

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY – ACADEMIC SENATE

Official Proceedings

April 7, 2010

Members Present: Nancy S. Barrett, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Seymour J. Wolfson, President, Academic Senate; Terrence Allen; Joseph Artiss; Basim Asmar; Tyrone Austin; Ivan Avrutsky; Ramona Benkert; Veronica Bielat; Deborah Charbonneau; David Cinabro; William Crossland; Victoria Dallas; Donald DeGracia; Cheryl Dove; Karen Feathers; Judy Field; Patricia Jarosz; Barbara Jones; Debra Jozefowicz-Simbeni; David Kessel; Thomas Killion; Winston Koo; Rodger MacArthur; Brian Madigan; James Martin; Jason Mateika; Tej Mattoo; Michael McIntyre; Boris Mordukhovich; Prahlad Parajulli; Regina Parnell; Charles Parrish; Sean Peters; Susil Putatunda; T. R. Reddy; Robert Reynolds; Louis Romano; Michele Ronnick; Alvin Saperstein; Nabil Sarhan; Mary Sengstock; Bo Shen; Assia Shisheva; David Thomas; Harley Tse; Anca Vlasopolos; William Volz; Jianjun Wang; Barrett Watten; Judith Whittum-Hudson; Jeffrey Withey; James Woodyard; Russell Yamazaki; Earnestine Young

Members Absent with Notice: Agnes Acsadi; Alfred Cobbs; Christopher Collins; Maria Ferreira; Andre Furtado; Doreen Head; Michael Horn; Rita Kumar; Liza Lagman-Sperl; James Moseley; Brad Roth; Naida Simon; Antoinette Somers

Members Absent: Kingsley Browne; William Brusilow; Frederick Florkowski; Judith Fouladbakhsh; Jerry Ku; Janine Lanza; Lisa Maruca; Frederic Pearson; Aleksandar Popadic; Elizabeth Puscheck; Daniel Rappolee; Linea Rydstedt; Timothy Stemmler; Arun Wakade; Derek Wildman

Others Present: Johnnie Blunt, Academic Senate Office; Gloria Heppner, Associate Vice President for Research; Alan Jacobson, Office of Budget, Planning and Analysis; Jay Noren, President; Kelley Skillin, Office of the Provost; Angela Wisniewski, Academic Senate Office

CALL TO ORDER: This regularly scheduled meeting of the Academic Senate was called to order by Provost Barrett at 1:34 p.m. The meeting was held in the Bernath Auditorium in the Undergraduate Library.

I. APPROVAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

March 10, 2010

It was MOVED and SECONDED to APPROVE the Proceedings of the Academic Senate meeting of March 10, 2010. PASSED.

II. REPORT FROM THE SENATE PRESIDENT

Report and Announcements

Mr. Wolfson mentioned that at a Policy Committee meeting, members had talked about the fact that, when helping a student with a problem on Blackboard, they could not see the screen that the student saw. Provost Barrett mentioned this to Chief Information Officer Joseph Sawasky. There was a simple solution and now faculty have a student tab that allows them to see what a student sees.

Mr. Wolfson serves on the search committee for the new Provost. The committee submitted to President Noren the names of five candidates to consider for the position. Meetings are being scheduled. Faculty will be notified of the times for open forums to meet with the candidates.

III. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Mr. Woodyard, the Chair of the Elections Committee, conducted the election. Mr. Wolfson was nominated prior to the meeting. Mr. Woodyard opened the floor for additional nominations. There were no other nominations.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to CLOSE NOMINATIONS. PASSED.

Mr. Wolfson addressed the body. He said that he was humbled and honored to be nominated again. He had intended to step down from the Senate presidency when Dr. Barrett stepped down from the position of Provost. However, his involvement in the search for a new Provost convinced him that it would be appropriate for him to continue as Senate President for another year. He would be able to pass along to the Provost the wisdom and information he had gained as Senate President.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to ELECT Mr. Wolfson President of the Academic Senate for the 2010-2011 academic year by ACCLAMATION. PASSED.

