

COG Motions to Ensure TRT Representation in Faculty Governance

Committee On Governance

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Two Motions – 2nd Presentation to Faculty

- Motion to modify the membership of (and election procedures) for the Committee on Governance to ensure nontenure-track faculty representation
- Motion to establish the Committee on Teaching and Research Faculty as a **formal** faculty governance mechanism to address issues **specific** to teaching and research faculty
- Two motions combined to address TRT faculty representation

COG Motion to Modify its Membership and Election Procedures

Motion: The Committee on Governance recommends and I move that Part One, Bylaw One, (Membership, Duties and Responsibilities of Standing Committees of the Faculty), Section I (The Committee on Governance) of the Faculty Handbook be modified to update the membership of and election procedure for the Committee on Governance, as described in the materials distributed for this meeting.

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1) Motion to modify the membership of the Committee on Governance to ensure nontenure-track faculty representation

Main Points:

- Increases the number of elected COG faculty members from five to six;
- Guarantees that two of the six elected COG members will be secured nontenure-track faculty members;
- The remaining four elected members must be **Tenured or Tenure-track** faculty;
- Specifies that the President's appointment be made in collaboration with COG to address the balance of the committee membership;
- *Retains* the Provost and the Secretary of the Faculty as *ex officio* members.
- The Chair of the committee must be protected by tenure;
- Allows Chair to serve two consecutive terms without increasing the total number of years any member can serve as Chair.

Changes to the Two Motions Based on Feedback from Faculty

- **Membership: Expanded “Tenured” to “Tenured and tenure-track” members**
- Nomination ballot:
 - increased from circling 5 names to 10 names;
- Final Ballot:
 - Increased from 5 names to 6 names (or twice # of openings) on TTT ballot;
 - Typical - 6 names for 1 or 2 TTT vacancies
 - Typical - 3 names for 1 NTT vacancy

Discussion

COG Motion to Establish an ad hoc Committee on Teaching and Research Faculty (CTRF)

Motion: The Committee on Governance recommends and I move that, following the procedure described in Part One, Section Three, Subsection III of the Faculty Handbook, the Committee on Teaching and Research Faculty (CTRF) be added as a formal *ad hoc* Committee of the Faculty, as described in the materials distributed for this meeting.

2) Motion to establish the Committee on Teaching and Research Faculty

- Committee Charge: **CTRF** is an *ad hoc* committee of the faculty that is concerned with and responsible for raising and addressing issues related *specifically* to teaching faculty and research faculty. It will be the responsibility of CTRF to apprise the appropriate faculty committees, including but not limited to COG, CTAF, and COAP, of any recommendations for new or modified policies proposed in their work. The committee works with COG and other appropriate committees to bring such issues to the attention of the faculty and the administration and to bring proposals for action by the entire faculty.

- The committee actively solicits the perspective of WPI's research professors and invites their representatives to participate in CTRF meetings as appropriate.

- Committee Membership:
 - Three elected teaching faculty
 - Two NTT faculty serving on COG
- Committee Evaluation Period:
 - After three years, the committee will be extended, reconstituted, eliminated, or established in an appropriate form as a permanent subcommittee of COG by the faculty.

Discussion

COG Membership

- **In the past 10 years**, with perfect turnover, a total of 20 different faculty members and 10 different committee chairs would have served on COG.
 - Actual number of members = 20
 - Ideal rating = $20/20 = 100\%$!!
 - Actual number of Chairs = 8
 - Ideal rating = $8/10 = 80\%$
- **In the past 15 years**, with perfect turnover, a total of 28 different faculty members and 15 different committee chairs would have served on COG.
 - Actual number of members = 30
 - Ideal rating = $30/28 = >100\%$!!
 - Actual number of Chairs = 13
 - Ideal rating = $13/15 = 86\%$

COG Membership

- In the past 25 years, with perfect turnover, a total of 46 different faculty members and 25 different committee chairs would have served on COG.
 - Actual number of members = 38
 - Ideal rating = $38/46 = 82\%$
 - Actual number of Chairs = 18
 - Ideal rating = $18/25 = 72\%$

Faculty Handbook: From Part One, Section One

GOVERNANCE OF THE FACULTY

(Approved - May 2021)

Governance of the Faculty, including voting at Faculty meetings and membership on committees as described in this Faculty Handbook, is the responsibility given specifically to all full-time faculty members who are tenured, are on the tenure-track, or hold **non-temporary secured** nontenure-track **teaching** appointments that are made with provisions for a long-term institutional commitment from WPI.

Faculty Handbook: From Part Two, Section 7.B

Categories, Titles, and Roles of Non-Tenure Track Faculty: (Approved – May 2021)

Secured Non-Tenure Track Teaching Faculty: *Secured* non-tenure track teaching faculty members are full-time employees of the University ***who are hired with the expectation that they will have continuing academic responsibilities at WPI focused on their teaching, and with provisions for a long-term institutional commitment from WPI.***

- Instructor; Senior Instructor; or Assistant, Associate, and (full) Teaching Professor:
- Professor of Practice:

Non-Tenure Track Research Faculty: Non-tenure track research faculty members are full-time employees of the University who are hired, usually on research grants, with the expectation that their academic responsibilities at WPI are focused on their research.

- ***Assistant, Associate, and (full) Research Professor:***
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