

Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom Annual Report 2017-2018

Committee Members: Jill Rulfs (Chair), Alexander Wyglinski (Secretary), John Bergendahl, Steven Taylor, Diana Lados, Aaron Deskins.

CTAF took the following actions during the 2017-2018 Academic Year:

1. With departmental tenure committees, reviewed twelve tenure cases and made recommendations to the Provost.
2. Met with the Provost to discuss individual cases as appropriate.
3. Reviewed four proposals for appointment with tenure and made recommendations to the Provost.
4. Notified departmental tenure committees to conduct annual reviews of untenured tenure-track faculty and to certify to CTAF in writing that the reviews had been done.
5. Presented a session on the tenure review process during New Faculty Orientation in August 2017.
6. Worked on and submitted to the Faculty a motion to revise departmental procedures for periodic review of non-tenured, tenure track faculty. The motion was passed.
7. Worked on and submitted to COG a motion to revise departmental tenure committee membership for faculty whose primary responsibilities are to a program.
8. Held an open meeting on April 4th, 2018 with untenured tenure-track faculty to provide information on the tenure process at WPI.
9. Held an open meeting on April 4th, 2018 with departmental tenure committees to discuss the tenure review process.
10. Held meetings with departmental tenure committees from departments with candidates for tenure review in 2018-2019 to discuss procedure.
11. Revised letters to external reviewers and professional associates for clarity.
12. Revised letter sent to candidates for tenure and promotion.
13. Revised letters to Department Heads regarding annual deadlines for election of the Departmental Tenure Committee (by April 1st), DTC submission to CTAF of annotated list of external reviewers (by May 15th), and meeting of all three DTC members with CTAF (by April 30th).
14. Circulated the roster of non-tenured tenure track faculty at the end of the academic year

as required by the Faculty Handbook.

15. Appointed J. Bergendahl (until 2019) as the new chair and A. Deskins (until 2021) as the new secretary, as well as welcomed new members D. Korkin (until 2019), C. Furlong-Vazquez (until 2019), J. Rudolph (until 2020), and J. Doyle (until 2021) for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Wyglinski
2017-2018 CTAF Secretary