

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

January 29, 2018

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

Absent with notice: r. hoogland; D. Kessel

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of January 29, 2018.

1. Report from the Chair: A group of students is planning a summit on health disparities. Provost Whitfield asked for suggestions of faculty who might work with the students. Several faculty were suggested.
2. Report from the Senate President:
 - a. The budget hearings for the schools/colleges/divisions for fiscal year 2019 continue.
 - b. The first event to celebrate the Sesquicentennial was held on January 26. Alumni and faculty were honored and students in the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts provided entertainment.
- *3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of January 22 as submitted.
4. Parking at the Business School: The Senate's Budget Committee met on January 29. There was a report that some parking lots might be available for students to use at the new Business School but they are not close to the building.
5. Committee on Online Courses: A Letter of Agreement in the Agreement between the University and the AAUP-AFT calls for the establishment of a 2N committee on online education. That committee has been superseded by a 4N committee that is to have representation from the Union of Part-Time Faculty, the Graduate Employees Organizing Committee, the AAUP-AFT, and the Administration. As far as can be determined, neither committee has met. Monitoring the quality of online courses has been left to departments. Provost Whitfield said that the Administration would appoint new members of the Committee since some who were appointed have left the University.
6. Endowment Funding: Policy Committee received the memo dated January 23, 2018, that Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Dawn Medley sent to Deans and Department Chairs regarding the use of endowed funds. The memo states "effective for the 2018-19 academic year, all endowed and annual funds will be the backbone of student's institutional award and in many cases will replace institutional funds that have been awarded to the student." The purpose of the change is to use the University's resources most effectively. The Policy Committee is concerned that donors will object to the use of their donations that were to be

directed based on student merit but will now substitute for institutional funds and not add to what the students get from the University. Faculty have expressed concern that their efforts soliciting support would not benefit students. They also thought that once this policy becomes known to potential donors it will discourage future contributions. Another concern is that if all endowed funds are not expended, control over them may be taken away from departments. A further concern was whether a student who has only Michigan-sourced funding would have a reduction in funding from an endowed scholarship and whether that is required since the federal rules would not apply. The administration has not been able to inform the Senate if Michigan requires the University to reduce a need-based scholarship if a student gets a merit-based scholarship that is more than the cost of attendance calculated for federal purposes. Provost Whitfield said that donors have given millions of dollars to the University that are not being used. We have a computer program that will help departments match students with scholarships. The Provost said that we have merit students with need that were not receiving support. A member of Policy Committee did not think the new policy addressed that situation. If scholarship money is unused, we need to get more students to apply. Last week before receiving the memo of January 23, Policy Committee sent questions about the scholarship policies to Ms. Medley. They are awaiting her reply.

7. Late Enrollments: It was brought to the attention of the Policy Committee that students were able to add courses in the second week of classes in the winter term. The University policy is as follows: “Students are not permitted to add courses after the first week of the term without instructor and departmental permission. Departments are required to enter a late add permit/override for students if exceptions are made to permit adding of classes during the second week.” Ms. Simon reported that an error in the software allowed students to add classes without the instructor’s and department’s permission.
8. Board of Governors Meeting of February 2: Policy Committee reviewed reports on the agenda of the Board of Governors meeting. The School and College Research Awards Report through Q4, FY 2008 through FY 2017 shows a decline in research funding in FY 2017 compared to FY 2016. Associate Provost for Student Success Monica Brockmeyer presented the Annual Student Success Report. She stated that there is no evidence that the suspension of the mathematics competency requirement is the primary reason for our graduation rate increase of 21 percentage points over six years. The six-year graduation rate of African-American students has increased from 7% for students who entered in 2005 to 20% for those who entered in 2011. Policy Committee also reviewed the Fundraising Performance Report from the Division of Development and Alumni Affairs and the Authorization to Sell Bonds.
9. Strategic Investment Group: Policy Committee reviewed the Monthly Performance Report of the University Foundation for the month of December 2017.
10. General Education: Mr. Romano asked if the courses that are being transferred from the current general education program to the new program would satisfy the learning outcomes of the new program. Updating the learning outcomes was an important reason for reforming the program. Mr. Volz, who serves on the General

Education Oversight Committee, will report back to Policy Committee. In addition, the Curriculum and Instruction Committee will get a report at its meeting on January 31.

Approved as revised at the Policy Committee meeting of February 12, 2018