WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

October 15, 2018

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

The item marked with an asterisk constitutes the Action of October 15, 2018.

1. Joint Meeting of the Policy and Budget Committees: The Committees met with the RCM steering committee and revenue allocation, subvention, and cost allocation task forces.  Detailed minutes are in the Budget Committee proceedings.

2. Report from the Senate President:

1. Administrators provided information about the RCM model at a meeting of the Budget and Policy Committees on October 15. No specifics were given about the effect of the new model on the units.
2. Ms. Beale is a member of the Capital Priorities and Funding Committee, which met for the first time last week. They discussed process and structure and different ways to get information. Several people noted concerns about environmental sustainability. Ms. Beale has since forwarded to them concerns raised by several faculty about conducting appropriate archeological studies of sites on campus. The Administration does not plan to submit a capital outlay request for new building funding to the state this year. They think we should have a master plan before submitting such a request
3. Ms. Beale announced that an institutional showcase “Data Informed Decisions: Kickoff to Collaboration” would be held October 31.
4. The ceremony to honor the recipients of the WSU Women of Distinction Award is November 1.

\*3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Committee approved the Proceedings of its meeting of October 8, 2018, as submitted.

4. Enrollment Data Project: Policy Committee told Darin Ellis, the Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, that it would be useful to have an Institutional Research project that shows the four- and six-year graduation rates and the retention rates for each cohort to determine the dropout rate for the cohort. Mr. Ellis asked for an Academic Senate representative to serve on a committee that will develop the project. Ms. Simon volunteered to serve on the committee.

1. General Education Nominees: Included in the revised General Education Requirements was a change in the membership of the Oversight Committee. A member of the academic staff who advises students is to serve as a voting member and a member of the Academic Senate is to serve ex-officio. Brad Roth, Professor

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of Political Science and Law, agreed to serve as the representative from the Academic Senate. Jessica Greenwald, Academic Advisor II, Department of Communication, College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, was selected to serve as the academic staff member.

1. Parking Issue: The Policy Committee was informed that the Office of Internal Audit has questioned some employees about inconsistencies between their use of parking facilities and their timesheets. In one case, a member of the academic staff was asked to justify her attendance each day when she was at work but did not swipe into parking on campus, from 2014 forward. Policy Committee members were outraged by the request, since there are numerous reasons an employee may not use campus parking and non-use of parking does not prove absence from work. The Committee decided to send a memo to Carolyn Hafner, Associate Vice President and Chief Audit Executive, explaining the reasons why using such parking “evidence” against employees was inappropriate and asking Ms. Hafner to end the practice. Since Ms. Hafner reports directly to the President, the memo will be copied to the President as well as to the Provost.
2. Master Plan and Capital Project Requests: Ms. Beale distributed materials about the master planning process and the membership of the three committees that will develop the master plan. They are the Capital Funding and Priorities Committee, the Facilities Planning Advisory Council, and the Community Engagement Committee. The Capital Funding and Priorities Committee will function as the steering committee for the project. The Facilities Planning Advisory Council is more grounded in the particular needs. Ms. Beale will serve on the Capital Funding and Priorities Committee and the Facilities Planning Advisory Council. Ms. Dallas and Jocelyn Ang, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, will also serve on the Facilities Planning Advisory Council. Harry Wyatt, Jr., the Associate Vice President for Facilities Planning and Management, had asked the Deans for the priorities for their schools/colleges. Ms. Beale asked the Policy Committee members to talk with the campus community to find out what new ideas or major problems they think should be addressed.
3. Capital Outlay Budget Request and State Appropriation: Some Policy Committee members expressed concern that the University was not planning to submit a Capital Outlay Request because they believe the University should keep our needs in front of the legislature.
4. RCM: A member commented on the discussion earlier in the day at the Budget Committee meeting about the RCM model and the revenue allocation and cost allocation methods proposed by the task forces. Until the mid 1980s the State gave Wayne State two appropriations, one for the Medical School and the other one for all other programs. WSU’s current per credit hour appropriation is the highest of the fifteen state universities. It is a reflection of the fact that we have a large Medical School and had support from the Black Caucus in the legislature. The historical appropriations reflect the vision of the service the University provides the State and its being a comprehensive university in the City of Detroit. The appropriation is not a

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credit-hour generation function and describing it that way puts our appropriation at risk. Changes will be made in the budget over the next three to five years and those changes will reflect the values of the leadership of the University. Because the legislature has focused on undergraduate education and ignored the research and graduate education function, it essentially undervalues a major part of what Wayne does.

1. Commencement: Brad Roth and Linda Beale will represent the faculty at the December 11 Commencement exercises. Linda will address the graduates at the morning ceremony and Brad will do so at the afternoon ceremony.
2. Financial Aid Delays: Policy Committee members discussed various problems that students have had with financial aid, as relayed by members with interactions with students. There seem to be frequent delays in students getting information, and students are often merely answered with emails that are essentially unresponsive. The Committee agreed that it would be helpful to collect more information about the situation but it may be appropriate to write a Senate memorandum to Dawn Medley asking that her unit address the delays that students experience and the use of ‘rote’ emails that do not respond to students’ concerns.
3. Reports from Liaisons
4. Research Committee: Mr. Kessel reported that Linda Hazlett, the Vice Dean for Research and Graduate Programs in the School of Medicine, made a presentation to the Research Committee.
5. Student Affairs Committee: Dean of Students David Strauss and four staff members talked about two new computer programs. His office replaced Guide with Engage, which counts the number of people who attend sports events. Maxient is used to record incidents of student misconduct. Misconduct cases from across the University, both academic and non-academic, major and minor infractions, are now in one system. At the request of Policy Committee members, Ms. Simon will ask who handles the issues that arise through the system, and whether major and minor infractions carry the same weight when imposing sanctions on students.
6. Graduate Council: The materials for the Graduate Council meeting of October 17 were distributed. At the November 7 Academic Senate meeting, Dean of the Graduate School Ambika Mathur will update the Senate about activities to recruit, retain, and prepare graduate students for careers.

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Approved as submitted at the Policy Committee meeting of October 22, 2018