

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

September 23, 2019

Present: L. Beale; P. Beavers; V. Dallas; r. hoogland; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; B. Roth; N. Simon; W. Volz; A. Wisniewski

Absent with notice: K. Whitfield

Guests: Stephen Lanier, Vice President for Research; Denise Figlewicz, Assistant Vice President for Research

In the absence of Provost Whitfield, renee hoogland, the Vice Chair, chaired the meeting.

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of September 23, 2019.

1. Centers and Institutes Advisory Committee II: The statute on centers and institutes “2.23.01 Centers and Institutes; Policy on Creation, Operation, Review, and Discontinuance” states that one-half of the committee is to be appointed by the Policy Committee and one-half appointed by the Vice President for Research “each acting in consultation with the other” and that the chair shall be appointed from the membership by the Vice President in consultation with the Policy Committee. Ms. Beale explained that in the past all members of CIAC-II were appointed at the same time for three-year terms. Policy Committee thought it better to have staggered terms of three years allowing for continuity in the membership, and since there is no institute up for review during this academic year, it will provide an opportunity for continuing members to lead a discussion of procedure so that reviews can be more consistently handled in the future. PC and the Vice President discussed the types of disciplines that ought to be represented on the committee. Vice President Lanier said that he would like to re-appoint all of his current appointees and have AVP Figlewicz serve as the non-voting ex-officio member providing staff support to the committee. Policy Committee will replace two appointees that have moved to administration or retirement: those will be three-year terms. Each group should decide who among the members will serve one- or two-year terms (and in the case of the OVPR, three-year terms). Ms. Beale indicated Policy will try to finalize their nominees in the next meeting and suggest terms for staggering and draft the joint letter that goes from Policy and OVPR. Perhaps AVP Figlewicz can join in the first October meeting of the Committee to discuss selection of a chair.

[Vice President Lanier and Assistant Vice President Figlewicz left the meeting.]

2. Report from the Senate President:
 - a. The search committee for the Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine is meeting on September 23 to review the candidate pool.
 - b. The Board of Governors met September 20. Due to the ongoing litigation regarding the legitimacy of the 4-member quorum at the meeting, the full Board did not approve the minutes of its June 21 meeting at which four members of the Board and President Wilson, who is an ex-officio, non-voting member, claimed to constitute the required quorum of five able to take action.

The revision to the General Studies degree in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was approved by the Academic Affairs committee and, upon request, was added to the consent agenda and approved by the full Board (it had originally been listed as merely an information item for the committee and not included for vote by the full Board). The budget for fiscal year 2020 was approved with the state appropriation assumed to be increased by 0.5%, resulting in cuts of about \$800,000. The Budget Planning Council had considered how much each school, college and division budget from last year should be cut this year. The budget as presented to the Board observed some of the priorities of the BPC, but took the cuts only on the base budget, then adding positive adjustments for the differential amount, compensatory increases and any strategic initiative funding, resulting in the Business School suffering the least cuts. The Research Division received \$2.5 million increase, though there are concerns about poor progress on increasing research funding. President Wilson and Provost Whitfield made the ultimate decisions after the Budget Planning Council made its recommendations. The President decided not to take any action to reduce the \$1.6 million available for discretionary salary increases for non-represented employees, though some members of the Board had suggested cutting that to avoid cutting schools and colleges so much.

The Board did not approve the Code of Conduct put on the agenda for President Wilson and Chair Trent: this was mentioned in a Free Press article noting that President Wilson has asked General Counsel to consider whether members who spoke to the press had violated the Board's code of conduct, but the Board has never approved a separate Code of Conduct applicable to its members. There was discussion on this issue, as some Board members mentioned their fiduciary duties to the voters and noted that the proposed Code would restrict their abilities to be transparent in their discussions with constituents.

- *4. Censure Motions: At Ms. Simon's request, the Policy Committee discussed the language of the drafts for the motions. One deplores the issuance of a gag order by a department chair with the support of the dean. The other censures administrators for the deletion of a whistleblowing email from the university email accounts of all the recipients of the email and to whom the email was forwarded. It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to provide the persons mentioned in the motions notice of the meeting and the wording of the motions prior to the October 2 meeting, so that they could respond if they so desired. **PASSED**.
- *5. Approval of Proceedings: The Policy Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of September 9, 2019, as revised. The Committee discussed their prior conversations with Dawn Medley, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, regarding the amount of support students can receive without exceeding the cost of attendance as required by the federal government. There is still some concern that the university does not provide sufficient information about cost of attendance calculations.
- *6. Agenda for the Senate Meeting: Policy Committee approved the draft agenda for the Senate meeting of October 2, 2019, as revised.
- 7. Reports from Liaisons:
 - a. Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee: Ms. Dallas is the PC liaison to the FSST. She reported that the committee met with Garrett McManaway, the Senior Director, Information Security and Compliance. His job is to provide a safe and secure environment

for faculty and students. His functions include confidentiality, firewalls, and managing staff access to the university systems.

- b. University Research Opportunities Program subcommittee will meet with Senior Associate Provost for Student Success Monica Brockmeyer. She is apparently also putting together her own task force to re-imagine UROP, even though she had agreed with Policy that the subcommittee we established would be the group used for this purpose. There is no representation on her task force from the Senate's subcommittee and no social scientist.
- c. Student Affairs Committee: Ms. Simon listed the guests with whom the SAC will meet. SAC and FSST will hold a joint meeting with Monica Brockmeyer. SAC will meet with Dawn Medley and Catherine Kay, Senior Director of Financial Aid; Accounts Receivable; with Timothy Michael, Associate Vice President, Business Operations, and Veronica Bielat, Librarian IV, Collections and Scholarly Communications, University Libraries, about open educational resources; and Brandy Banks, Title IX Director, and Nikki Wright, Assistant Vice President, Equal Opportunity Office, General Counsel.
- d. Faculty Affairs Committee: On September 25 the committee will discuss department chair's changing student grades and open educational resources.
- e. Curriculum and Instruction Committee and Faculty Affairs will hold a joint meeting regarding academic dishonesty and the price of textbooks.
- f. Ad Hoc Task Force on Transparency: Mr. Beavers said that Darin Ellis, Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, will demonstrate academic analytics to the group.

Approved as corrected at the Policy Committee meeting of September 30, 2019