Mr. Wolfson thanked the Senate members for their continued support.

IV. PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Academic Senate received the Proceedings of the Policy Committee meetings of March 1, 2010, March 8, 2010, and March 22, 2010 (Appendix A).

March 8, 2010

Item #3 in the Proceedings of the March 8 meeting mentions that President Noren is meeting with the Deans for the purpose of reviewing various scenarios if unit budgets have to be cut. Ms. Jones asked if the President was meeting with anyone about the units that report directly to the Provost. Provost Barrett said that she had meetings with the President to talk about the budget for the units that report directly to her. The Vice Presidents of the administrative units have also met with the President to discuss their budgets.

Mr. Wolfson said that while the Deans had been asked to have scenarios for cuts of 5%, 10% and 15%, he recently learned that they are considering cuts of only 1%, 2%, and 3%.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Year-End Reports

1. Budget Committee

Mr. McIntyre, the Chair of the Budget Committee, said that the Committee works until the end of the budget cycle when the budget for the next fiscal year is approved at the end of July so there is a lot of important work ahead for the Committee.

The Committee dealt with the proposal in the Budget Book to recapture faculty lines if they are not filled within a certain period of time. The proposal was controversial and Mr. McIntyre argued against it in his role as the faculty representative to the Board of Governors Budget and Finance Committee. The Board approved the proposal.

The Budget Committee took a proactive role and made a proposal that has been well received by the Deans. The Budget Committee's proposal ensures that the money stays within the schools and colleges.

The Committee dealt with an increase in parking fees. It objected to spending money on repairing the parking structures without the administration having a business plan to keep the structures repaired in the future. The Board of Governors

Budget and Finance Committee agreed that there should be such a plan but they did not want to delay the repairs that are needed.

The tuition for medical students was increased by 3%. Although the percentage sounds low, the increase for Michigan residents is \$900 and for out-of-state students it is almost \$1800.

A member of the Board of Governors Budget and Finance Committee asked Mr. McIntyre about the proposed Code of Ethics at a meeting and he responded to the questions.

The administration wants to spend and the Board has agreed to spend almost \$1.5 million on a multi-function building at the Matthaei complex. It appeared to Mr. McIntyre that while the new facility would be used by students, it was more for the use of members of the community.

The Board has decided to have a number of working budget meetings of members of the Board and members of the Budget and Finance Committee. Mr. McIntyre and Mr. Parrish, the faculty alternate representative to the Budget and Finance Committee will participate in the meetings.

At a recent Policy Committee meeting, Mr. Romano told President Noren that some members of the Budget Committee were reluctant to recommend a tuition increase over 3% because in the past promises were made that increased tuition would be used to hire faculty. This did not happen. This year faculty asked that a tuition increase be linked to faculty hiring. As a result a small committee was formed composed of Mr. Romano, Mr. DeGracia, and Mr. McIntyre with Mr. Kohrman serving as chair to develop a proposal. The Committee held its first meeting on April 7.

Ms. Shisheva asked Mr. McIntyre what he would recommend as a tuition increase. Mr. McIntyre had made a proposal to the Senate Budget Committee, but the Committee has not acted on the proposal. He estimated that the University needed 3% to cover operating expenses to remain even. He thought the ceiling should be 5%. Mr. McIntyre thinks Wayne State is in competition with a lot of schools because the number of high school graduates is projected to decline significantly in Michigan over the next ten years. One way to compete is with tuition. However, tuition cannot be so low that you are not providing a good education.

Provost Barrett commented that Wayne State's medical students have a high level of indebtedness. The Accrediting Council for Undergraduate Medical Education cited the University on this point in their last review.

Mr. Woodyard noted that at the April 5 Policy Committee meeting, Mr. Kohrman indicated that the administration was interested in broadening the scope of the academic needs on which the tuition would be spent. Mr. McIntyre said the Budget Committee discussed that issue. Faculty want the focus to be on faculty lines. There are, however, various ways of doing that. Faculty lines link to enhancement decisions, which end up being faculty lines. There is some interest as well in increasing teaching assistants as a substitute for part-time faculty. Part of the reason for wanting more faculty is that the University is over-dependent on part-time faculty relative to its peers.

