

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

February 27, 2017

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

Guests: Monica Brockmeyer, Associate Provost for Student Success; R. Darin Ellis, Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness; Daren Hubbard, Chief Information Officer and Associate Vice President, Computing and Information Technology; Dawn Medley, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management; Ashlie Prioleau, Education Advisory Board (EAB); Megan Wallace, EAB

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of February 27, 2017.

1. Educational Advisory Board: The University has contracted with the EAB to provide support to improve student success. EAB will provide support through three initiatives: Executive Partnership; Student Success Collaborative/Advising Works; and Academic Performance Solutions. Ms. Prioleau explained the types of services EAB would provide and how they could help students persist in their studies and succeed. The other guests participated in the discussion. The Executive Partnership is an intensive program unique to Wayne State and the University of Colorado Denver. Wayne State's African American student population and the University of Colorado Denver's Hispanic population are about equal. EAB is assessing our resources and setting up teams to lead the initiatives. The company will coordinate technology resources. They will compare students' persistence as a result of using their resources with past semesters. The Executive Partnership is a two-year project.

[The guests left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair: Provost Whitfield provided an updated schedule of the site visitors from the Higher Learning Commission. He is holding a town hall on February 28 for all members of the University community in preparation for the visit.
3. Report from the Senate President: Mr. Romano reported on the most recent meeting of the Sesquicentennial Committee and the plans for the symposia. He reviewed the forums that the HLC visitors will hold.
- \*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of February 20, 2017, as submitted.
5. Reports – General Education Reform Subcommittees:
  - a. Communities Course: Ms. Simon updated the Policy Committee about this Course. First-time-in-any-college students would take the one-credit Communities Course twice, once in the fall semester and once in the winter

- semester. The course is under development, but there would be a project in the second semester. The credits would count toward graduation. Transfer students would not be required to take the course, but could choose to take it. Policy Committee discussed the cost of the course, which they predicted would be expensive, and they asked for clarification of some of the terms used to describe what students would be required to do.
- b. First Year Inquiry Course Subcommittee: Mr. Roth explained that the purpose of the First Year Inquiry Course (previously referred to as the Signature Course) is to help students make connections between broad ideas and practical applications. This course is more flexible than the Signature course originally proposed by the General Education Reform Committee. There are many existing courses that could fulfill the requirement. The members of the Subcommittee want students to avail themselves of opportunities to learn from the community. And these courses are no longer linked to the community, writing, or oral communication courses.
  - c. Engagement Course Subcommittee: Mr. Volz is a member of the Engagement Course (previously referred to as the Capstone Course) Subcommittee. The idea behind this course is that learning could be enhanced by applying lecture material in the real world. There is debate in the Subcommittee whether the experiential engagement experience could include research. A member of the Policy Committee pointed out that such projects would have to be connected with a particular course. Policy Committee also discussed the resources that would be needed to have such projects.
6. HERI Data: Policy Committee has asked Provost Whitfield for the data. He will get the information.
  7. Center for Translational Science and Clinical Research Innovation: The formation of this Center was reported in the news media. It did not go through the procedure in University Statute 2.23.01, *Policy on Creation, Operation, Review, and Discontinuance of Centers and Institutes*. Mr. Romano will write to President Wilson asking that the Director of the Center submit a proposal to establish the Center according to the Statute.
  8. Center for Community Engagement in Health: The same news article referenced in item 7 reported the formation of the WSU Center for Community Engagement in Health (CCEH) as an extension of the Center for Citizenship. The CCEH has not gone through the approval procedure. The Provost will reply to the Policy Committee's concerns at the next meeting.