

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE  
October 2, 2017

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

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of October 2, 2017.

1. Report from the Chair:

- a. Provost Whitfield reported that the drop in graduate enrollment was not as precipitous as had been expected but there was a significant loss of students from India. The University will hire a recruiter to increase both undergraduate and graduate enrollment. This effort is a collaboration of the College of Engineering, the Graduate School, and the Office of International Students and Scholars.
- b. The Provost had asked the Policy Committee for suggestions about support levels for endowed professorship. It appears that there are levels that universities do not post on their websites. Mr. Romano will write a recommendation based on input from the Policy Committee members.
- c. Dean of the Graduate School Ambika Mathur has created an electronic micro-credentialing program, a digital badge that is given when a student demonstrates strength in the areas of communication, ethics, teamwork, leadership, or career development. The company with which Dean Mathur is working has an agreement with LinkedIn so the badge can be posted to a person's LinkedIn account. The Provost suggested that Policy Committee invite Dean Mathur to a meeting to discuss the program.
- d. The search firm Shelly Weiss Storbeck will assist in the search for the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

2. Report from the Senate President: Mr. Romano informed the Committee of the symposia that are scheduled for the sesquicentennial celebration.

March 21: Data Explosion – Social Benefits and Risks by the Division of Computing and Information Technology and the Department of Industrial Engineering

April 18: School Choice in Urban America – Prospects and Challenges by the College of Education

September 4-7: Seeing is Understanding – Visualizing Ideas, the Interaction between Science, Art and Design by the Department of Chemistry, the Art Department, and the College of Education

September 14: Genes, Urban Environment and Health by the School of Medicine and the Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics

October 3: Detroit Past, Present and Future by the Law School, the Labor Studies Center, and the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

October 25: Free and Responsible Speech in the Academy, Empowering Diversity on Contentious Issues by the Department of Communication and the Department of Philosophy

The kick-off of the celebration will be Friday, January 26. Among the events that day will be a reception in Community Arts. The Reuther Library will have an exhibit of the University's history. A Pewabic tile is being created for the sesquicentennial. The celebration will close the week of October 20 – 27.

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4. General Education Reform: Mr. Roth reported on the discussions of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee regarding the proposal to revise the general education program. Ms. Hoogland reported on discussions of the Faculty Affairs Committee, and Ms. Simon reported on the discussions of the Student Affairs Committee. The Quantitative Experience course, the Wayne Experience course, the First Year Inquiry, the Global Learning, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion categories were discussed. Issues of implementation were discussed. Mr. Romano noted that the Research Committee recommended that two science courses be required. Ms. Beale said that the Budget Committee talked about the effect on departments that will lose credit hours and how the change will affect graduate enrollment. Ms. Beale suggested that the Educational Development Grant program might be used to support the development of new courses for the revised general education program.
5. Keeping a University Scholarship: A recent change in policy requires students who have a University scholarship to take 30 credits per academic year. This can include the spring/summer term, but some students do not want to take classes in spring/summer. It was suggested that the University find out how the policy has affected students. Have students lost scholarships? Has their taking additional credits had a negative effect on their grades?
6. Cost of Attendance Budget: Until this fall term, only students who filed a FAFSA had a cost of attendance calculated for them. Now, the University is assessing the cost of attendance for all students. The federal government does not allow universities to award more money than a student needs for actual university expenses. If a department awards scholarships to students, that money is used first to cover expenses before federal financial aid is used.
7. University Policy 2005-01: Policy Committee received a draft revision to University Policy 2005-01 Class and Room Scheduling. Mr. Romano will get clarification of the changes.
8. University Policy 2007-01: Policy Committee received a draft revision to University Policy 2007-01 Information Technology Systems Policy. The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the University's "enterprise information technology (IT) systems are aligned with the University's Strategic Plan and University priorities."

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of October 9, 2017