2. Curriculum and Instruction Committee

Ms. Feathers, the Chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, said the Committee began the year addressing the withdrawal policy and the time frame for late registration. Both issues had already been addressed by the Policy Committee, and the C&I Committee left the issues with the Policy Committee.

The C&I Committee looked at the computer competency examination. The exam is based on Office 2003, but computers have newer versions of Office, creating problems for students trying to take an exam based on programs no longer in service. The Committee took up the issue with Associate Vice President Shapiro and with Laura Woodward, the Chair of the Assessment Committee of the General Education Oversight Committee. The exam is being updated.

The Policy Committee charged the C&I Committee with looking at the possibility of potential bias related to student motivation in the student evaluation of teaching. The report of the Academic Senate Student Evaluation of Teaching (ASSET) Committee had indicated that student motivation should be factored into the SET scores.

When the C&I Committee looked at the ASSET Report and at the SET forms, it realized that the entire SET process and the forms needed to be re-evaluated and revised. Teaching has changed substantially in the 15 years since the ASSET Report was written. There are a variety

of formats for instruction that did not exist or were not highly used 15 years ago. C&I recommended that a University committee look at the entire issue of student evaluation of teaching.

Ms. Whittum-Hudson asked if the computer competency exam would be based only on Microsoft Office 2007. Ms. Feathers said that an entirely new test has to be developed. The Office of Testing, Evaluation and Research is working with the Libraries to develop the new test. The test will have to be updated as new versions are released so that the competency that is being tested is up to date.

3. Elections Committee

Mr. Woodyard, the Chair of the Elections Committee, explained that the number of unit representatives to the Senate is determined using the following formula as stated in the Bylaws: one representative for the first 15 plus one representative for each additional 33 (or fraction thereof) full-time and at least one-half fractional-time faculty and academic staff within the unit.

The Senate President has been responsible for getting the information about the make-up of the units and determining whom should be counted in the apportionment. The Bylaws state that the Elections Committee is responsible for preparing the list of eligible voters so Mr. Woodyard has been working with Mr. Wolfson to transfer the responsibility to the Committee.

Mr. Woodyard noted that in the current academic year, the Senate has 82 members. For the 2010-2011 academic year the Senate will have 83 members because the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences has gained another member.

Mr. Woodyard also mentioned that the School of Medicine has 24 members making up about 29% of the membership and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has 16 members or 19% of the membership. The remaining units have between one and 7 representatives.

The Elections Committee has been active in the smoking survey. Mr. Woodyard made a presentation about the survey results at the March Senate meeting.

The Committee conducted the election of the Faculty and Academic Staff Hearing Panels.

Thirty-nine members or 48% of the members voted.

The senator-at-large election was completed recently. Two thousand two hundred eleven ballots were sent electronically to faculty and academic staff. Nineteen of those voters also received paper ballots because when the ballot was sent electronically the office received notice that there were problems with the recipients' e-mail addresses and they did not receive notification of the election. Twenty percent of the faculty and academic staff voted in the senator-at-large election.

The Elections Committee also was involved in the academic calendar survey.

VI. OPEN FORUM WITH PRESIDENT NOREN

President Noren spoke about the proposed sale of the Detroit Medical Center (DMC) to Vanguard Health Systems, which is a subsidiary of Blackstone Group, an investment company with \$30 billion in assets. Over the past several years, Vanguard has purchased 15 hospitals in urban areas. The DMC would be their largest purchase making up over half of Vanguard's assets. Vanguard would assume the DMC's debt, which is over \$400 million, and its pension responsibilities of about \$300 million. It would make capital investments of \$850 million, \$500 million of that amount would be in facilities and \$350 million in equipment. One of the investments would be in Children's Hospital.

