WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

July 16, 2018

Present: L. Beale; B. Roth; r. hoogland; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano; N. Simon;

K. Whitfield

Absent with notice: V. Dallas; W. Volz

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of July 16, 2018.

1. Report from the Chair:
2. Provost Whitfield updated the Committee on the need to address the problems in the buildings that have tested positive for Legionella.
3. The administration is developing a plan to coordinate curricular and co-curricular transcripts. With a co-curricular transcript students will be able to demonstrate what they have learned. Learning outcomes would be defined. A system validates what students claim to have done.
4. There is an effort to review administrative units. It will be critical with the adoption of a responsibility-centered budget model. A potential model was given to the Deans. The Provost suggested that the developers meet with the Policy Committee.
5. Report from the Senate President
6. Mr. Romano asked if there was progress in developing the metrics for budget planning for fiscal year 2020. Provost Whitfield said that the proposed metrics were given to the Deans. Ms. Beale suggested that the Deans be advised to consult with their faculty. The Policy Committee also would like to have the opportunity to offer suggestions.
7. The fiscal year 2019 Budget, as presented to the Board of Governors on June 22, has a $7 million deficit. Mr. Romano will invite Vice President for Finance and Business Operations William Decatur to a meeting to learn how the deficit would be covered.
8. The Commencement Committee has been formed and is meeting twice a month. The report to the President is due by October 1.
9. The return on investments of the University Foundation for the second quarter of 2018 is up 1.1% since Jan 1.
10. Mr. Romano asked if the Administration had more information about the appropriation from the state to convert the Science and Engineering Library into a STEM facility. The money is in next year’s Budget. Mr. Romano asked the Provost to check with Patrick Lindsey, Vice President of Government and Community Affairs, about the status of the appropriation.
11. Some members of the Policy Committee toured the new Mike Ilitch School of Business. It is a beautiful building, but Ms. Beale noted that it was not as well equipped with IT as would be expected.

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\*3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of June 18, 2018, as modified.

4. Follow-up to June 18 Policy Committee Meeting: Members asked the Provost about the status of several issues that were raised at the June 18 meeting. The Provost accepted the wording the Policy Committee submitted for the charge to the Academy of Scholars. He will send the revised charge to the Policy Committee. Concern had been raised about faculty having access to the books now stored in the Science and Engineering Library when that building is converted to the STEM building. It was said that faculty would have access to the materials, but Policy Committee asked that Jon Cawthorne, the Dean of the University Libraries, provide the specifics of the plan and send them to the PC for input.

5. Enrollment for Fall 2018: Distributed were the reports comparing enrollment for fall 2018 to fall 2017 for the weeks of July 2 and July 9. There is an increase in enrollment over last year but it is early in the enrollment process.

6. Admission of International Graduate Students: Ms. Beale mentioned a policy that is affecting international LLM students and that may affect other Masters students. The English Language Institute (ELI) now reports to Ahmad Ezzeddine, Associate Vice President for Educational Outreach and International Programs. He changed the policy that allowed the Law School Graduate Studies Director to waive the requirement for the ELI if the student had English law classes or used English in a legal career. Ms. Beale, as the Director of Graduate Studies in the Law School, interviewed prospective students and based on her decision, the requirement was waived. Under the new policy, Bruce Morgan, the Program Direction in the ELI, determines whether a student must go through the ELI. The old policy is in effect this year, but some admissions have been delayed. Under the new policy, the University could lose good students. Ms. Beale would like the University to return to the old policy that gives the Graduate Director the ability to waive the TOEFL. Another member noted that the Graduate School used to accept the recommendation of faculty whether an international student was proficient in English. Mr. Romano will contact Mr. Ezzeddine to meet with the Policy Committee on this matter.

7. RCM Planning: Policy Committee had asked Vice President for Finance and Business Operations William Decatur for an update on RCM planning. Mr. Decatur could not attend today’s meeting. Provost Whitfield said that committees have been meeting and have prepared preliminary information. Early in the fall term the Administration will visit each school/college with an early draft of the plan, discuss it, and return with a revised plan. The Department Chairs were advised to attend the meetings. Ms. Beale wants the members of the unit Budget Advisory Committees to attend the meetings, also, because they are knowledgeable about their units’ budgets. She has heard that a subvention committee is deciding how much money will be taken from one unit to be given to another unit. The Policy Committee was not asked to appoint faculty or academic staff to that committee. Mr. Romano will invite Jeffrey Bolton, Senior Director, University Budget, and Vice President Decatur to the August 6 meeting.

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8. Effect of Potential SOM – Henry Ford Health System Merger on SOM Faculty: An article dated May 29, 2018, in *Crain’s Detroit Business* reported that Wayne State and the Henry Ford Health System are negotiating a possible merger. Faculty in the School of Medicine are concerned how a merger would affect them; some believe they would not be part of a merged school. How would the Senate and the AAUP-AFT be involved in the decision-making process?

Provost Whitfield asked where the belief arose that some clinical faculty would not be part of a merger. The article and the letter of intent are preliminary. The letter of intent only means that talks will continue. There have been other attempts to collaborate with Henry Ford and they have not been successful.

Mr. Parrish said that the concern arose because Henry Ford does not need all the clinicians on Wayne’s faculty. Most people at the University, he said, have not been involved in the negotiations. Vice President for Health Affairs David Hefner has been negotiating but he does not have an understanding at the department level. He is not a medical doctor or an academic. He understands management but he does not understand academic governance. When clinicians’ contracts are renewed the portion of their salary from the University is reduced and the portion of their salary from the practice plans is increased. This affects the amount of money paid into their retirement savings plans. Clinical faculty who have employment contracts with the practice plans can be released with sixty days notice. The article talks about the move of clinicians to HFHS but does not mention the transfer of researchers. From the materials that are available, it appears that these issues have not been covered. The Executive Committee in the School of Medicine has not been apprised of the situation. Ms. Beale said that consultation was needed because academic governance and business overlap. Mr. Romano was concerned that, because of rumors and uncertainty, faculty would leave Wayne State. Mr. Romano will invite Vice President Hefner and Dean of Medicine Robert Sobel to a meeting.

[Provost Whitfield left the meeting.]

9. Committee Assignments for the 2018-2019 Academic Year: The staff in the Senate Office solicited Senate members’ preferences for their committee assignments. Policy Committee reviewed the first draft of the assignments. They made some changes to the lists and began the process of selecting the Chairs of the committees.

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Approved as corrected at the Policy Committee meeting of August 6, 2018