

Committee on Governance: Minutes

Meeting #6: October 10, 2022

Faculty Governance Conference Room, SL 225

3:00pm – 4:30pm

Present: Len Albano (Chair, CEAE), Althea Danielski (HUA), Tanja Dominko (BBT), George Heineman (CS), Art Heinricher (Interim Provost), Suzanne LePage (CEAE), Mark Richman (Secretary of the Faculty, AE), Karen Troy (BME).

1. Agenda contains ongoing list of topics (some have shifted since distribution).
2. Minutes for COG Meeting #5 approved with minor changes.
3. B term meetings will be held at same time as in A term.
4. Update on CTAF/COG Proposal to expand the number of members.

Chair Albano has received positive feedback via email on the proposed changes. We expect to send full motion with some minor revisions to faculty by October 27th as a two-week notice item for voting at the November 10th faculty meeting .

The committee discussed in more detail how the ballot would be constructed for new CTAF members with the goal to elect 5 (rather than 2) new members to CTAF early this spring.

5. Compensation in the form of course relief for COAP/CTAF members.

Provost Heinricher reported that the Provost's Office provided course relief or compensation as requested by COAP/CTAF faculty. About 3/4th of the requests were for course release, and the funding for all extra compensation – whether for committee members who opted for extra compensation or for the cost of finding replacements for committee members who opted for course release – comes from the Provost's office.

COG was most concerned about the need for advanced planning to make the arrangements for release time possible next year. The committee encouraged the Provost to work with department heads who will have faculty members on CTAF and COAP next year. Many of those committee members can already be identified now, while those elected for terms beginning next year will be identified by early February.

6. Reorganization of Faculty Handbook. (Mark Richman).

The next section on “Academic Appointments” was discussed, with clear divisions of titles and different categories of faculty positions. It was noted there remains some overlap with the revised “Tenure” section, which might in some cases may be eliminated and in other cases checked for consistency.

The committee discussed dual appointments, where the budget for a faculty position is shared by multiple departments, and collaborative appointments, where the faculty position has a home department that is responsible for the full budget.

The committee discussed the current rules for sabbaticals as they apply equally to our dual-mission faculty and to our Professors of Teaching.

7. Discussion of Sexual Misconduct Policy (Richman).

For the purpose of understanding the Interim Title IX & Sexual Misconduct Policy, proposing sensible changes, and bringing these policies to the faculty in an understandable way, COG discussed how to identify the differences between the interim policies and the Sexual Misconduct Conduct policy approved by the faculty in 2018, and the differences between the Title IX and non-Title IX policies. It is critical at this stage to determine the reasons for any differences, whether any differences are significant, and whether any content was lost as the changes were made. The committee will identify a series of general and specific questions for the Office of General Counsel.

Since it appears Title IX regulations are changing more frequently, how do we write policies that have a chance to be stable despite these changes? As an example of the changing landscape, for example, what should the effect of the latest Biden administration interpretations be on our interim policies?

8. Meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm

Respectfully submitted,

George Heineman

Secretary