

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

January 22, 2018

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

Guest: Ellen Barton, Associate Provost for Academic Personnel

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of January 22, 2018.

- *1. Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee: One of the faculty members originally selected to serve on the University-wide Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee is ineligible because he is in a departmentalized college and served on his college's committee. The Provost and the Policy Committee jointly selected a replacement. Associate Provost Barton participated in the selection process.
2. Academic Staff Hearing Panel: The Senate Office is preparing the ballot for the election of the Academic Staff Hearing Panel. Frank Koscielski, who has a continuing term on the Panel, retired from the University. For this year's election, eight members of the academic staff were nominated to fill four seats. The Policy Committee, Provost Whitfield, and Associate Provost Barton agreed that the voting should proceed with the eight nominees. Voters will be asked to vote for five of the eight nominees. It was noted that, for committees on which people serve multi-year terms, the members' eligibility and employment should be checked early in the election process.

[Ms. Barton left the meeting.]

3. Report from the Chair:
 - a. Provost Whitfield said that, because a parking structure is not being built at the new Business School downtown, the University would provide shuttle service between the main campus and the new School. A Senate member suggested that the Business School continue to hold its classes on the main campus until the parking problem is resolved. Provost Whitfield will add this suggestion to the Administration's discussion.
 - b. The Psychology Department's Research Design and Analysis Consulting (RDA) Unit assists faculty, staff, post-doctoral researchers, and graduate students with the design of research projects and the statistical analysis of data for research that is not supported by external funding. The Division of Research is interested in using RDA's services to assist faculty in obtaining grants. The Provost asked if Policy Committee members or their colleagues had used RDA. Members were not aware of the Unit's existence. The Provost will give the Committee a report of the benefits the RDA has provided.

4. Report from the Senate President:
 - a. The inaugural event of the Sesquicentennial Celebration is January 26. Among the activities are a trivia quiz about the University's history, comments from alumni, live performances, a birthday cake, and the opening of an exhibit in the Reuther Library.
 - b. The unit budget hearings for fiscal year 2019 have begun. There will be a \$6.5 million budget increase in bond payout next year. Part of that is for the Hilberry Gateway Project. A Policy Committee member expressed his concern about priorities. It is vital that the problems in Scott Hall be addressed if Wayne State is to continue to be a research university; a facility for the performing arts will not contribute to our research standing. Other members raised the need for a new classroom building.
 - c. The Graduate Council met January 17. A proposal was made to Define a Timeline for Submission of the Dissertation Prospectus. The purpose of the policy is to provide guidance on what a prospectus is and when it should be completed. The new policy would require the prospectus be filed 1 year (or possibly 1.5 years) after the student becomes a Ph.D. candidate.

5. Comparison of New and Continuing Student Enrollment: Policy Committee reviewed the Enrollment Management data comparing enrollment in winter 2017 with enrollment in winter 2018 for the week beginning January 9. Overall enrollment is down 1.21%. Compared with last winter, undergraduate enrollment is down in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Social Work. Overall undergraduate enrollment is down 0.25% compared with last winter. A Policy Committee member noted that in past years enrollment in the winter semester was 86% of the fall headcount. Now the winter headcount is 90% of the fall headcount.

- *6. Approval of Proceedings: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of December 11, 2017, were approved as submitted.

7. Scholarships Policies: Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Dawn Medley provided responses to the questions that the Policy Committee had raised when she met with them on December 4, 2017. Policy Committee members had additional questions. Mr. Romano will write to Ms. Medley for clarification.

8. Online Programs: An article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* entitled "Faculty Members at One More University Push Back at Online Programs" reported on objections from the faculty at Eastern Michigan University to their University's partnering with a private company to market and support online programs. Mr. Romano asked if Wayne State's Administration were considering such a move and if so in the future would the faculty be consulted. A Letter of Agreement between WSU and the AAUP-AFT called for the establishment of a 2N committee to deal with matters related to online education. The 2N committee was superseded by a 4N Committee on Hybrid and Online Education with representatives appointed by the AAUP-AFT, the Administration, the Union of Part-time Faculty, and the Graduate Employees Organizing Committee. Neither the 2N Committee nor the 4N Committee

ever met. Mr. Romano asked the Provost for information about the names of the members of the Committee and the charge to the Committee.

9. Grades for Fall 2017: Grades are due 72 hours after the final exam. Ms. Simon reported that on January 2 there were 469 missing grades for undergraduates in the fall term. There were no missing grades for undergraduates on January 11, three days after winter term classes began. Students who depend on their company's reimbursement to pay tuition for the following term have to pay a late fee if they register late. Students who do not pass a prerequisite course cannot proceed, but they may be sitting in the next class in the series, preventing a student who completed the prerequisite from attending. When grades are not turned in on time, the Registrar's Office contacts the instructor. If they still are not submitted, a couple of days later the Department Chair is contacted, then a couple of days later the Associate Dean, and finally the Dean. It was suggested that if instructors were told how turning in grades late affects students, they would more likely comply with the deadline.
10. Agenda for February 7 Meeting: Policy Committee reviewed the drafted agenda for the Academic Senate meeting of February 7.
11. Reports from Liaisons:
 - a. Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee: Ms. Simon is the liaison from Policy Committee to the FSST Committee. The Committee had a presentation on the rollout of Canvas, the new learning management system. Unicheck will replace Safe Assign to detect plagiarism.
 - b. Faculty Affairs Committee and Research Committee: Both committees had presentations about the IRB process. The problems in the process are being addressed.
 - c. Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Mr. Roth chairs the Committee. At its meeting next week, CIC will discuss with Associate Provost Darin Ellis the approval process for changes to program curricula and courses.
12. General Education: Several Policy Committee members reported on the implementation of the new general education program. Advisors in colleges have been trained on the new program. Using Degree Works, current students are able to compare their current general education requirements against the new program. Courses are being reviewed to determine if they meet the learning outcomes of quantitative reasoning. Mr. Romano asked that Policy Committee be informed of the requirements that courses have to meet to satisfy the learning outcomes of the various categories in the new program.