

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

June 29, 2009

Present: N. Barrett; V. Dallas; C. Parrish; L. Romano; A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz;  
J. Whittum-Hudson; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson; J. Woodyard

Absent with notice: R. Yamazaki

Guests: H. Shapiro

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of June 29, 2009.

- \*1. Proposed Change in the General Education Requirements: Howard Shapiro, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Programs and General Education, presented a proposal to abolish the Exposure Area Requirement in the General Education Program. The General Education Oversight Committee and the Academic Senate Curriculum and Instruction Committee recommended that the requirement be eliminated. Policy Committee concurred with the recommendation. The administration wants the change to be effective fall 2009. Policy Committee asked Mr. Wolfson to poll the Senate members electronically about the change.

Provost Barrett mentioned that there is confusion about the Written Communication requirement. Some people think the requirement has been eliminated because the English Proficiency Examination (EPE) was eliminated. Mr. Shapiro explained the reasons behind the elimination of the EPE. He said that students now must receive a grade of **C** or better in basic composition and in intermediate composition to fulfill the Written Communication requirement.

[Mr. Shapiro left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Chair:
- It has come to Provost Barrett's attention that some faculty are having difficulty with Blackboard after another upgrade was installed. The Division of Computing and Information Technology will notify faculty of the changes and offer training sessions.
  - Enrollment for the fall 2009 continues to outpace last year's figures.
  - In response to a question, the Provost updated the Policy Committee on the meeting with the Executive Committee of the Medical School Faculty Senate about the appointment of an Interim Dean.
3. Report from the Senate President: Mr. Wolfson mentioned an issue that a faculty member raised about the estimating of fringe benefits for multi-year grants. Policy Committee advised Mr. Wolfson to contact Mr. Barbret for clarification.

- \*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of June 29, 2009, were approved as submitted.

Proceedings of the Policy Committee June 29, 2009

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5. The Budget: Policy Committee discussed the possible tuition increase and budget cuts in the fiscal year 2010 budget.

6. Board of Governors Meeting: Policy Committee received some of the documents that are on the agendas for the Board of Governors Academic Affairs Committee meeting, the Budget and Finance Committee meeting, and the meeting of the full Board on July 1, 2009. They are the recommendation from the Vice President of Research to discontinue the Institute for Manufacturing Research, the Course Materials Fees Annual Report, roofing projects, a report from the Vice President for Research, the Grants and Contracts Report, the Development and Alumni Affairs Donation Report, the Capital Campaign Report for the period 1/1/2009 to 4/30/2009, the Aim Higher for Students Campaign to increase need-based and merit-based scholarships and to enhance student opportunities for research and service-learning.

[Provost Barrett left the meeting.]

7. Committee Assignments for 2009-2010: Policy Committee began the process of selecting chairs of the Academic Senate committees for the 2009-2010 academic year and appointing members to the committees.

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of July 13, 2009