WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

April 30, 2018

Present: L. Beale; B. Roth; V. Dallas; r. hoogland; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano;

N. Simon; W. Volz; K. Whitfield

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of April 30, 2018.

1. Report from the Chair:
2. Provost Whitfield said that the Board of Governors would receive information about the selection of the new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A new policy regarding the Board’s participation in Deans’ searchers is being written.
3. A special meeting of the Board of Governors has been scheduled for June 8 to consider the tuition rates for the 2018-19 academic year.
4. Commencement ceremonies are May 8 at Ford Field. About 4500 students are graduating.
5. The decisions have been made for faculty and academic staff promotion and tenure. Letters have been sent to the applicants informing them of the decision.
6. Report from the Senate President:
7. Summer enrollment is now 1.9% higher than last year at this time.
8. At the Senate’s Budget Committee meeting, Vice President for Finance and Business Operations William Decatur presented a budget for fiscal year 2019 with a deficit of 3%. The Budget Planning Committee had discussed options that could result in the deficit being 1.5% rather than 3%.

\*3. Approval of Proceedings: Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of April 23, 2018, as submitted.

1. Enrollment Projections: Policy Committee received information projecting the number of high school graduates in Michigan. Over the next ten years there will be a 15% drop in graduates. A report published by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation ranks “public flagship universities by average net price paid by in-state students with income below $30,000 in 2014-2015 (2015 CPI).” Wayne State’s net price is listed at $10,896. University of Michigan’s is $3,414. There was much speculation among Policy Committee members about the reasons for this. Mr. Romano asked the Provost to try to get an explanation of the numbers. In the “Rank of public flagship universities by percent of freshmen that are out-of-state, 2014-15” Wayne State has an out-of-state population of 5%, while UM brings in 45% and MSU 29%. This is of concern because of the projected decline in the number of high school graduates in the state.
2. Request for Temporary Charter: Sheryl Kubiak, the new Dean of the School of Social Work, submitted a request for a temporary charter for the School of Social Work. This is a college center. As required by Statute, Provost Whitfield consulted

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with the Policy Committee, which recommended that a temporary charter be granted.

1. Board of Governors Meeting: The Course Materials Fees Annual Report, which shows the new fees or increases in fees for courses for the 2018-19 academic year, is being given to the Board of Governors for its May 4 meeting. There are 122 requests this year. Provost Whitfield said that representatives from the colleges making the requests would attend the Board meeting to respond to questions. Ms. Beale would like to know what the average increase in tuition and fees would be for students who pay course materials fees.
2. RCM and Tuition: A member asked if schools and colleges would be able to charge differential tuition when the University adopts the RCM budget model. Upon graduation students with some majors are able to get jobs with high salaries. Perhaps tuition for such students should be higher than for students graduating with degrees that do not command a high salary. Provost Whitfield said that is not under discussion. It is likely a prohibition against that would be included in the policy.
3. Reports from Liaisons:
4. Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Mr. Roth reported that Sara Kacin, the Director of the Office for Teaching and Learning, met with the Curriculum and Instruction Committee and talked about the Academy of Teachers (AOT). There is a new working document based on the input from the Policy Committee. Much will be determined by the inaugural group of members of the AOT. Mr. Roth will provide the updated document to Policy Committee. Professor Mohamad Hassoun (Electrical and Computer Engineering) and Chief Information Officer Daren Hubbard talked about electronic cheating in the classroom. Staff in the Division of Computing and Information Technology are working on making more spaces available where various kinds of electronics could be blocked. Mr. Roth suggested that a task force that would include faculty who have had the problem might work with the staff in C&IT. Mr. Hubbard will keep the Policy Committee informed about the issue. Mr. Roth suggested that Mr. Hubbard might report to the whole Senate on the issue. Ms. Beale said that the 2N Committee on Online Education ought to deal with the issue of whether the student taking an exam is the student who is registered for the course. Mr. Volz said that the Business School hired a service to monitor students taking exams.
5. Budget Committee: The sale of property that the University owns was discussed at the Budget Committee meeting of April 30. Mr. Volz expressed concern that the current environment is not one in which we ought to be selling our assets. Provost Whitfield said that the University needs to form more public-private partnerships to use its land to the benefit of the faculty and students. Some universities were successful in their expansion, others failed.
6. Interdisciplinary Faculty Hiring: Provost Whitfield is seeking proposals to hire faculty across departments during the 2018-19 academic year. It was reported that faculty in one department were upset that the arts and humanities were ignored in

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the themes put forth in their college. Although faculty do not decide on faculty hiring, members of the Policy Committee thought that there should be more consideration early in the process on hiring directions**.** Chairs tell the Dean what areas they need filled, and the Dean decides what disciplines they will fill. In the new process, faculty talk about the themes they think should be pursued. The themes are not limited to those listed in the instructions. Seventy-five percent of the proposals received were on themes other than the ones listed.

The Provost receives requests for hiring faculty throughout the year. The priority in hiring is filing positions in the programs that have accreditation requirements. Provost Whitfield will decide who is hired as the result of the process. The University has very little money to hire faculty. Some departments are excited about interdisciplinary hiring.

Another member commented that programs should hire competent faculty and build from the expertise we have. A third member said that one would hope interdisciplinary work would happen naturally; the environment should encourage it. However, we do not want all hiring to be interdisciplinary.

Provost Whitfield said that rather than trying to hire faculty with appointments in two colleges, in the new process colleges would hire their own faculty who would be in the same thematic area. A small amount of money will help faculty work together. The new faculty should complement what is being done now.

A member mentioned that it is very difficult to maintain interdisciplinary work or interdisciplinary programs. Full-time faculty have their own areas of expertise. Another member suggested that someone who is entrepreneurial should coordinate the work. A third member said that centers should be organized around a group of faculty who work together.

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Approved as amended at the Policy Committee meeting of June 4, 2018