WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

June 18, 2018

Present: L. Beale; B. Roth; V. Dallas; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano; N. Simon;

K. Whitfield

Absent with Notice: renee hoogland; W. Volz

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of June 18, 2018.

1. Report from the Chair:
2. The College of Education was reviewed this year. During the 2018-19 academic year, a new Dean will be recruited.
3. Contracts for the Deans of the Mike Ilitch School of Business, the College of Engineering, the Graduate School, and the School of Medicine will end next year.
4. The School of Business will undergo its accreditation review next year.
5. Two hundred fewer students are pursuing a Ph.D. now than five years ago. The reasons for the drop need to be investigated and ways to increase graduate enrollment need to be implemented. Financial support of graduate students is important.
6. Report from the Senate President:
7. The members of the Budget Committee were told that faculty in the Mike Ilitch School of Business and students who take classes at the School and on the main campus would have to pay for parking at both the School and on the main campus.
8. The Board of Governors authorized the awarding of contracts for the design and construction of the STEM Innovation Learning Center contingent upon State of Michigan approval of the appropriation of requested capital funds. When the Science and Engineering Library was closed, faculty in the sciences were told that the books in the building would always be accessible. Now it is not clear what will be done with the books. They may be boxed and stored in a building off campus. Provost Whitfield will check into the disposition of the books. Some space in the building is designated for K–12 science learning. A lot of space is needed for teaching labs. A group of faculty that includes Jeffrey Potoff (Chemical Engineering, Engineering) and Karen Myhr (Biological Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences) are involved in making decisions about space utilization. The Senate had input into the planning of the STEM Center, but Ms. Beale thought the later plans should have been discussed with the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee for comment.

\*3. Approval of Proceedings: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of June 4, 2018, as submitted.

1. Budget Planning: Ms. Beale asked the Provost what metrics would be used next year in the budget planning process. The Provost and Vice President for Finance

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and Business Operations William Decatur are working to develop metrics. The Deans also will submit their recommendations. The metrics will be determined from the suggestions.

1. Warrior Way Back Program: Policy Committee is concerned that the op-ed piece written by Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Dawn Medley and published in the *Detroit News* about the Warrior Way Back Programwas misleading. It suggested that all debt would be eliminated if students completed at least three semesters at Wayne State. The article did not state that the Program was limited to 100 undergraduate students and that there were eligibility requirements. It did not mention that there was considerable cost to return. If returnees take 12 credits each semester, they would pay between $15,500 and $17,900 for the three semesters in order to receive forgiveness of $1500 or less in debt. Student debt-related repre-sent-tation by universities is a heavily regulated area. Policy Committee members believe an honest representation of the details of the program was possible and was necessary. Policy was concerned that the misrepresentation might result in legal problems.

Provost Whitfield said that the University needs to provide support to students to complete their degrees either through the Way Back Program or with other assistance. He mentioned several other measures that might be taken to help students complete their degrees. Students who qualify will be able to enroll in the Program for the fall term.

1. General Fund Budget: Mr. Romano asked for clarification of statements made at the June 8 Board of Governors meeting when the Budget for fiscal year 2019 was approved. As presented, the University would have a deficit of $7 million that will be covered by the cash balance. President Wilson and Vice President Decatur seemed to suggest that over the summer they would try to find ways to change the General Fund Budget to eliminate the deficit. How do they plan to do that? President Wilson had said that college budgets would be re-allocated to eliminate the FY 2019 deficit. He presented the change as a timing issue. Instead of adjusting the Budget before it was approved, it would be adjusted in July and August. Provost Whitfield said that it is possible that the deficit may be covered from a source that did not involve the colleges. Policy Committee will revisit the issue at a later meeting.

The Provost said that under the RCM budget model, the colleges would be responsible for determining the metrics on which their budgets will be based. Policy Committee and the Provost discussed the distribution of financial aid.

1. Board of Governors Meeting:
2. Vice President for Research Stephen Lanier presented the “Report on Research Awards FY 2018 Through May 31, 2018.” Total research funding has dropped in the last two years from a high of $24,497,900 in 2016 to $19,595,378. NIH funding is down. The number of proposals submitted and the value of the proposals submitted are down. Mr. Romano thinks the Administration should take steps to reverse the decline, particularly in federal funding.

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1. The Campus Master Planning Committee should be functioning by the end of the summer. Appointed by the Policy Committee are Jocelyn Ang (Pediatrics, Medicine), Linda Beale (Law), and Victoria Dallas (Communication, Fine, Performing and Communication Arts).
2. Policy Committee received the “Informational Report: Major Capital and Real Estate Projects.” The report is an update on projects that previously were presented to the Board of Governors and received some level of approval. One of the projects mentioned was the sale of the building that housed the Oakland Center. Ms. Dallas asked if enrollment dropped as a result of closing the Center. Provost Whitfield will ask for an analysis of the effect of the closure. Many students moved to the Schoolcraft Center and the Orchard Ridge Center. Policy Committee asked for a report on enrollment at the extension centers. The Provost said that one of the biggest challenges for students transferring from community colleges to Wayne is that the community college advisors do not always know what their students need to transfer. The University was given a small grant to address some of the issues students experience when they transfer. Ms. Dallas said that some of our programs have full-time advisors at community colleges to advise students who want to transfer. Besides paving the way for students to transfer, it is a recruitment tool.
3. Replacement of Representative: Krista Brumley was unable to attend the Board of Governors Academic Affairs Committee meeting on June 22. Ms. Beale replaced Ms. Brumley as the faculty alternate representative to the Committee.
4. Academy of Teachers: Provost Whitfield is establishing the Academy of Teachers to support and recognize teaching excellence. Policy Committee had reviewed the charge. Ms. Beale revised the charge and explained the reasons for the changes. One member views such practices as an effort to reward outstanding people, but we need to reach all teachers including part-time faculty and graduate assistants.

Another member said that was the purpose of the AOT. These faculty will give presentations and use what they’ve learned in the classroom to mentor other faculty. A third member said that for the AOT to fulfill its mission the faculty must be ongoing active participants during their time at Wayne State. The Provost said that the creation of the AOT is a first step to support teaching. He constantly hears that teaching is not appreciated. Faculty will be actively engaged to change the culture. The appreciation of teaching will have a positive impact on tenure and promotion.

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Approved as modified at the Policy Committee meeting of July 16, 2018