WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

August 20, 2018

Present: L. Beale; V. Dallas; r. hoogland; D. Kessel; C. Parrish; L. Romano; N. Simon;

K. Whitfield

Absent with notice: B. Roth; W. Volz

Guest: Jon Cawthorne, Dean, University Library System

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of August 20, 2018.

Ms. Beale assumed the presidency of the Senate on August 17. As stipulated in the Bylaws, Mr. Romano, the outgoing President of the Senate, continues on the Policy Committee as an ex-officio member until a new Committee is elected.

1. Archiving of Books and Journals from the Science and Engineering Library (SEL): Policy Committee was concerned that faculty would have easy access to the books now stored in the SEL when that building is converted into the STEM Innovation Learning Center. Jon Cawthorne, the Dean of the University Library System, was invited to the meeting to discuss the plans. There are about 200,000 books that will be held in the Undergraduate Library, but space had to be found for a number of serials and journals. More space is needed in all of the library facilities. As a result, the Board of Governors approved issuing about $2.8 million in bonds to relocate the material. That money was included in the overall $10 or $11 million bonding for the renovation of the building.

Mr. Cawthorne asked vendors to submit proposals to duplicate the library’s resources. He received a proposal for $735,000 for electronic materials to replace the physical copies that the Library cannot keep. About $2.1 million of the funds was returned to use in the renovation of the facility.

Mr. Cawthorne mentioned that the Library System joined the Greater Western Library Alliance, a buying collective of 36 institutions west of the Mississippi River. Our cost to join was about $17,000, and increased our collection by about 11 million volumes. We had about 3.9 million in our collection. The Alliance negotiates with publishers, so our costs have been reduced significantly. Access to the materials in the Alliance is free.

The Library also will join the Hathi Trust in the fall for a membership fee of $11,000. The Trust grew out of the Google Book-Scanning Project. The Hathi Trust digitized resources in venerable libraries such as the New York Public Library and the Stanford University Library. The Trust has about 15 million volumes, including the social sciences and the humanities. The Executive Director of the Trust, Mike Furlough, will be on campus in the fall. Mr. Cawthorne wants faculty in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences to meet with him.

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Almanacs and dictionaries will be kept in the Undergraduate Library and should be retrieved within an hour of a request. Faculty will be able to order monographs and books online and will be contacted when the materials are ready for pick up.

Members asked about consultation with the faculty that used SEL the most. The Library’s liaisons had extensive discussions with faculty in colleges and with department representatives. A member noted that some graphs are not readable in electronic form and asked how that would be dealt with. Mr. Cawthorne said that technology has improved, but if the data is not readable, they will locate the journal and copy it.

Mr. Romano had been a member of a Library committee charged with developing a budget model to pay the increasing cost of online journals that far outstrip inflation. It was decided that a separate line item for that purpose would be included in the University budget, but that did not happen. He asked if the Library’s budget had kept pace with the cost of journals. What were the increases and what is the total cost for online journals now?

Mr. Cawthorne said that because of inflation the costs increase every year between 4% and 7%. He has asked for a 4% increase in dedicated funds to offset some of the costs. He also is making leadership decisions to better align costs with the budget. The changes would be made over a five-year period. In the past year, the Library spent $5 million to $6 million for online journals. The Library’s entire budget for collections is $10 million. The Policy Committee asked Mr. Cawthorne to provide more detailed information on the budgetary costs after the meeting.

Mr. Cawthorne noted that often vendors want to bundle the journals, but the Library does not need some of the journals included in the bundles. He is investigating whether it would cost less to purchase specific needed journals separately.

Mr. Cawthorne also indicated that the Reuther Archives would digitize more of its collection. This will require an initial increased investment in technology.

[Mr. Cawthorne left the meeting.]

 2. Report from the Chair:

a. The search for the Dean of the College of Education will be carried out this year. The contracts of the Dean of Engineering and the Dean of the Graduate School expire this year.

b. The Provost and the Policy Committee reviewed the enrollment figures for the fall term, comparing them with last year’s enrollment for this time period. Provost Whitfield said that our enrollment of first-time-in-any-college students would increase. The goal in the Strategic Plan was to increase enrollment to 30,000 students. The Provost asked the Policy Committee for suggestions to achieve that goal and to include the implications of the suggestions. Do the colleges have the capacity to grow? Are they able to accommodate the students? Ms. Dallas said that classes in her department are full and they

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 cannot find instructors to teach additional classes. Departments have not been able to replace faculty who have retired or have otherwise left the University. With the decline in the number of international students in the Masters programs, a member suggested that Deans increase their efforts to recruit students in the U.S. We should be encouraging our undergraduate STEM students to enroll in our Masters programs. The University needs dedicated graduate housing to attract graduate students. We need to market the University better, improve our website so that it is easier to find information, wine and dine high school counselors on campus, be more welcoming. The Chemistry Department brings all their graduate school applicants to campus for a weekend to introduce them to the University and so they may form bonds. The Provost and the Dean of the Graduate School will hold a retreat with Department Chairs and directors of graduate programs to discuss the marketing of graduate programs. It was suggested that Chairs may need incentives to develop online or hybrid graduate programs for students who are not able to attend classes on campus.

[Ms. Simon left the meeting.]

1. Report from the Senate President:.
2. Ms. Beale thanked Provost Whitfield for the purchase of a laptop computer and a printer for the Office. It will be used for presentations at committee meetings.
3. Ms. Beale will meet regularly with Provost Whitfield to discuss issues in the University.
4. The new student convocation is August 28 at 10:30 in front of MacGregor. She encouraged members to attend to welcome the new students.
5. The Graduate School is considering a proposal to have a lower tuition rate for Masters students who have completed their course work but did not finish their Masters thesis in the first term in which they registered for it. They would be able to register at a lower rate the following semester. Ideally, the per-semester registration fee (about $305) would also be eliminated for this thesis continuance registration.

[Mr. Romano left the meeting.]

\*4. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of August 6, 2018, as submitted.

[Provost Whitfield left the meeting.]

1. Committee Assignments: Ms. Beale reviewed the committee assignments.
2. Canvas: Members raised problems with Canvas, the new online learning management system. Policy Committee will invite Sara Kacin, the Director of the Office for Teaching and Learning, to a meeting to address the Canvas rollout.

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1. Faculty and Academic Staff Representatives to the Board of Governors Committees: Policy Committee selected the following to serve on the Committees:

Academic Affairs Committee – Brad Roth (Political Science, Liberal Arts, and Law) – Representative; renee hoogland (English, Liberal Arts and Sciences – Alternate Representative

Budget and Finance Committee – Linda Beale (Law), Representative; Richard Smith (Social Work) – Alternate Representative

Student Affairs Committee – Naida Simon (Undergraduate Programs and General Education, Academic Affairs) – Representative; Victoria Dallas (Communication, Fine, Performing and Communication Arts) – Alternate Representative

The representatives to the Personnel Committee will be selected at a later meeting.

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of September 10, 2018