

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY – ACADEMIC SENATE
Official Proceedings
September 9, 2015

Members Present: Margaret E. Winters, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Louis J. Romano, President, Academic Senate; Robert Ackerman; Joseph Artiss; Poonam Arya; Ivan Avrutsky; Michael Barnes; Douglas Barnett; Linda Beale; Paul Beavers; Cathryn Bock; Tamara Bray; Frances Brockington; Krista Brumley; Randal Commissaris; Victoria Dallas; Donald DeGracia; Susan Eggly; Jane Fitzgibbon; Moira Fracassa; Nancy George; Ewa Golebiowska; Daniel Golodner; Jeffrey Grynawski; Jennifer Hart; Ellen Holmes; renee hoogland; Michael Horn; Patricia Jarosz; Barbara Jones; Mahendra Kavdia; David Kessel; Fayette Keys; Pramod Khosla; Qin Lai; Lawrence Lemke; Stephen Lerner; Diane Levine; Leonard Lipovich; Christopher Lund; Aaron Martin; James Martin; Jason Mateika; Boris Mordukhovich; Bryan Morrow; Joshua Neds-Fox; S. Asli Ozgun-Koca; Victoria Pardo; Charles Parrish; Alexey Petrov; Lori Pile; John Porcerelli; Susil Putatunda; T. R. Reddy; Robert Reynolds; Marsha Richmond; Brad Roth; Linea Rydstedt; Heather Sandlin; Naida Simon; Richard Smith; Beena Sood; Gail Stanford; Geralyn Stephens; Ronald Thomas; Ellen Tisdale; Mark VanBerkum; William Volz; Deborah Walker; Jianjun Wang; Barrett Watten; Jeffrey Withey; Xin Wu

Members Absent with Notice: Mary Anderson; Abhijit Biswas; Maik Huttemann; Sokol Todi; King-Hay Yang

Members Absent: Robert N. Frank; Avril Genene Holt; Todd Leff; Elizabeth Puscheck

Others Present: Tamica Dothard, Office of the Academic Senate; Alan Jacobson, Office for Budget, Planning and Analysis; Michele Ronnick, Liberal Arts and Sciences; Ricardo Villarosa, Dean of Students Office; Angela Wisniewski, Office of the Academic Senate

CALL TO ORDER: This first meeting of the 2015-2016 academic year was called to order by Provost Margaret Winters at 1:35 p.m. The meeting was held in the Bernath Auditorium in the Undergraduate Library.

Provost Winters welcomed the members back to the new academic year.

I. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Romano also welcomed the faculty and academic staff members to the new semester. He introduced the new members.

II. ELECTION OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Ackerman, the Chair of the Elections Committee, conducted the election of the Policy Committee. Five members had to be elected, one for a three-year term and four for one-year terms. Nominated prior to the meeting were Linda Beale, Professor, Law; David Kessel, Professor, Pharmacology, Medicine; and William Volz, Professor, Accounting, Business Administration. The floor was opened for nominations. Nominated at the meeting were: Brad Roth, Professor, Political Science, Liberal Arts and Sciences; Linea Rydstedt, Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Medicine; and Naida Simon, Extension Program Coordinator III, Undergraduate Programs and General Education, Academic Affairs. It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and PASSED to CLOSE NOMINATIONS.** The candidates identified themselves and stated their reasons for seeking election.

Mr. Ackerman reported the results. Sixty-three ballots were cast. Mr. Volz was elected to the three-year term. Ms. Beale, Mr. Kessel, Mr. Roth and Ms. Simon were elected to the one-year terms.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

It was **MOVED and SECONDED to APPROVE** the Proceedings of the Academic Senate meeting of May 6, 2015. **PASSED.**

IV. REPORT FROM THE SENATE PRESIDENT

A. Report and Announcements

New Student Convocation

Mr. Romano attended the New Student Convocation and, on behalf of the faculty, welcomed the students to Wayne State. FestiFall, which follows the convocation, was well attended.

