

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC SENATE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

December 9, 2013

Present: J. Artiss; L. Beale; V. Dallas; D. Kessel; R. MacArthur; C. Parrish; L. Romano; W. Volz; M. Winters; A. Wisniewski; J. Woodyard

The items marked with an asterisk constitute the Actions of December 19, 2013.

1. Report from the Chair:
 - a. Fall commencement ceremonies are December 14. Members of the Policy Committee will represent the faculty at the ceremonies and speak to the graduates.
 - b. Provost Winters met with Corinne Webb, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, Ahmad Ezzeddine, Associate Vice President for Educational Outreach and International Programs, and Robert Kohrman, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Analysis. They discussed targets for enrollment and the need to work more closely with the schools and colleges to increase enrollment and graduation rates. Provost Winters wants to convene a small committee to discuss what has been done and what could be done. The Board of Governors indicated that it wants to be involved in the effort. Applications and admissions are up, but the yield is down. Wayne State appears to be the fallback university. Policy Committee members asked for information about the yield by ACT quartile. They asked for historical data on the students who were accepted but chose not to come here and whether that number has changed in the past five years. The Provost said that we have geographic data relative to Grand Valley State, whose students have an ACT range that is close to ours.

2. Report from the Chair:
 - a. The topic for the faculty symposium that will be held in connection with President Wilson's inauguration has been decided.
 - b. There are three finalists in the search for the Dean of the Graduate School. Interviews, meetings, and the open forums will be held at the beginning of January.
 - c. The airport interviews with the candidates for the position of Vice President for Research will be held on February 1st and 2nd, 2014.

- *3. Proceedings of the Policy Committee: The Proceedings of the Policy Committee meeting of November 25, 2013, were approved as submitted.

4. WayneBuy: Last week a Policy Committee member asked if the University had saved money by using the WayneBuy system. She had noted that the administration removed from the units' budgets the savings they anticipated as a result of the program. The question of whether money was saved and how much was saved was referred to the Budget Committee. Another member suggested that a similar review of the mail, shipping and receiving services should be carried out.

5. TravelWayne: Provost Winters had requested a quick start guide for using TravelWayne. She is soliciting comments about the guide and the problems that people have encountered in using the system. She will ask Greg Egnatowski, Manager of Travel and Accounts Payable, and Chief Information Officer Joseph Sawasky to revise the guide based on the comments.

6. Extension Center Reports: Policy Committee had asked Associate Vice President for Educational Outreach and International Programs Ahmad Ezzeddine for information about enrollment at the extension centers. Today, the Committee reviewed the information. In analyzing the information, Mr. Romano found that enrollment at the extension centers for the fall terms of 2007 to 2013 dropped 39% and for the winter terms of 2008 to 2013 dropped 32%. Enrollment overall for the entire University for the same fall terms is down 16% and for the same winter terms is down 11%. The largest decline was at the Oakland Center.

Mr. Ezzeddine had given the following reasons for the drop: some extension centers were closed; some students have moved to online programs; students want full programs at the centers, but most departments offer courses rather than complete programs; and the competition had increased. Provost Winters noted that the budget situation on the main campus has an impact on the number of sections that can be offered at the extension centers.

Policy Committee members are concerned about the decline because additional resources are being budgeted for the centers. Data is needed to analyze why attendance has dropped. The Committee asked for data about the number of courses that were cancelled. Were the losses in a particular program? What is the strategic plan for each center and what are the metrics by which they will be evaluated? What is the definition of success and failure for the centers? How are the courses at the centers marketed? The Provost will request the information from Mr. Ezzeddine.

7. Science and Engineering Library: The Science and Engineering Library (SEL) has been closed. Provost Winters reported that Dean of the Library System Sandra Yee contacted all Department Chairs in the College of Engineering, and in the Departments of Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Mathematics. She made herself available to attend faculty meetings. She met with the faculty in Mathematics. She met with Physics twice. Chemistry and Biology said there was no need for her to meet with them.

Eighty study seats were added to the Purdy-Kresge Library. Current issues of print journals, reference materials, and all new print books were moved to Purdy-Kresge. The use of material remaining in the SEL will be monitored. Materials that are used often will be moved to Purdy-Kresge. The Library System has Stack View, an electronic browsing system that allows you to see not only the book for which you are looking but all the books on both sides of it. It locates the books even if they are miss-shelved. Reserves were moved to the Undergraduate Library when that building was opened 24 hours a day. Reference services were moved in 2011. The

librarians who were liaisons in science and engineering are still the liaisons to those departments.

8. Reports from Liaisons:

- a. Research Committee: Mr. Kessel, who is the liaison to the Research Committee, and Mr. MacArthur, who is a member of the Committee, reported on the meeting of December 3. Mr. Kessel said that the Committee discussed the National Institutes of Health Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) Award that provides money to train doctoral students for careers other than in academia. Associate Vice President Heppner talked about the Huron Consulting Group's recommendation that the University should invest more money in the cores. There was discussion about what constituted a core. Mr. MacArthur reported that members expressed concern about the BEST Award. Faculty, particularly those in the sciences, believed that good training using the current methods, would prepare someone for a non-academic career; a different approach was not needed. They believed that training a subset of students for non-academic careers would result in the faculty member's falling behind in his/her scholarly pursuits. Interim Graduate School Dean Ambika Mathur countered that our graduates are not getting jobs in academics and that we needed to be aware that there are other types of jobs available. Some members of the Research Committee claimed that other universities that have such a program attracted less competent students. The science faculty feared that this program would be disruptive to their graduate programs. Mr. Romano pointed out that the advisor would receive support from the grant and students would be trained in areas pertinent to the careers they pursue. In addition, faculty participation in the program is voluntary. Also mentioned at the Research meeting was the fact that Wayne State has fallen in the National Science Foundation's rankings in both the public institutions and the overall rankings. Mr. Romano said that WSU's research funding is down about \$50 million in 2013.
- b. Faculty Affairs Committee: Ms. Beale is the liaison to the FAC. General Counsel Louis Lessem met with the Committee on November 26. He explained how the FOIA request for faculty e-mails was handled. Mr. Lessem asked the faculty to sort their e-mail messages into personal and work-related categories. Only the job-related messages that had the key words mentioned in the FOIA request were sent to Mr. Lessem. Those were reviewed internally and only some of those were released. The members of the FAC felt comfortable that the procedure was respectful of the faculty's privacy.

9. Budget Issue: A member of the Policy Committee had received information about the University Budget that he believed should be given to the Academic Senate Budget Committee. Provost Winters said that the Council of Deans was working on the information and, when it was ready, it would be given to the Budget Committee.