

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

March 7, 2011

Present: R. Brown; V. Dallas; D. Kessel; R. MacArthur; C. Parrish; L. Romano;
A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson; J. Woodyard

Mr. Romano, the Vice Chair of the Senate, chaired the meeting until the Provost arrived.

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of March 7, 2011.

*1. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of February 28, 2011, were approved as submitted.

[Mr. Volz arrived.]

2. Board of Governors Meeting: The Policy Committee received the following documents on the agenda for the Academic Affairs Committee meeting and the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of the Board of Governors and on the agenda of the meeting of the full Board on March 9, 2011: the Budget Overview; the FY 2011-12 Room and Board Rate Recommendation; Update on Athletics; the Grants and Contracts Report for the first quarter of FY 2011; the Development and Alumni Affairs Donation Report for the months of November and December 2010; and the Capital Campaign Report for the period 1/1/2009 to 12/31/2010.

[Mr. MacArthur arrived during the discussion of item 2. The Provost arrived at the end of the discussion.]

3. COACHE: The author of the COACHE survey held focus groups with WSU faculty who participated in the survey of junior faculty. She has submitted a report to the Provost and he will give it to the Policy Committee.
4. Parking Operations: 5-Year Business Plan: A member reported that the Student Senate voted 20 to 5 to support including the parking fee for students in the omnibus fee. Another member noted that the recommendations in the report *Parking Operations: 5-Year Business Plan* do not require general fund money; the parking fees would cover the recommendations.
5. Graduate School: Mark Wardell stepped down from the position of Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School. Vice President for Research Ratner will serve as Interim Dean of the Graduate School.
6. Retention Implementation Task Force Final Report: Mr. Woodyard asked that the Retention Implementation Task Force Final Report be sent to all Senate committees for consultation. The Provost and the Policy Committee discussed some of the recommendations in the Report and the need to improve the University's retention and graduation rates. The Policy Committee discussed the use of opt out surveys.

One member recommended that the University conduct opt out surveys to learn why students drop out rather than basing decisions on anecdotal comments. Another member noted that often people do not respond honestly to surveys. One college that does opt out surveys found that most students drop out for financial reasons.

7. Consultants' Report on the Office for Teaching and Learning: Policy Committee received the Consultant's Report on the Office for Teaching and Learning. Provost Brown would like to expand the role of the Office.
8. Parking Operations Report: Policy Committee received comments from the Student Affairs Committee and the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee about the report *Parking Operations: 5-Year Business Plan*.
9. Committee Minutes: Policy Committee received the minutes of the January 26, 2011, meeting of the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee.
10. Report from the Liaison to the Budget Committee: Mr. Romano reported that at the Budget Committee meeting of March 7, 2011, Mr. McIntyre informed the members about the Provost's Blue Ribbon Committee to look for areas where budget cuts might be made on the academic side.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of March 21, 2011