

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

March 8, 2010

Present: N. Barrett; C. Parrish; M. Sengstock; A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz;  
J. Whittum-Hudson; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson

Absent with notice: L. Romano; H. Tse; J. Woodyard

Guests: John Davis, Vice President, Finance and Facilities Management; Robert Kohrman, Associate Vice President, Budget, Planning and Analysis; Hilary Ratner, Vice President for Research

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of March 8, 2010.

1. President's Cabinet Budget Work Group: Mr. Davis, Mr. Kohrman, and Vice President Ratner attend the meetings to discuss with Policy Committee the budget and strategic directions. They along with Provost Barrett comprise the Budget Work Group, a subgroup of the President's Cabinet. On March 8, 2010, Mr. Kohrman made a presentation about the budget for fiscal year 2011 at the meeting of the Senate Budget Committee and the Chairs of the budget advisory committees of departments/schools/colleges. At that meeting, Mr. McIntyre, the Chair of the Senate Budget Committee, pointed out that the percentage of the University's budget that has been allocated to instruction has declined over the years. Mr. Kohrman and Mr. Davis agreed that the percentage of institutional support from the whole budget has declined. However, Mr. Kohrman pointed out that if research activity increases, more support staff have to be hired to administer the grants.

A member noted that increases for dental and health care insurance and increases in parking fees mean that employees are losing ground. It was also noted that while laboratories and buildings are important to research in the sciences, faculty in the humanities and the social sciences depend upon the Libraries, and a \$1 million cut to the budget of the Libraries affects faculty.

A member attended a presentation at the Medical School that, in part, addressed research at the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS). Vice President Ratner said that HFHS is Wayne State's partner for the CTSA.

[Mr. Davis, Mr. Kohrman, and Vice President Ratner left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Senate President:

- a. Mr. Wolfson provided more information about the morning's meeting of the Senate Budget Committee and the Chairs of the department/school/college budget advisory committees. Mr. Kohrman made a presentation about the state's budget situation. He showed on a spreadsheet how different increases in tuition and cuts in expenditures affected the budget. Mr. McIntyre, the Chair of the Senate Budget Committee, distributed a draft statement with a tuition

recommendation for the 2010-2011 academic year and recommendations for structuring the FY 2011 budget. The Budget Committee wants to see the University increase the percentage of the budget allocated to schools and colleges.

- b. Mr. Wolfson met with Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer Joseph Sawasky

about improving the University's e-mail system. When receiving a message from someone using their University access ID, the recipient sees the access ID but not the person's name. Wolfson had suggested they modify the e-mail system to filter messages and automatically attach the names to them.

3. FY 2011 Budget: Provost Barrett explained that the meetings that President Noren is having with the Deans is the first round of meetings for the purpose of looking at various scenarios if it were necessary to cut their budgets by 5%, 10%, or 15%. After the initial meeting, the Deans are to consult with their unit's budget committee. Afterwards, each Dean will meet again with the President.
- \*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of March 1, 2010, were approved as revised.
5. Representation on the Academic Senate: Last year, the Library and Information Science program was upgraded to the School of Library and Information Science. The Policy Committee considered how representation on the Academic Senate for the faculty and academic staff in the School of Library and Information Science and for the librarians should be handled. The Committee learned that internally the two units hold separate elections to fill the seats assigned to the Library System. As a result, the Policy Committee decided to maintain the current structure where the School of Library and Information Science and the librarians comprise one unit for representation on the Academic Senate.
6. Agenda for the Senate Meeting: Policy Committee reviewed the agenda of the Academic Senate meeting of March 10, 2010.
7. Committee Minutes: Policy Committee received the minutes of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee meeting of December 9, 2009, and the Student Affairs Committee meeting of January 20, 2010.

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of March 22, 2010