Parking Committee

Mr. Artiss and Mr. Romano serve on the Parking Committee and on the Parking Subcommittee. The subcommittee is trying to find a way to include the parking fee in the Student Service Fee and if there are enough parking spaces to accommodate the additional students who would drive to campus. The Committee should complete its work and

submit its recommendations to the administration this semester.

Campus Master Plan

Vice President for Finance and Business Operations William Decatur is considering updating the Master Plan. There is likely to be a broad-based committee to determine how the University should deal with the campus infrastructure. Provost Winters confirmed that a Master Plan Committee would be formed.

Capital Outlay Budget Request

Each year the University submits to the State a request for the funding of capital projects and major renovation projects. Policy Committee hopes to be involved in identifying the projects. It sent a memo to the administration with suggestions for funding. Provost Winters added that she recommended that faculty be involved in the preparation of the request. And, the Policy Committee, Mr. Romano said, recommended that Deans be involved because they are the most knowledgeable about the needs of their colleges.

School of Medicine

President Wilson met with the Policy Committee to inform them about the report the ECG Consulting Group wrote based on their review of the School of Medicine. The President hired David Hefner, who assumed the position of Vice President for Health Affairs in the Medical School, to sort out the finances and the interaction among the Detroit Medical Center, the Practice Plan, and the University.

APEX Program

The Academic Pathways Scholars Program (APEX) serves borderline students who otherwise might not be admitted. Some students begin the Program during the summer with instruction focused on several courses. Other students enter in the fall. The University spends about \$1 million on the Program. These students are tracked more closely than other undergraduates. The Program not only provides remedial instruction but also teaches the students how to study. Policy Committee requested and received some data about the students. In the fall semester the average grade point was 2.2. In the winter semester it was 1.6. Policy Committee hopes that in the future the GPA will improve.

Provost Winters pointed out that the APEX students were borderline when they entered. They are deeply unprepared. They often do not have a support system at home and their families have lower incomes. They cannot be compared with the students who graduated from Cass Technical High School or Renaissance High School.

Mr. Romano countered that the success of the Program could be determined by comparing a cohort of students who came to the University with a similar GPA prior to the APEX Program and the students who are in the Program. A report from 2013 that only had student GPAs showed that the value added for the APEX Program for the first year was minimal, if any and had hoped that the new report would show some improvement. Policy Committee continues to recommend full-time faculty ought to teach the summer courses.

In response to questions from Senate members, it was reported that Associate Provost for Student Success Monica Brockmeyer was gathering additional data about the Program. Ms. Brockmeyer said that students could attend a community college for their first two years. The APEX Program offers a particular type of support to transition to the University. The specific goal of the Program is to teach students how to navigate our resources. The Program has improved dramatically in the last year under the direction of Dr. Mark Jackson. The involvement of faculty who have an APEX student in their class has increased. Learning communities will be developed according to majors. Over the coming year students' connections to the University should increase. The Provost added that the real measure of the Program's success would be whether the students graduate.

Student Evaluation of Teaching

The Policy Committee, the Provost, Mark Byrd, the Assistant Vice President for Budget, Planning and Analysis, Robert Kohrman, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Analysis, and Laura Woodward, Director of Testing, Evaluation and Research Services (TERS), discussed the timing of the distribution of the SET forms and the time when students would fill out the forms. Normally students complete the forms during the last two weeks of a semester, but in the fall semester faculty are being asked to give the forms to students during the last two weeks of November, which includes the Thanksgiving holiday. Policy Committee opposed the change. They pointed out inefficiencies in the current process and suggested

changes that could decrease the length of time needed to process the forms.

Provost Winters explained to the Senate that the issue arose because departments and faculty were not getting the analyses in time for faculty to submit the information with their materials for merit raises and/or tenure and promotion. The Testing Office has been working with the 2N SET Committee so the forms are completed earlier. If the cutoff date for return of the forms is one week before the last day of classes, the Testing Office will be able to analyze the results and send them to the departments and faculty in a much more timely manner than in the past.

