

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

November 6, 2017

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

Absent with notice: C. Parrish; B. Roth

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of November 6, 2017.

1. Report from the Chair:
 - a. Provost Whitfield will attend the annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities next week.
 - b. A team of faculty led by Donna Kashian (Biological Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences) has been awarded a National Science Foundation graduate training grant on urban sustainability. It is interdisciplinary and will prepare graduate students to work not only in academia but also in communities, in business, and in industry. The Provost noted that the University needs to increase the number of training grants.
2. Report from the Senate President: The Budget Planning Council met last week. They discussed the variables that have to be met to balance the budget for fiscal year 2019.
- *3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of October 30, 2017, as submitted.
4. Lecturer Renewal Process: Last week Policy Committee suggested that the process of notifying lecturers that their contracts will not be renewed for the following year should be changed. A Policy Committee member noted that the problem was not only in the way the information is communicated, but that the process leaves the lecturers not knowing if they will be rehired.
5. General Education Reform: The Board of Governors is meeting November 10 to act on the revision of the general education program. The Policy Committee received a copy of the revised program submitted to the Board and the revised Statute on general education. The Senate, at its meeting of November 1, had approved adding a second science course so that students would have to take a physical science course and a life science course. The proposal submitted to the Board only required students to take one natural science course. Other changes that the Senate had recommended were not made, either. The co-requisite support was not mandatory, but would be offered "as deemed appropriate." There was no mention of having options for the Wayne Experience course and all transfer students would have to take the course. The First Year at Wayne course was not mentioned. Policy Committee had recommended that a member of the Academic Senate and a senior member of the academic staff who advises students about general education

requirements on a daily basis be added to the General Education Oversight Committee. The Senate member was added as an ex-officio member of the GEOC, but the academic staff member was not added to the Committee. The Policy Committee had drafted a revised Statute for the general education program. One item in the Statute specified that the Board would have to approve changes to the general education program. That type of statement was not included in the Statute proposed by the administration. Provost Whitfield will look into the questions raised by the Policy Committee. He said that what was posted on the BOG website was not the latest version of what would be presented. He also said that the revised proposal would include only one science course. A member pointed out that the Statute should state when changes to the general education program would go into effect, for example the fall term 2019. Mr. Romano and Ms. Beale will submit requests to address the Board at the meeting of November 10.

6. Faculty for Search Committee: Policy Committee is seeking additional faculty nominees to serve on the search committee for the Associate Vice President for Human Resources.
7. I LEAD: The Mike Ilitch School of Business submitted a statement that the School's Executive Committee supported the establishment of the Institute for Leadership and Diversity and a statement that no funding was expected now or in the future from the School to support the Institute. The Policy Committee did not oppose the establishment of the Institute but indicated that the Budget page was still not appropriate or probably accurate.
8. Ideas for Recruitment of Students and for Marketing: Policy Committee members suggested ways that the Admissions Office and the Division of Marketing and Communications could reach prospective students. Provost Whitfield has sent the suggestions to the Offices.
9. Amending the Bylaws: Mr. Romano submitted language to revise Article X, Section 9 of the Bylaws, clarifying the procedures for voting by secret ballot and the procedures for a roll call vote. His proposal was revised at the Policy Committee meeting. The amendment will be on the agenda for the next Senate meeting. According to the Bylaws, the vote on the proposed amendment will be taken at the following meeting. An affirmative vote of a majority of the Senate membership is required to adopt an amendment to the Bylaws.
10. Disability and Veteran Voluntary Self-Identification Information: Guidelines administered by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) require universities such as Wayne State to ask employees to update their disability status information every five years. As of November 1, employees had to complete the survey answering whether they were veterans or if they had a disability or they could refuse to answer. Employees objected to being forced to complete the survey before they could access Academica.