

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

June 13, 2016

Present: J. Artiss; L. Beale; V. Dallas; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano; B. Roth;
N. Simon; W. Volz; K. Whitfield; A. Wisniewski

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of June 13. The meeting was held in a conference room in the Hilberry Theatre.

1. Tour of the Hilberry Theatre: Prior to the meeting, Dean of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts Matthew Seeger, Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance John Wolf, and Chair of the Department of Music Norah Duncan gave the Policy Committee a tour of the Hilberry Theatre and of the costume and scene shop. The tour was a follow-up to the meeting where Dean Seeger, and Chairs Wolf and Duncan met with the Policy Committee and explained the need for new facilities for the Department of Theatre and Dance.
2. Report from the Chair:
 - a. Provost Keith Whitfield reported that he attended the Mackinac Policy Conference with President Wilson and other members of the President's Cabinet. Mayor of Detroit Michael Duggan expressed his support and passion about the need to focus on education. At the conference, President Wilson and the Presidents of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University addressed the need to strengthen education in Detroit.
 - b. Provost Whitfield appointed Dean of the Graduate School Ambika Mathur to the position of Associate Provost for Scientific Training, Workforce Development and Diversity. The new position is part time and she will continue to serve as Dean of the Graduate School.
3. Report from the Senate President:
 - a. Mr. Romano chairs the FTIAC Parking Assessment Committee that is charged with assessing whether class attendance and academic achievement for first-time-in-any-college students would improve if they did not have to pay each time they enter a parking lot or structure. He formulated a set of metrics to use for measuring success. Associate Vice President for Educational Outreach and International Programs Ahmad Ezzeddine will provide enrollment data and yield for the last two years. The University Registrar Linda Falkiewicz is identifying large-section classes that cater to freshmen. Mr. Romano will contact the instructors of the classes to compare the attendance in fall 2017 with fall 2016. Chief Information Officer Daren Hubbard and Associate Provost for Student Success Monica Brockmeyer are also providing information. The rationale for the new program is that many students who receive financial aid run out of funds towards the end of the semester and then cannot pay for parking. It also appears that some students schedule classes so they have to come to campus as little as possible so they do not have to pay to park.

- b. Ms. Beale and Mr. Romano serve on the search committee for the Associate Vice President for Budgets and Planning. The search firm Brill and Neumann selected five candidates to meet with the search committee this week.
 - c. Mr. Romano is a member of the group that is writing the proposal to submit to the National Science Foundation for an INCLUDES Grant. The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of underrepresented minorities and women in careers in the STEM fields. INCLUDES is the acronym for Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Sciences. The group is completing the writing of the proposal this week.
- *4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of June 6, 2016, as submitted.
5. General Education: Policy Committee discussed with Provost Whitfield the status of the work to reform the general education requirements. The final proposal will be sent to the General Education Oversight Committee. The Provost will review the work that has been done thus far. He does not have a timetable, but the goal is to have a new general education program in place for fall 2018. Members of the Policy Committee pointed out problems they saw in the current proposal. Provost Whitfield asked the Policy Committee to bring ways to solve the problems they have identified in the proposal.
6. Suspension of the Mathematics Competency Requirement: On May 31, Provost Margaret Winters announced that the Math Competency requirement of the General Education Program would be suspended for all undergraduates. The suspension is to remain in place until Fall 2018, or until a new general education program is adopted by the university. Policy Committee discussed with the Provost the concerns they have about the suspension and how it affects students and departments. Mr. Romano noted that the Board of Governors Statute governing general education requires consulting with the General Education Oversight Committee about any changes to the general education requirements. The Policy Committee has been informed that this was not done. The Policy Committee asked the Provost for the following information:
- a. how the suspension of the math competency impacts the Board Statute;
 - b. the process by which the decision was made and why the Policy Committee, which meets weekly with the Provost, was not consulted;
 - c. whether students will get their tuition refunded for a course they do not need and how the refund will be made;
 - d. clarification whether there will be no math requirement or if the majors that require a math course adopt a course for their needs in a short period of time.
7. Student Code of Conduct: The Policy Committee submitted a request to revise the Student Code of Conduct to specify that the unauthorized reuse of substantial work product previously submitted for credit in another course was a form of academic misbehavior if the student did not get prior permission of the instructor. Provost Winters had consulted with the Office of the General Counsel because the Code of Conduct is a Board of Governors Statute. The General Counsel's Office believes the situation is covered in the Code in the statement that the violation of course

rules as stated in the syllabus or in other written directives was already a form of misconduct. This means that the instructor would have to include such a statement in his/her syllabus. Provost Whitfield suggested a modification to the statement. Mr. Roth will revise the proposed change and Policy Committee will re-submit the request to Provost Whitfield.

8. Senate Representative: Policy Committee selected Mr. Romano to serve as the Senate representative on the planning committee for the University's 150th anniversary that will be celebrated in 2018.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of June 20, 2016