Ms. Beale pointed out that the TERS Office distributed the changes to the departmental SET coordinators one day after the TERS Director met with the Policy Committee. That, she said, is not consultation.

Another Senate member said that departments were given two options. If they met the November deadline, their forms would be processed first. If they chose the later deadline, their forms would be processed last.

The Policy Committee wrote a memo stating their objections. The Testing Office is preparing a response to the memo.

B. Proceedings of the Policy Committee

The Academic Senate received the Proceedings of the Policy Committee meetings of April 27, May 11, June 22, June 29, July 20, and August 3, 2015. They are attached to these Senate Proceedings as Appendix A.

V. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Enrollment

The official enrollment census is based on enrollment on the tenth day of classes, but Provost Winters provided a progress report as of September 9. Enrolled are 27,188 students. Enrollment will be better than what was projected six months ago. First time in any college students (FTIACS) are up 18%. At the undergraduate level we've had substantial increases in undergraduate enrollment in Business Administration, Engineering, and Social Work. Graduate enrollment is up 4%. Among the professional schools, Pharmacy and Health Sciences and Medicine are status quo. Enrollment in the Law School is up 10% for first year students. WSU's Law School is the only Law School in the state to have an

increase in first year students. Our yield, which is the difference between the students who were admitted and those who registered, is up 10 percentage points. Preliminary figures for the first year retention rate is 77%.

Enrollment of transfer students is down. One reason may be due to a decrease in enrollment in the community colleges. We have to determine how much of the drop is due to a decline in their enrollment and if there are other factors that we can remedy. Much work still needs to be done to improve our retention rate.

The Provost is very pleased with the efforts of the Financial Aid Office, the Admissions Office and with the collaboration and communication among the units in Enrollment Management in general, the Office for Student Success, the schools and colleges, and the alumni who worked hard to increase enrollment.

VI. COMMENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

President Wilson began his remarks by mentioning that his annual address to the University community is September 15 and that he would focus largely on the strategic plan. He will present the elements of the mission statement, which "is to create and advance knowledge, prepare a diverse student body to thrive, and positively impact local and global communities." The vision statement is "Wayne State will be a pre-eminent public, urban research university known for academic and research excellence, success across a diverse student body, and meaningful engagement in its urban community."

The President is pleased with the fall enrollment. The students are better prepared than in previous years. Many want to live on campus. We had a wait list of 300 students. The University rented two floors of the St. Regis Hotel to house students. A shuttle runs constantly between the hotel and campus.

A national consulting firm did a study that determined that we need 400 additional housing units for students and that the best configuration is apartment-style housing. The location would be the parking lot across Anthony Wayne Drive from the Deroy Apartments. The University had planned to engage in a public-private partnership to build housing, believing that the project could be kept off the University's books so we would not incur debt. However, Vice President Decatur found that the University did not meet the criteria to keep it off the books. It is better for the University to build the housing itself.

About the same time, the University learned that temporary repairs to the Deroy Apartments would

cost a sizeable amount of money. Due to a structural problem, water gets into the building when it rains. Other temporary repairs have been made over the years. Mr. Decatur pointed out that we reach a point of diminishing returns spending money to make temporary repairs. The lifespan of this type of building is around fifty years. The Administration decided to evaluate a more permanent repair for Derooy and to combine that project and the new student housing project. They continue to evaluate how to fund the project.

Retention of students from the first to the second year is improving; it is at 77.6%. The retention rate for students from the third to the fourth year is the highest in 16 years.

For the first time under the metrics the state uses to determine the amount of additional funding for public universities, beyond the appropriation, WSU received points because our six-year graduation rate has improved.

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) is the body that accredits the Medical School. In the most recent accreditation the School had a dismal review. Out of 22 standards, we were fully compliant in one. In the others we were non-compliant or only partially compliant. Our student outcomes have been positive. The product of our medical education is at a very high level but the School has to change.

