

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

October 23, 2017

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

Absent with notice: C. Parrish

Guest: Kurt Kruschinska, Registrar

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of October 23, 2017.

1. University Policy 2005-01, Class and Room Scheduling: Policy Committee members expressed concerns about some proposed changes to this Policy. The concerns are related to the scheduling and control over rooms that departments have equipped for their use and are referred to as departmentally-owned classrooms. Mr. Kruschinska was invited to the meeting to clarify the proposed changes. Policy Committee suggested some wording to clarify how the scheduling would be handled. Mr. Kruschinska will revise the draft and re-submit it to the Provost. Policy Committee requested a list of the departmentally-owned classrooms and classrooms that have special equipment.

[Mr. Kruschinska left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair:
 - a. Canvas is the University's new learning management system. Provost Whitfield distributed a chart comparing the features in Canvas and Blackboard.
 - b. The Provost updated the Committee on the review of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the search for the Dean of the College. Dean of Engineering Farshad Fotouhi is chairing the search committee.
 - c. The Provost and the Policy Committee discussed university-wide learning outcomes. Some universities use them to indicate that students have developed leadership or teamwork skills.
3. Report from the Senate President:
 - a. Mr. Romano listed some of the activities for the final week of the sesquicentennial celebration. There will be an evening football game on September 20, 2018, with tailgating and a special half-time show. The magazine celebrating the sesquicentennial will be distributed the last week of the celebration. There may be an event to set a Guinness World Record. Students will bury a time capsule. There will be an exhibit of student art. Lee Bollinger, President of Columbia University, will deliver the final academic symposium on free speech.
 - b. Mr. Romano compared the material that WSU gives to prospective students with the information the University of Michigan gives. Provost Whitfield asked the Committee to suggest five things that might improve the external advertising of the University based on what they have seen other schools do.

- *4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of October 9, 2017, were approved as revised.
5. Committee to Explore Revising the Mathematics Competency: Provost Whitfield is forming a committee to address the problems associated with the teaching of the math competency and to explore how a co-requisite model might be implemented. Two of the four faculty who were asked to serve agreed. Mr. Romano invited the Chair of the Mathematics Department to meet with the Policy Committee on October 30.
6. General Education Reform: Policy Committee reviewed the response from the Provost's Office about the concerns regarding the general education reform proposal that were raised at the October 4 Senate meeting and their approach to dealing with them. Policy Committee received the Curriculum and Instruction Committee's final report on the Provost's General Education Reform Proposal. Mr. Roth reviewed the actions taken by the CIC. CIC endorsed the Proposal subject to amendments. Policy Committee discussed aspects of the CIC report, including the recommendation of the Student Affairs Committee that students who transfer to Wayne State with 24 credits be exempt from taking the Wayne Experience course and the First Year Inquiry course. There was disagreement among Policy Committee members whether these students should be exempt. Policy Committee also discussed whether students who were here during the time when the mathematics competency requirement was suspended would be exempt from fulfilling the math competency requirement. It was noted that advisors had been told to tell students that they would not have to meet the requirement, and that cannot be rescinded now. Ms. Simon reviewed the time line for rollout of the reform proposal. Associate Provost Monica Brockmeyer has formed a committee of Associate Deans to oversee implementation and make adjustments as situations arise that had not been anticipated. A Policy Committee member suggested that advisors and program directors who work with students would be valuable on such a committee. It is expected that students will begin contacting advisors about the new program when it is announced in mid November.
7. Non-Academic Misbehavior Committee Panel: There are three vacancies on the Panel. Mr. Romano reviewed the responses from the faculty and academic staff who have been asked to serve on the Panel. Another faculty member was nominated whom Mr. Romano contacted to ascertain her willingness to serve. The three new Panel members whose terms will expire in 2020 are: Michael Bannon (Pharmacology, Medicine), Deborah Habel (Accounting, Business), and Royanne Smith (English, Liberal Arts and Sciences).
8. 2017 Student Survey: Policy Committee had asked for additional information from the Student Survey: the breakdown of the hours undergraduate and graduate students work and the main reason students would not recommend WSU. Undergraduates worked an average of 24 hours and graduate students worked an average of 40 hours. Of the 2,323 undergraduate students who completed the survey, 46% said they would not recommend WSU because of the quality of

teaching/faculty/instructors. Of the 1,282 graduate students who completed the survey, 39% gave that same reason.

9. Representation at December Commencement: Mr. Roth and Ms. Simon volunteered to represent the faculty and academic staff at the commencement ceremonies.
10. Lecturer Renewal Process: Policy Committee received a request to address the lecturer renewal process. The members discussed their knowledge and experience with the process, but they will revisit the question at a later date.
11. Agenda for the Senate Meeting: Policy Committee reviewed the agenda for the Academic Senate meeting of November 1, 2017.
12. Study Items for Committees: The Policy Committee will consider issues that the Senate committees might look into this year. Ms. Simon mentioned several issues that the Student Affairs Committee would address and Ms. Hoogland mentioned issues that the Faculty Affairs Committee would address.

Approved as amended at the Policy Committee meeting of October 30, 2017