

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

February 15, 2016

Present: J. Artiss; L. Beale; V. Dallas; C. Parrish; L. Romano; B. Roth; N. Simon;
M. Winters; A. Wisniewski

Absent with notice: D. Kessel; W. Volz

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of February 15.

1. Student Success Conference: The Michigan Student Success Conference was held at Oakland University February 11-12. Wayne State is well known for working closely with OU. WSU submitted a proposal for funding and received \$70,000 to work on barrier courses. Mr. Romano asked the Provost for a copy of the proposal. [Please see item #6 in the Proceedings of March 7 for corrected information about this conference.]
2. Director of Undergraduate Admissions: Ericka Matthews-Jackson, who has been employed as the Assistant Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs in the Law School, accepted the position of Senior Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Student Orientation.
3. Brazilian Science Mobility Program Students: At its January 25 meeting, the Policy Committee asked about the number of students from Brazil who are on campus this year. We have 55 undergraduate Brazilian Science Mobility Program students. They are supported by the Brazilian government. We also have five non-BSMP students; four are undergraduates and one is a graduate student.
- *4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of February 8, 2016, as submitted.
5. Emeritus Status: A faculty member called to the attention of the Policy Committee a restriction in the Policy on Emeritus and Emerita Appointment, specifically the requirement that the Chair or Director and the Dean must endorse the appointment. That section of the Policy reads, "Emeritus appointments are recommended by appropriate faculty or academic staff committees (normally those responsible for tenure and Employment Security Status), with the endorsement of the chair or director, and the dean, and must be approved by the Provost."

In fall 2013, the Provost had discussed with Policy Committee updating the Emeritus Policy that was in force at that time. Policy Committee submitted its recommended changes to the Provost, stressing that the decision for recommending emeritus status was a faculty decision. PC did not recommend that the Chair/Director or the Dean endorse the faculty's recommendation for emeritus status, but they could write a separate letter. The Emeritus Policy was revised February 2014 and included a

requirement that the Chair and the Dean endorse the recommendation. Provost Winters believes the Chair and the Dean should have a say in the process.

A member of the Policy Committee believes that most faculty should be given emeritus status if they want it; no one should have to approve it. Such status is an acknowledgement that a faculty member has served the University for a long time. Policy Committee members saw the granting of the emeritus title as a way to maintain a good relationship with retirees.

Provost Winters proposed revisions to the published policy dated February 2014. Policy Committee asked for three changes in her draft policy: (1) The Dean and Chair do not have to endorse the recommendation; (2) The policy should state clearly that those with emeritus status receive free parking; and (3) The Dean and the Chair should be able to initiate the process.

6. Personnel Changes as a Result of Budget Cuts: The Senate's Bylaws specifies the formula for determining the number of representatives each school/college/division should have on the Senate each year. While calculating those numbers, Mr. Romano determined how many are tenure and tenure track, lecturers, academic staff, tenured administrators, non-tenured administrators, research faculty, clinical faculty, and non-tenured faculty. He compared the numbers for the academic years of 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

The tenure and tenure-track faculty are down 5% or 50 out of 929. The number of lecturers increased by 16%. In Liberal Arts and Sciences the lecturers increased by 22% and in Education by 26%. The number of faculty in Fine, Performing and Communication Arts has dropped but the number of lecturers did not increase. The number of tenured administrators has remained about the same. The number of administrators in the University has not been reduced. The number of research faculty in the School of Medicine has remained steady, but they have decreased in the College of Engineering. The number of clinical faculty is fairly stable. Mr. Romano did not include part-time faculty in the count.

Provost Winters said that part-time faculty have remained stable over the last couple of years at about 775. She noted that some of the drop is due to tenured faculty, tenured administrators who had faculty status, and academic staff taking the retirement incentive last year. The Provost will give Policy Committee a list of the faculty numbers in each college who accepted the retirement incentive.

7. Budget Metrics: The administration is developing metrics to use for allocating money to the schools/colleges/divisions for fiscal year 2016-2017. Former Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs Chacona Johnson, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Analysis Robert Kohrman, and Associate Vice President for Research Gloria Heppner offered to the Council of Deans metrics from their areas that might be used as guidelines in developing the budget. The Deans would like their budgets for next year to be split with 50% being discretionary and 50% based on metrics.

Mr. Romano noted that some of our larger colleges, especially Liberal Arts and Sciences, have had large cuts over the past several years. CLAS is the profit center of the University; it teaches 60% or more of our student credit hours. No business would cut its profit center to meet its budget. Decisions about allocating funding, he said, should be made so the budget is in alignment with the strategic plan. If the goal is student learning, the University should invest in the colleges that are deeply involved in student learning and retention. The Provost said that last year the Deans demonstrated how their proposed budgets followed the strategic plan.

8. 3N Child Care Committee: Mr. Artiss, who chairs the Child Care Committee, reported that it developed a list of child care facilities in the area and surveyed those facilities. He reported the results of the survey to the PC. He suggested that a Child Care facility might be included in the plans for the new residence hall. The Provost suggested that the Committee contact Vice President for Finance and Business Operations William Decatur for information about public partnerships for childcare.
9. Budget Committee Meeting with the Chairs of the Unit Budget Advisory Committees: For several years the Budget Committee has held a meeting with the BAC Chairs informing them of the budget situation for the coming fiscal year. Policy Committee discussed whether that meeting should be held this year.
10. Agenda for Academic Senate Meeting: Policy Committee discussed items for the agenda for the Senate meeting of March 2.
11. Reports from Liaisons:
 - a. Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Ms. Simon, the liaison to the CIC, reported that Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs Joseph Rankin informed the Committee that the new scheduling matrix would go into effect in the winter term 2017. Ms. Simon suggested that students be surveyed in the winter term 2017 and in the fall term 2017 to learn their opinions about the change.
 - b. Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee: Mr. Artiss said that Ned Staebler, the Vice President for Economic Development and President and Chief Executive Officer of TechTown, informed the FSST Committee about the initiatives TechTown is undertaking. They appear to be more involved in local businesses than in the University. On another issue, Mr. Artiss said that the mapping of unisex washrooms on campus is moving forward.