

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

March 25, 2019

Present: L. Beale; P. Beavers; V. Dallas; r. hoogland; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; B. Roth; N. Simon; W. Volz; K. Whitfield

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of March 25, 2019.

1. Report from the Chair: Provost Whitfield reported that the Budget Planning Council's hearings will be completed this week, and the group will make its budget recommendations soon. The executive committee of the Board of Governors has discussed Governor Whitmer's budget, which proposes a 3% across-the-board increase for higher education institutions, amounting to an addition of slightly more than \$6 million for WSU. She proposes a 3.2% tuition cap. There will continue to be tensions between maintaining tuition at an affordable rate and raising sufficient revenue to meet the university's needs.
2. Report from the Senate President: Ms. Beale reported that the Academic Senate Budget Committee will hold its annual meeting with all of the faculty and academic staff members of the unit Budget Advisory Committees next Monday morning. In addition to the usual discussion of the current expectation about State appropriations and budgetary needs, there will be a presentation on the master plan process to date and a discussion of the current situation in the School of Medicine. Of particular concern for the future of the university is the revelation that the pediatrics practice group has signed a contract with Central Michigan University to disaffiliate from WSU and join CMU. It is not clear whether all of the group will leave or what WSU may do to encourage pediatric clinicians to remain affiliated with WSU. There is some dispute about financing. CMU has already asked the university to pay over the \$10 million in Medicaid funds that pass through the university's accounts for clinicians.

The Search for the VP for Health Affairs/School of Medicine dean has been formed, but it is not clear how or whether the current disagreement in the Wayne Board of Governors will impact the search, though it will likely affect the pool of candidates.

The Policy Committee has been invited to tour the new housing complex (Anthony Wayne) on the 27th. It will be a chance to see how livable the spaces are and talk briefly with Tim Michaels.

Ms. Beale raised a relatively minor issue that has been brought to her attention by several people—the fact that some campus buildings require university staff and faculty to show OneCards upon entering the building. This apparently is true 24/7 at the new Business School location and at various buildings in the Medical School complex. Mr. Volz noted that this has a chilling effect on faculty—being unwelcome and unknown in your own home facility. Provost Whitfield mentioned that he had been surprised that easily recognized campus personnel should be treated so coldly. It is not clear that it is needed for security reasons during the day at the Ilitch School

though it may provide some deterrent. He indicated he would query the rationale for the 24/7 identification requirement.

Ms. Beale noted that the Policy Committee would like to have an update on the progress of the On-Line 3N Committee that finally got underway last fall after four years of delays and asked Mr. Parrish and Provost Whitfield if they would agree to bring the co-chairs of the group to Policy to provide a progress report. Mr. Parrish indicated that the group has made considerable progress and agrees that it would be an appropriate time. Ms. Beale will send an email to ask for them to schedule the discussion.

Ms. Beale reported that she will try to set up another presentation at Policy by Darin Ellis on the Academic Analytics database that will be used by the deans and chairs. Our first presentation was limited in time, so we hope to have a more detailed presentation of the kinds of materials and queries that can be made with the database.

One final item of interest is the Graduate School Review and the Graduate School Dean Search. There is a survey for the review (email from Review Chair Doug Whitman) and it is important to participate to get a full picture of the work of the Graduate School. Ms. Beale noted that Provost Whitfield had informed the Board at the meeting last week that the search would be internal but that a search committee would be formed very soon. She asked whether the position description is available yet and wondered about the timing of the search committee. Provost Whitfield said he would send a copy of the position description once settled upon, but that he was waiting to call for the establishment of the search committee until after the Graduate School's budget hearing later this week. He noted that he had heard various concerns about the impact of RCM on the Graduate School and he felt it would be more appropriate to wait until that hearing before moving forward.

- *3. Proceedings of Policy Committee: The Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of March 4, 2019, as submitted.
4. Potential Internal Audit Resolution: Earlier this year when the Internal Audit office was auditing the attendance of a professional employee, the Policy Committee had developed a rough draft of a resolution that could be put before the full Senate for passage to urge a change in policy to ensure that audits are undertaken with concern for due process and fairness to our professional employees. At that time, Policy decided to put the resolution on hold, since Ms. Beale had arranged a meeting with Carolyn Hafner. Regrettably, Ms. Beale has now been informed by Ms. Hafner that she does not intend to change her procedures to do a more limited initial inquiry to be sure there is some corroborative evidence before undertaking a full-scale investigation. Members discussed the rationale for and wording of a resolution and agreed that an appropriate resolution should be put before the Senate at its May meeting.
5. May Commencement Ceremonies: renee hoogland, Naida Simon, Brad Roth, Paul Beavers, and Linda Beale volunteered to represent the faculty at the

commencement ceremonies on May 2nd and 3rd. A tentative schedule will be confirmed at the next meeting.

- *6. Academic Senate Agenda: The committee reviewed and approved the draft agenda for the April 3 Senate meeting.
- 7. Reports from Liaisons:
 - a. Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee: Naida Simon informed Policy that FSST had met on March 20 and had a presentation from C&IT about various database advances, including the Banner changeover. She noted a virtual reality device that Admissions had developed to use as a recruitment tool in its Chicago trip.
 - b. Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Brad Roth informed Policy that CIC has continued to discuss the student conduct process. An administrative process is being developed for reports from faculty when they take action against a student for plagiarism, so that multiple instances with the same student will be able to be flagged in a database by the administrative coordinator for discussion with the offending student. The group also discussed the problems caused by the change in undergraduate research funding (UROP).
 - c. Faculty Affairs Committee: renee hoogland informed Policy that the committee had held a meeting discussing open source textbooks and the first day pilot proposed by the bookstore. That first-day proposal has apparently been nixed due to lack of student support and various problems in making it work appropriately for the fall semester. FAC had hoped to discuss in greater depth the Academic Analytics system, but that discussion was cut short early. In this context, Ms. Beale asked whether there had been any progress on the earlier decision by the Provost's Office to develop SET guidelines for the faculty salary committees, to point out the research on the kinds of bias that tend to slant the results (ageism, genderism, racism.) as well as the problems of incommensurability (averaging across the three main questions; comparing disciplines and class types that are quite different on the same 'opinion' dimension). Provost Whitfield indicated that he did not know the status of the guidelines and would check with his office to see where the revived SET committee stands.
 - d. Research Committee: David Kessel reported that the research committee met to hear from Ken Doherty and Gail Ryan about issues related to the Sponsored Programs Administration and rules for Procurement and Strategic Sourcing. There is ongoing concern regarding the deterioration of Scott Hall and lack of functioning elevators in the parking garage.