President Wilson hired David Hefner and Richard Baker to assist with the Medical School and the entire health sciences enterprise. Mr. Hefner will serve for two years as the Vice President for Health Affairs. He is a seasoned hospital-medical practice plan-university administrator who will examine the flow of funds among the University Physician Group, the Detroit Medical Center, and Wayne State as well as our relationship with Henry Ford Health System. Richard Baker is the Associate Dean for Medical Academic and Student Programs. He is on leave from the University of California at Los Angeles in the Medical School, including admissions, curriculum, and the other areas we need to address to successfully pass the LCME accreditation when they return in two years.

President Wilson added that he has complete confidence in the current leadership in the Medical School. The problems are long-standing and staggering, but are being addressed.

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation visit is scheduled for March 2017. A great deal of documentation is needed. Although we have the data, it may not go far enough back. The President urged

those who are asked to help with the accreditation to approach the work with a sense of urgency. Sandra Yee, Dean of the Library System, and John Schiavone, Senior Director of Strategy and Innovation in the School of Medicine, head the steering committee. The remainder of the committee members will be selected this month.

The campus is now smoke-free. The administration is contemplating a more aggressive campaign to inform smokers where they are allowed to smoke.

Our research has grown over the past several years. Comparing July 2013 to July 2015 our total extramural funding has increased by 32%. Our NSF funding has increased by 87% and our NIH funding has increased 31%.

The University welcomed the first cohort of scholars in the BUILD program. Seventeen youngsters from disadvantaged backgrounds with high ACT scores and GPAs who are interested in becoming biomedical researchers were on campus.

The official celebration of the opening of the IBio Building is October 14.

The Capital Campaign was launched in October 2014. As of July 30, we have \$452 million toward our goal of \$750 million. President Wilson has traveled to eleven regional campaign launches around the country and has visited more than 630 alumni.

Last year President Wilson co-hosted the inaugural Detroit Homecoming. It was a great success. Former Detroiters who had not been to the city in a long time returned for the event. Some were our alumni. Thomas Tierney, an alumnus, returned. He is now very engaged in the University. The Hecker-Smiley Mansion will be re-named the Tierney Alumni House in recognition of Thomas and Elizabeth Carr Tierney's donation to preserve the house.

Another group of former Detroiters will be invited for this year's Homecoming. The President hopes that other Wayne State alumni will become more engaged with the University.

Serrine Lau has been appointed Dean of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences due to the efforts of Provost Winters. Dean Lau is an accomplished administrator and researcher. She will join the University in January 2016. She is currently at Arizona State University.

Mr. Putatunda asked the President if it was possible to get support from other countries that have a large number of their citizens studying here. President

Wilson said that we get two groups of international students. Some come on his or her own. Some are sponsored by his or her government that pays the University to support their students. Our Office of International Students and Scholars continues to look for recruiting opportunities. Our reputation for accommodating international students is good in the international community.

Mr. Artiss thanked the President for the very successful Barouder, the cycling ride that raised money for student scholarships. President Wilson is gratified by the interest and the support. Over 1100 bicyclists and almost 300 volunteers participated. Wayne's Public Safety officers and those in the other cities that were involved did a fine job.

VII. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR (Continued)

HLC Accreditation

Much of the work in the Provost's Office this year will concern the preparation for the HLC accreditation. Many people will be asked to work on subcommittees.

Course Scheduling

The Provost's Office has begun looking at how courses are scheduled, particularly at the undergraduate level. Are they offered in the right sequence and are they offered often enough so students are able to complete their degree in four years? Most departments have submitted four-year pathways to degrees. We have to look at the way

courses are scheduled and how they are staffed. The goal is to eliminate as many barriers as possible to students' completing their degrees in four years. This will be a major project for her Office, for the Deans, and for everyone who works with undergraduate students and programming. This should apply to graduate students, also, but there is more urgency in solving the problem for undergraduates.

Student Success Summit

Toward the end of the fall semester we will hold a student success summit at which issues such as eliminating the barriers to graduation and how to get a better understanding of our students will be tackled.

Closing Comments

The Provost extended wishes that everyone have a very good, productive, and satisfying semester.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis J. Romano
President, Academic Senate