Committee on Governance: Meeting Minutes
Meeting #16: 13 December 2021
Faculty Governance Conference Room (SL 225)

Present: Len Albano (Secretary, CEE); Tanja Dominko (BBT); Tahar El-Korchi (Chair, CEE); George Heineman (CS); Mark Richman (Secretary of the Faculty, AE); Susan Roberts (CHE); Wole Soboyejo (Provost)

Absent: Nancy Burnham (PH)

1. Prof. El-Korchi called the meeting to order at 11:23 am.

2. The agenda was approved as distributed.

3. The minutes of COG meeting #15 on December 6, 2021 were approved with modifications.

4. <u>Progress Report on Faculty Review of Administrators:</u>
    Prof. El-Korchi distributed updated faculty survey forms for the evaluation of the VPR and the Dean of Graduate Studies. Their feedback was incorporated into the respective forms, and COG members agreed that these surveys are ready for distribution to the faculty. Prof. Heineman reported that he is expecting feedback from the Dean of Undergraduate Studies later today.

    A new survey form was introduced for the Chief Information Officer (CIO). The survey was prepared by borrowing language from past evaluations of non-academic administrators and grouping the draft questions according to the template established for the VPR and the Deans. Prof. Heineman volunteered to share the survey with Patricia Patria, VP for Information Technology and CIO, for comments and suggestions, and to invite the submittal of a one-page statement on recent accomplishments, which will be distributed with the survey.

    Provost Soboyejo provided feedback on the draft survey questions for faculty evaluation of the current status of WPI. He asked for the addition of questions on WPI's efforts to deal with COVID-19 and to address campus mental health and wellbeing. The Provost would also like to obtain more granularity from the faculty's evaluation of WPI as an academic institution, with specific reference to Project-Based Learning, Global Learning and Multicultural Education, and Culturally Inclusive Education. The survey form on the current status of WPI will be updated to include these additional questions.

5. <u>Clarification of NTT Participation in Departmental and Programmatic Operations:</u>
    Prof. Roberts distributed draft slides to guide the discussion of this issue during the upcoming Department Heads' Meeting on December 15th. Prof. El-Korchi and Prof. Richman will attend this meeting to represent COG. The draft presentation opens with a reminder that the faculty voted in May 2021 to revise the Constitution and Bylaws of the WPI Faculty to expand the formal definition of the WPI faculty and to extend the responsibility for the Governance of the Faculty to include secured nontenure-track (NTT) faculty. The draft presentation then addresses the fact that secured

NTT faculty must be included in all voting activities within departments and programs, and they are also eligible to participate in departmental and programmatic operations. The slides present some examples for each of these two issues. COG members thanked Prof. Roberts for preparing the slides and updating them to reflect the discussion in this meeting.

6. Update on COG Election Procedure:
   Prof. Richman updated the draft motion on the COG election procedure (introduced in meeting #12) to include provisions that ensure NTT representation. Following some minor modifications in the language, COG members approved sharing the draft motion with the TRT Council for their feedback.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 12:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Albano
Secretary, COG