It will take about two months for the agreement to be finalized. The Detroit City Council, the Wayne County Commission, and the Michigan Attorney General must agree to the sale. The action of the City Council and the Commissioners would be to create a Renaissance Zone, which would give the new for-profit company tax-free status. The Wayne County Commission has voted to support the designation of the Renaissance Zone. The Attorney General has to determine that the assets were bought at fair market value.

President Noren said that when profit-making companies have purchased non-profit companies they have been required to create a foundation to serve charitable or public entity purposes. DMC has a \$140 million endowment that will be moved to a separate foundation over which Vanguard will have no control.

President Noren does not believe the impact on Wayne State will be significant. The ten-year agreement recently reached between the University and the DMC will transfer to DMC's successors. For the broader community, the investment of \$500 million in buildings and \$350 million in scientific and clinical equipment over a five-year period is important.

The long-term effects on the University are not known. Not many for-profit companies have a relationship with an academic medical center. Over the last few years, the Medical School has forged new partnerships, affiliation agreements, teaching and research relationships with other health systems in southeastern Michigan: Crittendon, Oakwood, and Henry Ford. The University is engaged in on-going discussions with the Henry Ford Health System about substantially enhancing the relationship.

Mr. Koo asked how the investment of \$500 million recently announced by Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) might affect Wayne State. President Noren said that HFHS has been working on its plan for a number of years. It will be taken to their Board on their normal capital planning schedule this summer. One of the items in the proposed plan is a biomedical research building. For the last several months, the University and HFHS have been meeting to consider the possibility of a joint biomedical research building. President Noren believes that HFHS's investment plan is good for WSU. Sixty medical students are now placed in HFHS facilities and there is a possibility that that number will be increased.

In response to a comment that Wayne State might benefit from learning how the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center has developed, President Noren explained the discussions and visits he had with the former mayor of Pittsburgh, who oversaw the revitalization of the city and the expansion of Pittsburgh's Medical Center. President Noren will also be attending the CEOs for Cities meeting in Philadelphia to talk with city officials and with officials of Temple University and of the University of Pennsylvania about their revitalization efforts. The revitalization of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and New Haven, Connecticut, are tied to collaboration between medical centers and educational institutions. The Hudson-Webber Foundation has provided a consultant to work with the DMC, HFHS, and Wayne State.

Ms. Shisheva pointed out that the fellowship stipend for graduate students in the Medical School is \$20,000 while at neighboring institutions the stipend is \$26,000, which is about the amount that is paid nationwide to graduate students in schools of medicine. She speculated that the decline in graduate students in the University may be related to the lower stipend. President Noren said that Graduate School Dean Mark Wardell is looking at ways to address the problem. He suggested that anyone with ideas on how to deal with the situation should contact Dean Wardell.

Mr. Parrish mentioned a number of concerns about the University's relationship with the DMC. The memorandum of understanding is not binding. Will Vanguard invest in the Medical Center area or will it expand into the suburbs to compete with other health systems? Mr. Parrish thought the University needed to have a role in the negotiations with Vanguard to have its concerns considered.

President Noren agreed that the long-term is a concern. The University has a contract with the DMC for residency programs and clinical services. That contract will continue with Vanguard. The administration does not believe it appropriate for the University to be part of Vanguard.

With the need for more medical professionals, Mr. Putatunda asked if WSU planned to increase the size of its Medical School. The President said that about three years ago the medical student class size was increased from 270 to 300. Wayne State has the largest single-campus medical school in the U.S. Asked about Oakland University's plans for a medical school, President Noren said that Oakland University has submitted its application for accreditation. Western Michigan University and Central Michigan University have plans for medical schools, also. He added that the greatest shortage of physicians is in primary care. Some provisions of the health care reform bill are intended to provide incentives for primary care residencies.

Mr. Artiss asked the President how Vanguard would recoup its investment. The President did not know. He noted that there have been some references in the newspaper to the possibility of Vanguard becoming a stock exchange company.

