

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

April 26, 2021

Present: L. Beale; P. Beavers; L. Lauzon Clabo; J. Fitzgibbon; R. Hoogland; C. Parrish; N. Rossi; B. Roth; N. Simon; R. Villarosa; Rohan E.V. Kumar; Amanda Powe

1. Approval of April 5, 12, and 19 Proceedings.

Approval was deferred to allow everyone to review each item. Comments, edits and final approval will be handled by email.

2. Report from the Chair

a. • Campus Virus and Vaccine Status. Campus metrics are increasingly benign. Cases are down to 9, reflecting on-campus activity suspension. For the campus to open, the 7-day positivity rate will need to be below 15%. Detroit cases are falling, and the city's 7-day positivity has plateaued between 16.5-16.9%. On-campus activity suspension will continue, but the libraries and Student Center will open to ensure students have study space. Use will be monitored closely.

b. Budget Planning Council. The Budget Planning Council has concluded 31 hours of presentations. Discussion and deliberation to prepare recommendations will begin this week.

c. Strategic Planning Steering Committee. The first meeting will be held April 29th.

3. Report from the Senate President:

a. Enrollment Report. Graduate enrollment is down and may be the most challenged group, according to this week's enrollment report.

b. Vaccination Mandate. The University of Michigan has joined other schools by mandating the vaccine for all students in residence halls. Provost Clabo noted, however, that the Michigan legislature is considering legislation that will penalize schools that have mandates. In response to further questions, Clabo explained that emergency use status of the vaccine does not prevent a mandate, and both Pfizer and Moderna should receive full FDA approval in May, with J&J approval by fall.

c. BOG Guest Invitations. Since neither Terri Lynn Land nor Shirley Stancato is able to attend the Senate plenary on May 5, each has been invited to meet with the Policy Committee at a convenient time (either a meeting time or a 'happy hour' setting).

d. Title IX Regulations. There is an ongoing debate regarding finalization of the Trump administration's Title IX regulations, which instituted trial-like process and limited definitions. This issue will be added to the agenda when there is more information.

4. Communications and Required Actions.

a. Draft A.S. Agenda for May 5 Plenary. Rob Davenport has confirmed a 10-minute presentation on the FP&M restructuring. Policy will likely need to rearrange items to allow for at least one Senate resolution to be approved as well.

- b. Student Code of Conduct Subcommittee Report I. Brad Roth explained the division of recommendations into two separate reports, with the first report presented for approval today by Policy so that it can be presented to the plenary on May 5 for full Senate approval. The first report includes educational changes: the subcommittee recommends in particular that a unit on plagiarism and cheating be added to the Wayne Experience course for the fall semester. Members voted unanimously to support the report recommendations. A resolution will be drafted and added to the plenary agenda. Simon suggested that Roth's group contact a staffperson who can assist in adding the unit to the Wayne Experience course.
 - c. General Education Oversight Committee (GEOC) 2021 Appointments. The Provost and Policy members reviewed the GEOC slate for replacing members with appointments expiring in August 2021. The following were selected to serve: Moira Fracassa (Academic Services Officer IV, Pharmacy), Christine Malinowski (Instructor, Nursing), Anita Mixon (Assistant Professor, CFPCA), Pramod Khosla (Associate Professor, Nutrition and Food Science, CLAS), and Jeff Horner (Sr. Lecturer, CLAS). Beale will send a notice to AVP Baltes so that the invitations to serve can be prepared.
 - d. Board of Governors April 20, 2021 Documents.
 - i. School of Medicine Tuition Increase.

The School of Medicine proposes a tuition rate increase of 1.9% for in-state and 0.3% for out-of-state students. Beale noted that Policy has long recommended such a distinction between the out-of-state and the in-state rates because of the high dollar amount of out-of-state compared to in-state tuition and the increased debt for out-of-state students. Across-the-board increases are problematic because they increase already non-competitive out-of-state rates. There are, however, remaining questions about the increase, since Rebecca Cooke, Interim VP and Chief Financial Officer, indicated that there had been an off-the-record commitment last year that the medical school would receive the full tuition increase funds (a benefit not provided to any other school, where differential tuition is 'taxed' for central administrative uses). It is not clear whether the same commitment has been made this year. Without full information on the PEPPAP fund amounts and uses, it is also difficult to judge the medical school's budgetary needs.
 - ii. Student Senate Tribal Acknowledgement.

