



Academic and Student Affairs Committee

September 13, 2024

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Governor Stancato in the Student Center Ballroom. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present: Governors Atkinson, Barnhill, Busuito, Gaffney, Kumar, and Stancato; Stephen Chrisomalis, Faculty Representative; Linda Beale, Faculty Alternate Representative

Committee Members Absent: Fatima Algahaim, Student Representative, and Finnley Culhane, Student Alternate Representative

Also Present: Governor Kumar, President Espy, Provost Clabo, Vice Presidents Gielczyk, Lindsey, Obasi, Poterala, Ripple, and Schweitzer, Chief of Staff Smiley, Senior Vice Provosts Baltes and Ezzeddine, Vice Provosts Cotton, Ellis, and Gardner, Interim Vice Provost Padgett, Acting Vice President Thompson, Associate Vice Presidents Davenport and Hafner, Assistant Vice President Phillips, Director Wallace, and Secretary Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, JUNE 26, 2024

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Barnhill and supported by Governor Atkinson, the minutes of the June 26, 2024 meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee were approved as submitted. The motion carried.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PROGRAM FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION WITH A MAJOR IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PROGRAM FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION WITH A MAJOR IN MIDDLE CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PROGRAM FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION WITH A MAJOR IN MULTI-AGE CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION WITH A MAJOR IN EARLY AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION WITH A MAJOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING WITH A MAJOR IN EARLY AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TO THE MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING WITH A MAJOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Provost Clabo presented five program recommendations coming forward as a result of a change in the age bands for certification issued by the Michigan Department of Education. The program changes are to be in compliance for these new requirements. AP Ellis reviewed the specific changes for each program. The first three recommendations reflect the new band structure, a birth to kindergarten age group, a middle childhood group, and a multi-age band. The last two recommendations were for name changes to reflect the major area of Elementary Education at the bachelor's and master's levels. A motion was made to approve all five recommendations together, as follows:

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Busuito and supported by Governor Gaffney, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors establish new programs in the Bachelor of Science in Education with a Major in Early Childhood Education, Bachelor of Science in Education with a Major in Middle Childhood Education, and a Bachelor of Science in Education with a Major in Multi-Age Education. The motion further recommends approval of name changes of the Bachelor of Science in Education with a Major in Early and Elementary Education to the Bachelor of Science in Education with a Major in Early Elementary Education, and the Master of Art in Teaching with a Major in Early and Elementary Education to the Master of Arts in Teaching with a Major in Elementary Education, in the College of Education, effective fall term 2025. The motion carried.

PRESENTATION: MEET OUR NEW CLASS

Provost Clabo and Vice Provost Charles Cotton co-presented a report detailing a wide variety of demographic and other information about the university's 2024 class.

The presentation began with a discussion of the challenges and opportunities the university faced this year, including the revisions to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which had a significant delaying impact on admissions applications and enrollment, and the introduction of the Michigan Achievement Scholarship. The Scholarship offers up to \$5500 for Michigan residents to attend a 4-year public university. The university is also part of the Michigan Assured Admission Pact, in partnership with 10 other higher education institutions to provide transparency and clarity in the admissions process for students across the state.

To address some of these challenges, several strategic decisions were made. Those included expanding application and scholarship deadlines, enhancing communication efforts and increasing partnerships with various schools. Goals were accomplished through team efforts, and were targeted and individualized to meet the needs of specific student groups. These efforts resulted in a 1.1% increase in total university enrollment and a 3.2% increase in first-time college enrollment.

Looking more closely at class demographics, the incoming class is diverse, and data was shared with the committee on several key measures. Among those, 79% are attending full-time, 49% are Pell eligible, 31% are transfer students, almost 2500 are living on campus, and the median GPA is 3.27. The university has maintained its market share in

key counties, and is also venturing into new geographic regions to attract students. Looking specifically at scholarship distribution, 13% are recipients of the Heart of Detroit scholarship, 66% are receiving Michigan scholarships, and most notably 58% of this class are paying \$0 in tuition and fees. Information was shared on the university's top feeder institutions, and efforts to engage students from other two- and four-year institutions were also discussed.

There has been a notable increase in new master's enrollments, particularly in the Ilitch School of Business, the Law School and the School of Social Work. The university is focusing on adult learners and integrating credit for prior learning in attracting this demographic. International student enrollment has also increased, with students enrolling from countries including Canada, India, Nigeria, Bangladesh and Ghana. There have been some barriers for international students, as visa appointments, approvals and distribution has been very slow.


Committee discussion followed the presentation. Governor Barnhill raised questions about the enrollment numbers over time, the focus of recruitment efforts, and the demographics of new graduate enrollment. Dr. Cotton reviewed the enrollment data, and advised that recruitment efforts emphasize the importance of local recruitment and the need for affinity-based communication. Provost Clabo advised that demographic data on new graduate students is being compiled and analyzed, and would be available next month. In response to a question from Governor Stancato about alternatives students who do not opt to enroll directly into college are pursuing, Dr. Cotton advised that many students go directly into work, or take a gap year before pursuing a college education. Governor Atkinson asked where WSU students transferring elsewhere are going. Provost Clabo advised that the university has less access to data in this area, but they continue to analyze student movements.

The presentation concluded with a discussion on the importance of providing an educated citizenry to the state and the value of a Wayne State degree.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Julie H. Miller
Secretary