

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

January 25, 2010

Present: N. Barrett; C. Parrish; L. Romano; M. Sengstock; A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz;
J. Whittum-Hudson; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson; J. Woodyard

Absent with notice: H. Tse

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of January 25, 2010.

1. Report from the Chair:

- a. Late registration for the winter term ends at midnight on January 25. Indications are that enrollment will be up about 3.5% over winter term 2009. Graduate enrollment has increased.
- b. Scholars Days are the weekends of February 6-7 and February 13-14. The University expects a large number of students and their parents to attend. About two-thirds of the students who attend the Scholars Days enroll at Wayne State. Provost Barrett encouraged faculty to participate in the events.
- c. Asked about the MedStart Program, the Provost said that between 200 and 300 students apply for the program. Those who are not accepted into the Program are encouraged to attend WSU in the regular pre-medicine program. One hundred percent of the students in the pre-medicine honors program who apply to medical schools are accepted into a medical school.

2. Report from the Senate President:

- a. Mr. Wolfson serves on the Board of the University Foundation. The next meeting of the Board, scheduled for March 2, conflicts with Mr. Wolfson's teaching schedule. He asked Mr. Romano, the Vice Chair of the Senate, to attend in his place, and Mr. Romano agreed.
- b. Mr. Wolfson has been notified that the Linked Employee Assessment and Development System would not apply to department chairs or to associate chairs. However, the communication notifying him of the change did not mention deans, associate deans, assistant deans, or academic directors. At the January 13 Academic Senate meeting, the Senate passed a motion requesting that LEADS not be used to evaluate academic administrators. That Senate action will be forwarded to President Noren, the Board of Governors, and Provost Barrett.
- c. Mr. Wolfson distributed a copy of an article by Mary Kramer from *Crain's Business Detroit* criticizing Mr. Wolfson and Mr. Parrish for comments they made about the proposed code of ethics.

*3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of January 11, 2010, were approved as amended.

*4. Faculty Alternate Representative to the Board of Governors Budget and Finance Committee: Mr. Parrish serves as the faculty alternate representative to the Budget and Finance Committee. However, during the winter term, his teaching schedule conflicts with the meetings of February 3 and March 24. Mr. Romano was asked to replace Mr. Parrish for those meetings, and he agreed. Mr. McIntyre serves as the faculty representative to the Committee.

5. Nominations for the Provost Search Committee: In response to concerns expressed by faculty, President Noren asked the Senate to provide the names of two faculty members from the humanities and two faculty members from the social sciences for service on the search committee for the

Provost. From the nominees, the President will select one faculty member from the humanities and one from the social sciences for the committee.

Other concerns about broader representation on the search committee were brought to the Policy Committee's attention. Policy Committee asked Mr. Wolfson to write to the President about the concerns before trying to provide nominees.

6. Nominations for the Task Force for On-Line Instruction: Provost Barrett is forming a task force to provide assistance to faculty and departments to develop on-line programs. The Provost e-mailed to all members of the Senate the memorandum asking for nominations and the charge to the task force but not many nominations were received. Mr. Wolfson will send a follow-up message soliciting additional nominations from Senate members. Initially the Provost intended to select two faculty for the task force from the Senate's nominations. After the discussion at the Policy Committee meeting, she said that she would accept more names if there was greater interest.
7. Proposal to Amend the Bylaws: Mr. Volz submitted a proposal to amend Article VII Section 8 Item G of the Academic Bylaws that now reads: "Upon request from the President of the University or his/her designee, it [the Policy Committee] shall tender nominations for University committees or for other special assignments." The amendment would transfer the responsibility for some requests to the Senate's standing committees. Mr. Volz believed the committees would know a wider pool of faculty and academic staff for committee service. The discussion focused on three aspects of the selection process. First, some members believed it was the responsibility of the Policy Committee to respond to such requests. Second, the proposed amendment as written needed clarification. Third, amendments to Bylaws should not be made casually. If the Senate thought the procedures should be changed, it was suggested that they be used for one or two years before amending the Bylaws. The proposal was tabled.

[Mr. Volz left the meeting.]

- *8. Code of Ethics Task Force: Provost Barrett will chair a task force to review the draft code of ethics. She asked the Policy Committee to submit twelve nominations from which she would select six persons to serve on the task force. Mr. Parrish, as President of the AAUP-AFT, wrote to the Policy Committee that the AAUP-AFT had filed an unfair labor practice and a grievance against the University. Citing the Board of Governors Statute and a Letter of Agreement between the University and the AAUP-AFT, he asked the Policy Committee and the Senate to refrain from acting upon the request from the administration until the issues related to collective bargaining were resolved. In view of the pending litigation, the Policy Committee voted to refrain from submitting names on the request until the matter is resolved. Mr. Wolfson will write to the Provost informing her of this decision with copies to the Board of Governors and the Senate members.

[Mr. Woodyard left the meeting.]

9. Budget and Strategic Directions: President Noren suggested that the Cabinet Budget Work Group, which comprises Provost Barrett, Vice President Hilary Ratner, Vice President John Davis, and Associate Vice President Robert Kohrman, meet weekly with the Policy Committee during the first 15 minutes of each meeting to address budget issues and strategic directions development. Policy Committee agreed to meet with the Cabinet Budget Work Group.
10. Academic Senate Listserv: A listserv of the members of the Academic Senate for the use of the Provost has been set up.
11. Agenda for the Academic Senate: Policy Committee developed a tentative agenda for the Academic

Senate meeting of February 10, 2010.

12. Committee Minutes: Policy Committee received the minutes of the Faculty Affairs Committee meetings of September 29, 2010, and November 17, 2009.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of February 1, 2010