

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

February 19, 2018

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

Guests: Loreleigh Keashly, Chair, Daycare Implementation Committee; Anna Miller, Lecturer of Early Childhood Education in the College of Education, Executive Director of the College of Education Early Childhood Center and the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute Early Childhood Center, Chair of the Woodward Corridor Early Childhood Consortium; Ellen Barton, Associate Provost for Academic Personnel

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of February 19, 2018.

- *1. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of February 12, 2018, were approved as submitted.
2. Report from the Chair:
 - a. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences changed its general education requirements effective fall 2018. All students will be required to take a minor and two semesters of a foreign language. The Provost believes that in a world where credentials are important, these students will be more competitive.
 - b. A student forum will be held on February 19 to discuss the incident last week when a student pulled a knife on members of a student organization during a heated political exchange. President Wilson, Provost Whitfield, and Chief of Police Anthony Holt will meet with the students. The Administration is following the procedures in the Student Code of Conduct to deal with the situation.
3. Daycare Committee: Ms. Keashly began the discussion. Periodically over the years, faculty and administrators have raised the question of having childcare on campus. About two years ago, a 3N Childcare Committee surveyed students, faculty, and staff to find out if there was a need for childcare. One thousand one hundred of the 1,848 respondents to the survey said that they would consider using an on-campus facility immediately. The University has two facilities on campus that accept children between the ages of 2.5 to 5 years. Based on the work of the 3N Committee, the Daycare Implementation Committee was formed with the specific charge to develop a plan that would include facilities for infants and toddlers. The Implementation Committee looked at the possibility of renovating existing facilities, of building a new facility, and of partnering with a company to provide childcare. The Committee met with corporate daycare providers to learn about their structure, services, programming, and existing partnership models. Of the eight firms to which the Request for Qualifications was sent, only Rainbow Childcare Center (RCC) responded.

RCC is building a facility at Mack and Brush and is interested in working with Wayne State; RCC and the University are developing an agreement. Fifty spots in the

facility will be reserved for the University. If successful, it could be expanded even to the point of a facility being built for the University.

Members of Policy Committee commented. The 3N Committee was formed in 2015 because it was thought that having daycare facilities would help retain students. The plan that was presented did not appear to do that, in particular, members had urged that a facility be located on campus, convenient to students and staff, and with drop-in hours. Ms. Miller explained that many details need to be worked out. Having a drop-in service is complicated. Students and employees will have a choice of 2-day, 3-day, or 5-day programs.

Several members of Policy Committee believed that what was needed was support from the senior administration. Provost Whitfield said that with the pending arrangement, the University would be able to determine if people would use the facility.

Ms. Miller mentioned the different buildings that had been considered to house a daycare facility and places where a facility might be built. Asked about the cost for students, Ms. Keashly said that RCC has worked with state subsidies and would work to get subsidies for those who need them.

In response to questions about students' needing flexibility for daycare, Ms. Miller said that a lot of flexibility disappears due to the regulations for certification.

Policy Committee members expressed frustration with the situation. There are many hurdles, but other universities have managed to provide daycare for their students who have children.

Ms. Keashly and Ms. Miller were invited to make a report to the full Senate.

[Ms. Keashly and Ms. Miller left the meeting. Associate Provost Barton arrived during the above discussion.]

- *4. Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee: The faculty member who was selected to represent the Law School on the University-wide Tenure and Promotion Committee is now ineligible because he accepted an administrative appointment. Ms. Barton returned to the Policy Committee with the names of two nominees. The Provost and the Policy Committee jointly selected the faculty member to serve.

[Ms. Barton left the meeting.]

5. Report from the Senate President:

- a. Mr. Romano commented on the new general education requirements for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He thought the number of credit hours were excessive. There is a good rationale for having a minor but two courses of a foreign language and a minor could add 26 to 33 credits to a student's program.
- b. The due date for the completed student evaluation of teaching forms for the fall 2017 term was December 4, one week before the last day of fall classes. Many

instructors prefer to have students complete the SET on the last regular class day because students can see the full range of the course and instructors review the course materials. However, it was difficult for the Testing, Evaluation and Research Services Office to process the SET scores to meet the deadline for submitting the packets for selective-salary increases. The salary packets are due in the Chemistry Department on February 28, but the SET scores from the fall term will be released on March 9. Other members of the Policy Committee also had early dates for submitting their materials. Mr. Romano asked that the Provost's Office demand that the colleges and departments allow faculty time to include the SET scores in the packets. Under this timeframe, the department and college have five months to review the materials. If the salary packets are due before the scores are released, there is no reason to ask faculty to submit the SET forms before the last day of class.

- c. Mr. Romano is awaiting a response from Dawn Medley (Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management) regarding the Policy Committee's additional questions about the awarding of financial aid.
6. Michigan Transfer Agreement: Effective fall semester 2018, transfer students who complete the requirements in the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA), will have completed our University General Education requirements. The transfer students will not have to take a second composition course or an oral communication course and will not have to take the course on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion or the Wayne Experience course. Mr. Romano objected to the Administration's making major policy changes without consulting the Senate, but Provost Whitfield maintained that it was discussed with the Policy Committee when the proposed new requirements were discussed. Mr. Romano said that a policy where the MTA would fully satisfy our General Education requirements was never discussed with the Policy Committee and believes transfer students will be exempt from what the faculty believe to be important topics and that this policy will encourage students to take all of their general education courses at community colleges. The University in the past had accepted the MTA but had additional general education requirements that students had to meet.
7. Master Plan: Harry Wyatt, the Associate Vice President for Facilities Planning and Management, has talked about the formation of the Master Plan Committee. Policy Committee asked the Provost to ensure that they be the body that appoints faculty to the Committee.
8. Online Database for Salary Committee: A faculty member objected to having to submit their CV digitally rather than in a summary, complaining about the amount of time required to input the information. Mr. Romano and Provost Whitfield explained that the information about grants and research is readily available once it is entered in the system. The system puts the information into the formats used by various granting agencies. Another Policy Committee member found the program user-unfriendly and reported that his colleagues have complained about the amount of time they have to devote to the work.
9. Graduate Council Meeting: Policy Committee received the agenda and supporting documents for the meeting of February 21, 2018.

10. Agenda for the Academic Senate: Policy Committee discussed items for the agenda of the March 7 Academic Senate meeting.
11. Reports from Liaisons:
 - a. Student Affairs Committee: Mr. Roth, the liaison to the Student Affairs Committee, reported that Catherine Kay, Director of Financial Aid, and Dawn Medley, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, gave a detailed report about merit based financial aid and need based financial aid. A written report is being prepared. One area of discussion was the unused money from donors, although it was not clear if what was not being used was interest or principal. Clarification was needed to understand what was to be spent. Ms. Simon said that Ms. Medley reported that there was \$10 million in unspent endowment money. Another issue was whether support undergraduate students receive for travel related to a research project was considered income and subtracted from the student's financial aid.
 - b. Faculty Affairs Committee: Ms. Beale reported that, at its February meeting, the FAC discussed aspects of the SET, its misuse in evaluating faculty and how the form could be improved. The form does not take into account the difficulty of the courses or the level at which they are taught. Research shows that harder courses are rated lower. Courses taught by women, by people of color, and by older people are rated lower. Fewer students in online classes fill out the form. Mr. Romano thinks Administrators should be instructed in how to use the data from the SETs. The FAC suggested that the Student Evaluation of Teaching Committee be re-established to develop guidelines on how to interpret the data.

Approved as amended at the Policy Committee meeting of February 26, 2018