

Wayne State University
Proceedings of the Student Affairs Committee
February 16, 2022

Present: Pynthia Caffee, Siobhan Gregory, Michael Horn, Barbara Jones, Afifi Kadadu, Christine Knapp, David Merolla, Cynthia Merritt, Rachel Pawlowski, Michele Porter, Shauna Reevers, Brad Roth, Ali Salamey, Naida Simon, David Strauss, Neelima Thati, Jennifer Wareham, mark wenzel

Absent with Notice: Theresa Perlman, Michele Ronnick

Absent: Nick Tedesco

Guests: Ahmad Ezzeddine, Darryl Gardner, R. Darin Ellis and Kelly Dormer

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm via ZOOM and in person. The agenda and the minutes with a proposed attendance correction from the December 8th meeting were unanimously approved.

Our first guests were Ahmad Ezzeddine and Darryl Gardner. Ahmad wanted to give us an update on his new combined portfolio of Enrollment Management, Student Success, International Programs and Study Abroad. Ahmad wants to build a bridge with the schools/colleges and divisions. He wants to look at enrollment in a broader sense and not just with FTIACs. Lifelong learning must be a focus. He wants a common experience for all students from entry to graduation and beyond. This includes high need students to honors students. We all need to work together to achieve these goals. We need to expand our market with a focused approach. We need to recruit students beyond the 100-mile radius of the City of Detroit. Ahmad wants to expand into the Grand Rapids area. And we need the help and support of faculty and academic staff. We need to look at our marketing and eliminate duplication.

On the student success side there seems to be a disconnect between central administration and the schools and colleges. We need more coordination and cooperation. Ahmad wants a faculty voice. Central administration is considering the creation of faculty fellows to get faculty engaged. OMSE could be a good case study. A course release or a stipend to do this is a possibility. The exact details are being worked out. We need to relook at revising our financial aid packages and scholarships and think more strategically. We need to look at how the schools and colleges are using their endowments. Currently we are planning for Fall 2022 and Fall 2023. We will be using analytics to determine where we will put our efforts and resources. We need to expand the student success side.

On the international side we are recruiting virtually and are now at pre-pandemic numbers but not at pre-Trump numbers. There has been a change in the amount of time a student can stay in the United States after earning a degree. It used to be one year and now it is three years for 22 majors. Our international enrollment is primarily at the graduate student level, but we are now looking at recruiting undergraduate international students. We want a global learning experience for all and are beginning to think about actual study abroad for possibly this summer but hopefully for this fall.

In the Q and A discussion, it was brought up that departments would like a list of high school counselors so that they could email marketing materials to them about their major(s). Another committee member

wanted to see the new organization chart. Ahmad said that it is forthcoming. He made an announcement that this summer there would be an overnight stay in the dorms for orientation. Another member asked what the new structure is. Ahmad said he is looking at streamlining and instituting high impact practices. He is attempting to eliminate duplication. OMSE is doing student engagement. We could piggyback on that. We need faculty engagement in those areas that students want. Brad spoke of his going to lunch with a group of students at orientation and not one of the students at his table wanted Political Science or Law. Another idea was to have academic staff give tours of the campus (again in the interest areas). Darryl brought up at looking at the analytics but do it earlier and not just with graduation data. Mark brought up the Inside-Out program at using the inmates at the Huron Valley Detention Center. It was mentioned that we are working with Kym Worthy to get exonerated folks who were wrongly convicted to come here for their education. Michele P. brought up that we should give some form of swag to accepted high school students like a t-shirt, flag, hat, etc. Ahmad stated that we are reviewing our policies and we needed to be patient. Change takes time. Naida thanked Ahmad and Darryl for coming.

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Darryl Gardner, Director of Student Success Operational Excellence, Email: darryl@wayne.edu Phone: 313-577-2550.

Our next guests were Darin Ellis and Kelly Dormer. They brought four changes they wanted to Board of Governors statutes: Transfer Credit, Undergraduate Certificates, Withdrawal Policy and Posthumous Degrees.

- **Transfer Credit:** Increase the number of credits to the number earned. This would eliminate the 64 community college credit maximum. The student must earn at least 30 credits at Wayne State. In addition, if the student earns technical, vocational and applied (TVA) credits the 12 credit limit to transfer should be abolished. In addition, transfer credit taken at another institution, should satisfy general education requirements. The committee agreed unanimously.
- **Undergraduate Certificates:** Allow undergraduate certificates prior to earning the degree if they are in good academic standing (at least a 2.0 GPA). Reduce the number of necessary credits from 15 to 12. Programs can make additional requirements. The committee agreed unanimously.
- **Withdrawal Policy:** The WP, WF and WN be removed and replaced by the grade of W when a student voluntarily withdraws from the class during the regular withdrawal period. Also, the faculty member does not have to agree with the withdrawal. The WF grade was treated as a failing grade by professional schools and hurt our students' chances for admissions into those programs. It also was given more frequently to a certain ethnic group. The committee agreed unanimously.
- **Posthumous Degrees:** This applies to deceased and critically ill students. Eliminate the 90% in each category rule and make it 75% of the total degree for baccalaureate degrees. For master's degree students, have the 75% rule and the support of the school or college and the department. For doctoral student other than Juris Doctor, Doctor of Medicine, or Doctor of Pharmacy, the student shall at a minimum of 75% of the degree requirements in every published category, preliminary or comprehensive examinations and have the support of the school or college and the department. The committee agreed unanimously. For Juris Doctor and Doctor of Pharmacy , a minimum 75% of the of requirements in each published curricular category must have been met. For Doctor of Medicine, a minimum 100% of the published basic science (pre-clinical)

requirements and the equivalent of 75% of the published clinical requirements must have been met. The committee agreed unanimously.

Naida thanked Darin and Kelly for coming.

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Kelly Dormer, Associate Director, Strategic Academic Initiatives. Email: kdormer@wayne.edu Phone: 313-577-4637.

Snow Day Policy discussion—Naida thanked David M. for his initial answers to the questions posed by Linda and the provost. Our email exchange was based on his answers. She will share the document with the committee based on the email exchange and today's discussion. Linda requested that the responses be divided by who responded: Faculty and Academic Staff. One thing that was very clear was that the communication from the president and/or the provost must be very clear and concise. There was a discussion on what to do about clinical attendance on a snow day. The current policy is that the dean of the college for student clinical placement makes the decision as to whether students must be there. Again, the communication needs to be clear and concise.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

The next meeting is March 23, 2022, at 1:30 pm via ZOOM and in person. The invite and link will be sent later. The guest speakers will be Ahmad Ezzeddine and specific directors.