

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

July 26, 2010

Present: C. Parrish; L. Romano; M. Sengstock; H. Tse; A. Vlasopolos; W. Volz;
P. Vroom; A. Wisniewski; S. Wolfson; J. Woodyard

Absent with notice: J. Whittum-Hudson

Guests: S. Calkins, Associate Vice President for Academic Personnel; K. Skillin, Director of Special Projects, Office of the Provost

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of July 26, 2010.

1. Meeting with the Board of Governors: The Policy Committee met without Acting Provost Vroom present to prepare for a meeting with the Board of Governors later in the afternoon of July 26. They discussed the attributes they would like the Interim President and the permanent President to possess.
2. First Meeting with Provost Brown: Policy Committee discussed what issues it would like to discuss with Provost Brown at their meeting on August 2.

[Dr. Vroom joined the meeting.]

3. Hiring of Faculty: Policy Committee members discussed with Acting Provost Vroom the rationale for the Senate Budget Committee's recommendation to use the 2% increase in tuition that goes into effect for the spring/summer term 2011 for the hiring of faculty to teach undergraduate courses. Among the reasons are the need to increase the number of full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty to improve the instruction of undergraduate students. Some members maintained that if full-time faculty were hired in the departments that have had a large increase in undergraduate enrollment, the University would also increase its research productivity because WSU is a research institution. It was also noted that in some departments with large enrollments, new tenure-track faculty are productive in research, teach many of the undergraduate courses, and still get tenure.
4. Consultation: Members of the Policy Committee discussed with Dr. Vroom the need to improve consultation between the faculty and the administration. There was a discussion of what faculty view as proper consultation.
5. Report from the Budget Committee: Mr. Romano, a member of the Academic Senate Budget Committee, reported on a meeting that Michael McIntyre, James Woodyard, and he had with Associate Vice President Kohrman about the use of the tuition increase of 2% that will go into effect in the spring/summer term of 2011. Mr. Kohrman maintains that faculty cannot be hired with that money because it is not available in the FY 2011 Budget. The members of the Budget Committee pointed out that searches for faculty can be authorized because the money will be available

in the base budget when the faculty join the University at the beginning of the fall term 2011.

[Stephen Calkins and Kelley Skillin joined the meeting.]

6. Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education: Mr. Calkins and Ms. Skillin attended the meeting to present findings of the survey of junior faculty done by the Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE), a consortium of universities run out of Harvard University. Ms. Skillin described COACHE and how the survey was administered and she reviewed the survey results. The survey examines job satisfaction, knowledge of the institution, and knowledge of the institution's tenure process. COACHE provides information from the survey to the University and how it compares with its peers. COACHE sends the survey to faculty who are in their second through seventh years at an institution. COACHE identifies the four aspects of the institution that the faculty rated as "best" and the four aspects that the faculty rate as "worst." Wayne State has a three-year membership with COACHE. In the first year, COACHE surveys the faculty and the last two years they work with the institution to address the needs as defined in the survey.

The survey results for the University as a whole were presented to the Deans. The Provost's Office also has received the college-specific mean scores. Policy Committee asked to see that information. Dr. Vroom said that, after the Deans see the information and have an opportunity to present it to their faculty in the fall, she will give the school/college information to the Policy Committee.

Policy Committee members asked for additional information: the research-basis for the survey; the number of faculty who were surveyed compared with the numbers at our peer institutions; and the number of WSU's respondents who are in the Medical School.

The survey results of the schools and colleges provide information about areas that need to be addressed. It tells the University how its tenure-track faculty view the institution as compared with all the schools in the sample and with its selected peers.

It was agreed that after the Policy Committee receives the detail by College, the reports will be sent to the Faculty Affairs Committee to consider the impact of this report and how it might be used.

[Mr. Calkins and Ms. Skillin left the meeting.]

7. Report from the Chair: Dr. Vroom gave a report about the spring/summer enrollment. Headcount for the spring/summer term 2010 increased 3.2% over the spring/summer term 2009. Undergraduate enrollment increased by 6.2%. There was a 15% increase in both the number of online sections offered and the number of students enrolled in online courses. There was a credit hour increase of 4.7% compared to 2009. Graduate and professional enrollment decreased by 1.6%.

- *8. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of July 12, 2010, were approved as submitted.
- *9. Post-Approval Monitoring of Animal Research: A faculty member had raised questions about the post approval monitoring program for research protocols using animal models. Policy Committee had charged the Research Committee with investigating the program and how it would affect researchers. The Research Committee met with Gayle Kusch, Director for the Responsible Conduct of Research, and submitted a report to the Policy Committee. Policy Committee received the report of the Research Committee.

[Dr. Vroom left the meeting.]

- 10. Standing Committee Assignments: Mr. Wolfson updated Policy Committee about the appointment of the Chairs of the standing committees for the 2010-2011 academic year. Policy Committee approved the selection of Chairs and also selected a faculty member to serve on the Budget Committee as a non-Senate member.

Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of August 2, 2010