Clabo explained that the original version of the tribal acknowledgement proposed by the Student Senate was to be read at every official event, but clarity was needed regarding events to be covered and methods of delivery. To resolve these issues, the Student Senate has agreed for the acknowledgement to be read at the New Student Convocation and the Spirit of Community Awards. The text will also be added to the commencement program. Beale added that she planned to add the text as a recurring footnote to the Senate's plenary session agenda.
 - e. Test-Optional Extension for Fall 2022 Admissions. This issue will be on the Board of Governors agenda, so Clabo asked that Policy review it before it goes to the Board. Members approved the extension, but noted that they hope to see some longitudinal data from the use of the holistic approach with undergraduates (especially regarding the selection of students for special support programs such as APEX) and how well those students succeed, before any proposal for permanent adoption of the test-optional approach is considered. Clabo will acknowledge Policy Committee support when the issue is presented.
5. Reports from Liaisons.
- a. Facilities, Support Services, and Technology Committee.
 - i. Course Information Matrix.

FSST members considered the matrix a good tool so long as it is absolutely clear that it is voluntary. Jane Fitzgibbon explained that many of the faculty members do not provide activation to courses as soon as the students want. Most canvas courses are not activated until a week before courses start. One way to deal with this would be to upload materials earlier with a statement that the information is subject to change.

ii. First-Day Texts.

The First-Day Text system allows students to review a text and may help them decide if they will take a course or buy the text in print rather than as a digital document. For courses using the program and using the accompanying Courseware, it is important that students have this access.

iii. Post Pandemic Questions.

Facilities and online teaching are the issues selected by FSST members for their working groups.

iv. C&IT Consolidation.

Melissa Crabtree, Sr. Director of Campus and Classroom IT, explained the consolidation. Ninety-five conference rooms have been upgraded, and faculty computers are being refreshed. She stated that the consolidation is expected to improve communication and ensure that classrooms are supported as needed in each college and that faculty are appropriately equipped for teaching.

b. Curriculum and Instruction Committee. The committee established three working groups to cover topics from the initial charge list numbered 4a, 4c, and 4d(6) (on remote education, proctoring of online exams, and grading). The working groups will meet over the summer.

c. UROP Application. Roth indicated that there is now a process for application deliberation that should improve quality control and consistency in the way decisions are made. The goal of the program is to support student-originated research projects. It appeared that many of the applications were written by faculty members to add students to their own research projects, rather than being projects developed by students that faculty were willing to mentor and guide. There will likely be an increase in applications once labs are fully open post-pandemic.

d. Faculty Affairs Committee.

i. Post Pandemic Questions

hoogland suggested that question 4 on online education be divided among three committees, with CIC focusing on part a, Student Affairs part b, and Faculty Affairs part d.

ii. Emeritus Memo.

Two members of Faculty Affairs prepared a recommendation that restricts the title to retiring tenured faculty who have served at least 10 years at Wayne, with a process that starts with faculty peer approval and then moves directly to the Provost for final approval. The reason for the restriction included the view that emeritus is inherently a faculty title and that it is currently connected to access to expensive library databases. The working group recommended that other employees be recognized for long-term service in other ways. This will be put on an upcoming agenda for Policy discussion.

iii. Cybercampus Article.

hoogland recommended that this article be added to the strategic planning discussion and noted how important it is that the faculty voice be heard on these issues.

- e. Classroom Design Committees (State Hall and General). Members are concerned about C&IT classroom design communication and consultation. As often noted at Policy, Ashley Flint really listens to faculty concerns, but the consensus is that Melissa Crabtree does not. Clabo suggested that this feedback be shared with Rob Davenport: the committees might ask him to sit in on the next meeting with Melissa.
- f. Research Committee. Half of the participants have been added to the post-pandemic higher education working groups. The questions selected are: online vs. in person, how to recruit from different countries, changes in undergraduate laboratory courses, and undergraduate/graduate research.
- g. Budget Committee. The committee has now selected topics for working groups: budgeting for graduate student research, budgeting and finance under RCM, certificate programs and other revenue raisers.