President Noren said that the University is concerned with having access to patients for teaching and research and with diversifying its

options with other health systems in southeast Michigan. The University has not taken a position and it will not take a position regarding Vanguard. A number of entities are concerned that the service to the people who are uninsured and under-insured may not be continued. Vanguard has given verbal assurance that it will continue that mission. The DMC is in poor financial condition with no cash and no ability to make capital investments. The DMC has not been able to secure bonds for facilities improvement. Michael Duggan, the Chief Executive Officer of the DMC, told President Noren that if Vanguard were not to honor the \$500 million investment the purchase would revert to the DMC, which would then own \$500 million of shares in Blackstone.

Mr. Parrish asked if there was a guarantee that the individuals negotiating for the DMC with Vanguard would not benefit personally from the sale. President Noren said that he was told that the current administration at the DMC would remain in place.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

The year-end reports from committee Chairs continued

4. Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee

Mr. Artiss, the Chair of the Facilities, Support Services and Technology (FSST) Committee, said that the Policy Committee had charged the Committee with looking into complaints about the cleanliness of classrooms. Joseph Sawasky, the administrative liaison to FSST, invited James Sears, Associate Vice President for Facilities, Planning and Management (FP&M), to discuss the matter with the Committee. Mr. Sears informed the Committee that the director and associate director for custodial services chose to leave the University the previous week. Donald Wrench was appointed interim director. Mr. Wernch met with the FSST Committee. He was very concerned about the service provided to the University. Mr. Wrench worked with Tammy Roumayah, the Student Senate liaison to the Committee, to develop a question on the Student Senate web page that allowed students to notify FP&M of areas that needed addressing. The staffing levels of custodians were increased in some of the buildings that have a lot of traffic.

FSST also dealt with issues related to Computing and Information Technology (C&IT). The outage experienced in August 2009 was due to a combination of old and inadequate hardware, a Blackboard upgrade that had bugs in it, and a level of demand that was well beyond historical norms. C&IT has done a very good job of maintaining the seven-year old servers to keep them running and it has upgraded the memory capacity.

The 2009 IT services survey was presented to the FSST Committee. The major complaint was the service to residents. C&IT has to be draconian about the steps residents must take to log in. They have to have a fire wall on their computer, anti-viral software, and up-to-date software.

Federally-mandated legislation requires the University to police downloading of copyrighted material. The University is receiving about 70 complaints per month from the recording and motion picture associations. With the first infraction there is a \$100 fine. With the third infraction, the user's service is suspended.

Mr. MacArthur asked about the storage space for e-mail messages. The Provost and several members pointed out that the problem is with the capacity of the server in the Medical School. Mr. Sawasky is working with the chief information officer in the Medical School to move the School onto the main campus's system. It was suggested that faculty contact the Dean and the chief information officer about the problem.

Recently aol.com and hotmail.com blocked mail from Wayne State. Mr. Koo asked if this could be prevented from happening again. Mr. Artiss said that he would check.

Mr. Artiss added that C&IT has a problem evaluating new software and finding bugs. C&IT needs faculty to evaluate software before it goes on line.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Mr. Crossland, the Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee worked on three major issues: the draft report of the smoking survey; problems with Blackboard; and mentoring of junior faculty.

The FAC's position was that the University should enforce its current policy and not adopt a policy to make the campus smoke free. The Academic Senate passed a resolution supporting that position at its March meeting.

Faculty members had registered complaints about Blackboard. The FAC and the FSST Committee held a joint meeting at the C&IT building in February. Mr. Sawasky, Patrick Gossman, the Deputy CIO, and Anthony Holt, Chief of Police, demonstrated the new security system that allows them to focus on events of interest. They will combine the indoor and outdoor video systems, which will be monitored by personnel. It is important to parents that Wayne State have the most up-to-date security available.

Mr. Crossland said that C&IT was very responsive in handling the problems related to Blackboard. The new version of Blackboard was an amalgamation of software that Blackboard acquired when it took over some competitors. The system became inefficient and demanded more power. The increased demand and the additional power needs caused the servers to fail. Mr. Crossland noted that 2.5 FTE positions were added to the Help Desk to answer questions.

