Committee on Governance Meeting Minutes
Meeting #19 (2016-17)
Monday, February 6, 2017, 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm
Faculty Governance Conference Room, SL 225

In Attendance: Leonard Albano (Secretary), Tanja Dominko (Chair), Glenn Gaudette, Eleanor Loiacono, Mark Richman and Suzanne Weekes
Absent: Provost Bruce Bursten

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:18 pm.

2. The agenda was approved with the addition of one item of New Business.

3. The minutes of Meeting #18 (January 30, 2017) were amended. An updated version of the minutes will be provided electronically for the committee's approval.

4. Update on the ballots for election of new members of COG, CTAF, COAP and standing committees

    i.   Prof. Richman updated the committee on the preparation of the electing ballots for COG, CTAF, and COAP. He stated that some faculty members, although nominated by their colleagues, expressed a reluctance to serve on CTAF or COAP because these two committees have large workloads. The committee discussed possible strategies to increase the number of faculty members who are willing to serve on these committees.
    ii. Committee members reported on their progress in contacting individual colleagues and asking whether they are interested and willing to serve on standing committees. A list of faculty members who volunteered to run for election and their committee preferences, if specified, was compiled and entered into a spreadsheet that will serve as a base for establishing the election ballots. The committee's goal is to have two or more faculty candidates for each open position.

5. The proposed revision to the "Membership, Duties, and Responsibilities" of the Committee on Governance (Faculty Handbook Part One, Section Three, Bylaw One) was reviewed. Discussion focused on the language for two election processes outlined in COG's description: one process refers to filling COG vacancies that occur during the academic year, and the other is for electing faculty members to Faculty Governance committees other than COG, CTAF, and now COAP. Filling a vacancy on COG requires a special election from a ballot of candidates nominated at a Faculty Meeting; however, the nomination process for the two most recent COG vacancies used a more practical and timely approach than receiving nominations at a Faculty Meeting. For example, in November 2015, the Faculty approved a motion from COG to use the runners-up from the previous COG election to identify the roster of candidates for the special election. This year, a single election process is being used to fill a vacancy and an expiring term.

   In addition, the description of the election process for committees other than COG and CTAF states that COG is to provide the ballots in early spring. In practice, the election ballots for these other committees have been distributed in early D term, following the elections for COG and CTAF.

Consideration of alternative language for these two election processes was deferred to the next COG meeting.

6. New Business
   This item was deferred to the next COG meeting.

7. The meeting adjourned at 1:47 pm.

Respectfully,
Len Albano, Secretary