with the Associate General Counsel about the differences might be helpful. Dean Yee said that retirees can access all journals from on-campus locations. It was suggested that they might be able to access them from off-campus sites if they have VPN. The Division of Computing and Information Technology will be contacted to determine whether

retirees have access to VPN. If so, they will be able to access the databases with no further changes to the contracts.

Dean Yee believes that it is possible to provide access to all online resources by the end of the summer.

[Dean Yee and Ms. Callahan left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair:

- a. Robert Harris, Director of Academic Administration in the Provost's Office, will review with the Blue Ribbon Budget Cuts Committee the budget of the units that report to the Provost's Office, except for the budgets of the schools and colleges. President Gilmour will meet with Rodger MacArthur and William Volz, who chair the Blue Ribbon Committee, to discuss a recent communication. A member of the Policy Committee, who also serves on the Blue Ribbon Committee, expressed frustration with the discrepancies in the information that has been given to the Blue Ribbon Committee.
- b. The Retention Implementation Task Force prioritized its recommendations. When money is available, the Provost believes funding the recommendations is a high priority. The Policy Committee requested the full report of the Task Force. The document distributed during the winter term was a shortened version of the report. The full report is available at www.provost.wayne.edu. The Provost said that he also would give the prioritized list of recommendations to the Policy Committee.

[Provost Brown left the meeting. Mr. Romano assumed the chair.]

- *3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of May 2, 2011, were approved as submitted.
4. Blue Ribbon Committee: Policy Committee received a copy of a memorandum that the Blue Ribbon Committee sent to President Gilmour on May 16, 2011, subject: Our Independent Assessment of Appropriate Academic-Side Budget Reductions. Mr. MacArthur informed the Policy Committee about the work that the Blue Ribbon Committee is expected to complete, including a report to the administration. Policy Committee discussed what criteria might be used in determining where cuts should be made.
- *5. Commencement Committee: President Gilmour is forming a commencement committee to review the programming and configuration of the commencement ceremony. The Academic Senate was asked to appoint a faculty representative. Policy Committee asked Mr. Wolfson to serve and he agreed.
7. Meeting with the President's Cabinet: The Policy Committee will meet with the President's Cabinet on June 23, 2011.
8. How the University Supports Research: The revised report of the Research Committee was submitted to the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee will send

the report to President Gilmour, Provost Brown, and Vice President for Research Ratner.

9. Committee Minutes: Policy Committee received the Budget Committee minutes of December 6, 2010, the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee minutes of January 26 and February 16, 2011, the Research Committee minutes of November 18, 2010, January 25, February 15, and March 22, 2011, and the Student Affairs Committee minutes of December 8, 2010, January 19, February 9, and March 9, 2011.
- *10. Annual Report: The Policy Committee forwarded the Annual Report of the Student Affairs Committee for the 2010-2011 academic year to the Academic Senate.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of June 6, 2011