

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

April 2, 2012

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

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of April 2, 2012.

1. Report from the Senate President: Mr. Romano attended the University Foundation meeting on March 30 which focused on improving and increasing fundraising efforts.
2. Report from the Chair
 - a. Provost Brown updated the Policy Committee on the searches for the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Dean of Social Work, the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, and the Coleman A. Young Endowed Chair in Urban Affairs. The search for the Director of the Office for Teaching and Learning is continuing.
 - b. The Provost informed the Policy Committee that President Gilmour and he would like to suspend the search for the Dean of the Graduate School. The Huron Consulting Group is reviewing the Office of the Vice President for Research, and at the Provost's request the consultants are meeting individually with the members of the Policy Committee. The Provost would like to review the report of the Huron Group before proceeding with the search. Given that the academic year is ending, President Gilmour and the Provost would like to commence the search in September. Mr. Romano stressed the need for consultation with the faculty and the stakeholders if the administration were considering combining the Graduate School and the Office of the Vice President for Research. The Policy Committee wrote a resolution stressing the need for such consultation, and it is seeking the support of the full Senate at the Senate's April 4 meeting. Provost Brown said that there would be consultation. A member of the Policy Committee expressed concern about the Huron Group's expertise to make a recommendation on the academic structure of the University because its expertise is in business. The academic structure, he believes, depends upon the history of the institution.
 - c. Policy Committee discussed with the Provost issues related to responsibility-centered budgets and enrollment-driven budgets. They talked about ways to raise additional revenue.
- *3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of March 26, 2012, were approved as submitted.
4. Impediments to Graduation: The Policy Committee is pleased that improvements are being made to increase the graduation rate, but they were aware of some issues related to scheduling of classes that have not been addressed. In addition, some students cannot complete a degree in four years because of the number of credits required for some programs. The Policy Committee members offered suggestions on issues that need to be addressed.

5. Student Publication Policy: The Faculty Affairs Committee submitted a report "Management of Student Publications," which it developed in response to a student publication problem in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science in 2010. The FAC strongly recommended that the report be transmitted to the Graduate Council and the administration. A member of Policy Committee did not believe a contract between the student and faculty was necessary or enforceable and was opposed to including punitive measures against a student who violated the agreement. The recommendations would have to be reviewed by legal counsel. A motion was made to forward the report as recommended by the FAC, but it was tabled until the Policy Committee can meet with Laura Johnston, the Associate General Counsel who handles intellectual property issues.
6. 2012-2017 Strategic Plan: President Gilmour asked the Policy Committee to approve a revised strategic plan. Some members thought revisions to the report were needed. They will revise the report and return it to the Policy Committee.
7. Meeting Regarding Admission Policy: Policy Committee would like to meet with Judy Tatum, the Senior Director of Admissions, to learn more about the holistic approach to the review of undergraduate applications. They will develop a list of questions and invite Ms. Tatum to a meeting.
8. Directors of Undergraduate Studies: Faculty in departments in Liberal Arts and Sciences are given a one-course release to serve as the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The release time will be discontinued when the undergraduate advisors are hired. However, the Senate member who brought this to the Policy Committee's attention pointed out that the Directors do much more than advise students. Policy discussed the concern but believed the question had to be handled within the college. The Provost will speak with the Dean.
9. Parking and the Huron Consulting Group: At the Senate's Budget Committee meeting of March 5, Vice President Nork introduced an employee of the Huron Consulting Group by outlining the areas where HCG focused its attention at WSU. A member of the audience asked if HCG had looked at parking because it affects student retention. Mr. Nork had replied that HCG had not dealt with that issue. Mr. Woodyard will speak with Mr. Nork to get clarification.
10. Reports from Liaisons: Mr. Woodyard, the liaison to the Student Affairs Committee (SAC), reported that the committee discussed a problem where a student was unable to submit an assignment on time because the web site the faculty member used, which was not a WSU web site, was not functioning. The faculty member would not accept the work after the deadline. The Committee is looking into the situation. Mr. Woodyard also updated Policy Committee on the survey that the Student Affairs Committee is developing with the administration.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of April 16, 2012