

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

June 23, 2014

Present: J. Artiss; L. Beale; R. MacArthur; C. Parrish; L. Romano; W. Volz; M. Winters;  
A. Wisniewski

Absent with notice: V. Dallas; D. Kessel

Guests: Vice President for Research Stephen Lanier; Vice President and Chief of Staff  
Michael Wright

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of June 23, 2014.

1. Meeting with Vice President Lanier: Policy Committee invited Vice President Lanier to the meeting to talk about the research enterprise. Mr. Lanier is familiarizing himself with the research activities that currently are taking place and the needs of the various units. It was noted that the University's ranking, the number of proposals submitted, the number of proposals funded, and the amount of the grants that have been awarded have declined. Also mentioned was the need to evaluate how research space is allocated.

Mr. Romano believes that resources should be aligned with the research goals of the University and what the people who receive the money will accomplish. Resources include direct funding for research, instrumentation for research, laboratory space, support for cores, startup funds, faculty lines, and continuing tenure.

Mr. MacArthur suggested that the Vice President remind the University that bridge funding is available from the Office of the Vice President for Research.

[Vice President Lanier left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair:
  - a. Provost Winters met with the semi-finalists for the position of Dean of Nursing. The search firm is conducting background checks before the finalists are invited to campus.
  - b. Sally Roberts, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education and Director of the GO-GIRL (Gaining Options: Girls Investigate Real Life) program, is the recipient of the 2014 Woman of Distinction Award. The award is presented by the Wayne State University chapter of the Michigan Council of Education (MI-ACE Women's Network).
  - c. Parking cards are available for nine-month faculty to use during the summer when they have to attend a committee meeting or are meeting with students. Faculty should contact their Deans. Policy requested that the Provost keep track of usage and report this to the committee.

[Mr. Parrish left the meeting. Mr. Wright joined the meeting.]

3. Strategic Plan: Draft Vision, Mission, and Strategic Focus Areas: Provost Winters and Mr. Wright are members of the Strategic Planning Executive Committee overseeing the development of a strategic plan. The Barthwell Group, which is assisting the University in developing the plan, met with the Steering Committee and the focus groups. From those discussions, the Barthwell Group drafted a document stating what the vision, mission, and focus of the strategic plan should be. Mr. Romano had asked the Policy Committee members to comment on the document. It was on the agenda for today's meeting and Provost Winters invited Mr. Wright to participate in the discussion. The Policy Committee found the statements to be unfocused and poorly written. They did not reflect the academic side of the University. Mr. Artiss, who is on the faculty focus group, reported that the group was unanimous in its rejection of the draft statements.

Mr. Wright agreed with the assessment of the Policy Committee. The Barthwell Group was hired to provide assistance with the process. The members of the Steering Committee will have to rewrite the statements. The Policy Committee members were unanimous in the view that the number of faculty on the Steering Committee should be increased.

Mr. Volz asked about the time period that this strategic plan would cover. Mr. Wright said that, while the plan would cover five years, it should be looked at periodically and be modified as needed.

Mr. Volz thought the strategic plan might identify the kind of leadership that should be hired, people who can make difficult decisions and who are innovative.

[Mr. Wright left the meeting.]

- \*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of June 9, 2014, were approved as submitted.
5. Meeting of the Board of Governors: The Board of Governors Academic Affairs Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, and the full Board are meeting June 27. The administration is proposing a tuition increase of 3.2% for Michigan residents.

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Approved as modified at the Policy Committee meeting of July 28, 2014