

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

August 24, 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

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of August 24, 2009.

1. Report from the Chair:
 - a. Provost Barrett reported that 114 new faculty have joined the University. Only about 60 are tenure track faculty. The rest are clinicians at the SOM. The New Faculty Orientation program was held August 24.
 - b. The Provost has met with the faculty of the College of Engineering about the search for a new Dean. Mumtaz Usmen is serving as the Interim Dean of Engineering.
 - c. In response to questions, the Provost discussed the enrollment figures for the fall term and how enrollment may affect the budget.
 - d. In the fall, the administration will hold several open forums seeking comment about the Strategic Directions.
 - e. Members asked about the occupancy rate of campus housing. The Provost said that occupancy has increased this year.
- *2. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of July 27, 2009, were approved as submitted.
3. Statement on the FY 2010 Budget: Mr. Wolfson distributed the memorandum dated July 30, 2009, that he sent to President Noren. The memo summarized the principal issues that the Policy Committee had raised in its discussion about the FY 2010 Budget with the President on July 27.
4. Board of Governors Budget and Finance Committee Meeting: Mr. Volz and Mr. Parrish, the faculty representative and faculty alternate representative respectively to the BOG Budget and Finance Committee, updated Policy Committee on the working session held on August 21, 2009.
5. Increase in Parking Fee: Mr. Woodyard spoke in opposition to the increase in the parking fees that is included in the budget for FY 2010. Since early 2009 he has served on the University Parking Committee and has worked with Associate Vice President Nabelah Ghareeb to get information about costs and the needs of the Parking Authority in order to justify an increase. Some progress was made, but Mr. Woodyard does not believe that the increase has been justified. Mr. Woodyard was asked to write a statement for support by the Policy Committee.

[Provost Barrett left the meeting.]

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6. Faculty/Academic Staff Representatives to the Board of Governors Committee: Policy Committee selected the faculty and academic staff representatives and alternate representatives to the Board of Governors Committees for the 2009-2010 academic year. They are:

Academic Affairs Committee

Karen Feathers - faculty representative

Anca Vlasopolos - faculty alternate representative

Budget and Finance Committee

Michael McIntyre ♦ faculty representative

Charles Parrish ♦ faculty alternate representative

Personnel Committee

William Crossland ♦ faculty representative

Mary Sengstock ♦ faculty alternate representative

Student Affairs Committee

Naida Simon ♦ academic staff representative

Tyrone Austin ♦ academic staff alternate representative

7. Budget Committee: Mr. Volz resigned as the Chair of the Senate Budget Committee. Policy Committee selected Mr. McIntyre to serve as the Chair.

[Mr. Woodyard left the meeting.]

8. Commencement: Mr. Wolfson mentioned two changes that are being made to commencement. The University is reinstating the fall commencement ceremonies, which have been scheduled on a Saturday and Sunday in December. Some people have expressed concern because students and faculty who observe the Sabbath would not be able to attend. Also, a separate ceremony will be held for all students who receive the Ph.D. Mr. Wolfson was instructed to inform President Noren about the concerns raised.
9. University Library Committee: Policy Committee nominated faculty to serve on the University Library Committee. Mr. Wolfson will submit the names to the Dean of the Library System and the Provost, who selects the committee members.

[Ms. Vlasopolos left the meeting.]

10. Upcoming Academic Senate Meetings: Mr. Wolfson mentioned issues that have been suggested as items for the agendas of fall Senate meetings. President Noren has asked to hold an open forum with questions from members at every Senate meeting. The President and other members of the administration plan to hold a forum about strategic directions at the October Senate meeting.

11. Appointment of Non-Senate Member to the Budget Committee: Policy Committee selected a faculty member to serve as the non-Senate member on the Academic Senate Budget Committee.