Members of the Faculty Affairs Committee are interested in finding out what people's experience has been with mentoring on a college- and university-wide basis and what type of mentoring colleagues would like to have. The Committee is developing a survey, which will likely be sent out next fall.

Research Committee

Mr. Cinabro, the Chair of the Research Committee, reported that Committee members interviewed administrators from the President down to department chairs to learn how the University supports research. The Committee will present the findings at the May Senate meeting and produce a written report over the summer.

Last year the Committee reviewed a proposed revision to the policy on research misconduct. The proposal had not moved through the various stages of the approval process and the Committee prodded the administration to proceed with the revision.

Hopefully, the revised policy will be approved and in place soon.

The Research Committee met with James Barbret, Associate Vice President for Sponsored Program Administration, who informed the Committee about the new electronic tools to manage research: e-prop and Research Dashboard. The Committee members consider these good steps but they did regale Mr. Barbret with the need for more assistance to manage research activity.

The Committee met with Bryan Atkinson, the Associate Director of Disbursements, about reimbursement policies.

The Committee reviewed the fourth quarter report from the Vice President for Research to the Board of Governors. The Committee learned that the University supports Tech Town by guaranteeing loans; it does not put money into Tech Town.

A Senate member had questioned the reason for the difference between research expenditures as reported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the University's accounting. The NSF figure includes internal spending on research and what they call unrecovered indirect costs. If a researcher has a grant that does not have the standard cost return, NSF determines that the institution is spending money to support the grant, accounting for the difference.

Sarah James, Research Support Liaison in the Division of Research, previewed and obtained the Committee's comments on a proposal development web site. The purpose of the web site is to help young faculty navigate the proposal creation process.

Associate Vice President for Research Joseph Dunbar gave the Committee a preliminary report on the conclusions of the President's Committee on Research Incentives. The Senate Research Committee commented on the preliminary conclusions. The Research Incentives Committee is continuing its work. The Senate Committee asked to review the draft before it is distributed.

Mr. Cinabro said that the Research Committee met with Robert Kohrman, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Analysis, and Vice President for Research

Hilary Ratner about comparing Wayne State's spending in support of research and administering research. Vice President Ratner described the things that go into supporting research and Mr. Kohrman compared Wayne State with its research peers, i.e., the public universities that have a similar NSF research ranking. Wayne State is generally in the middle or below the middle in administrative spending compared with this group while the per faculty research activity is on the higher side.

Ms. Shisheva asked if the current limit of \$1,000 on the Pro Card would be increased. The current limit is disruptive to research activity. Mr. Cinabro said the Committee did not address that issue. However, the Disbursements Office is adamant that the limit not approach the cost of equipment because the rules governing purchasing of equipment are different. He did not expect the limit to be increased.

Mr. McIntyre asked if the Research Committee had a report on the number of companies in Tech Town and their financial situation. The Committee did not get such a report. Mr. McIntyre said that the Budget Committee would try to get the information, which would indicate whether the University would have to cover loans.

Mr. Parrish asked if anyone had looked at the management of overhead accounts in the School of Medicine. There was a great deal of dissatisfaction when department and individual overhead accounts were moved. Initially, there was an IT charge to departments that varied depending upon the amount of money in the overhead account. There should be, he said, a straightforward policy stating how the Medical School will manage overhead accounts. Mr. Cinabro said it was dissuaded from looking into the question because it was a budgeting issue rather than a policy issue. The Committee's report on research will point to the disruptive effect of taking away indirect costs. That money is used by departments and colleges to fund recruiting and retention, which is the most important thing the administration does to support research. Mr. Parrish noted that while it is a Medical School issue, such procedures have a way of migrating to the main campus.

VII. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Provost Barrett reported that the LEADS Task Force and the Code of Ethics Task Force have finished their work. She thanked Mr. McIntyre for his ability to cut through the disputes on the LEADS Task Force

Dr. Barrett thanked the Senate for its support during her tenure as Provost.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Seymour J. Wolfson
President, Academic Senate