

Committee on Governance: Minutes
Meeting #23: March 18, 2019
Faculty Governance Conference Room (SL 225)

Present: Len Albano (CEE), Kris Boudreau (Secretary of COG, HUA), Mike Elmes (FBS), Tanja Dominko (Secretary of the Faculty, BBT), Mark Richman (ME), Susan Roberts (ChE), Wole Soboyejo (Provost), and David Spanagel (Chair, HUA).

1. Prof. Spanagel called the meeting to order at 11:04; the agenda was approved as distributed.
2. The minutes from meeting #22 were approved with modifications.
3. Motion from CTAF on modifications to Joint Tenure and Departmental Tenure Committees: This proposal addresses the case of tenure-track faculty hired into interdisciplinary programs or with interdepartmental affiliations who aren't well served by the current tenure process. The proposal calls for modifications to the Faculty Handbook allowing for Program Tenure Committees to replace Department Tenure Committees (DTC) for conducting annual reviews and to serve in place of the departmental members of the Joint Tenure Committee (JTC). After some discussion, COG concluded that the separate processes (composition of the Program Tenure Committee and the JTC) properly belong in separate paragraphs, that this subsection of the Faculty Handbook should be revised accordingly, and that the proposal needs a little more development. Profs. Albano and Richman will reorganize the proposal and meet with Prof. Bergendahl, Chair of CTAF, to discuss revisions. COG aims to work with CTAF to finalize a proposal to introduce early next fall if that goal is suitable to CTAF.
4. Faculty evaluation of WPI administrators: COG agreed to expand participation in the evaluation process to all full-time (TTT and NTT) faculty members. In order to sort responses, if desired, COG will add a required question about the TTT/NTT status of the respondent. The surveys will be sent out through Qualtrics very shortly. After the surveys are completed, COG will report the results to the community and to the administrators under review in a manner that ensures trust in the process.
5. WPI Global School proposal: COG considered the latest version of the Global School proposal. Provost Soboyejo noted that he has had conversations about the proposal with various stakeholders. He acknowledged the considerable time Prof. Dominko has invested in using the information provided in the previous draft to reorganize the proposal, eliminate repetition, and add financial information, calling the current document a great reflection of teamwork. The ensuing discussion included editorial suggestions in the interests of a clearer document, questions about how WPI will build strong expertise in international development, the necessity of finding a dean with academic credentials, and questions about whether we will have sufficient faculty resources needed to establish the six new master's programs necessary to meet the

expenses of the new school. Provost Soboyejo indicated that stipends will enable some current WPI faculty members to participate in the Global School, and that new programs won't begin until fall 2020, with next year aimed at proposing new programs and building capacity to run them. In response to questions about the 5-year cumulative marginal cost of the school (\$13,219,335 according to the proposal), the Provost indicated that donors are lining up to fund these programs, seeing them as a strategic investment in WPI's future, and that the up-front investment is more than covered by donor pledges. The Provost will revise the proposal and circulate it to the faculty, while Prof. Spanagel will write up a draft motion for COG to consider.

6. The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Boudreau
Secretary, COG