

## Minutes of CGSR Meeting #16 on 01/24//2017

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in C-term 2017 on January 24<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) in Gordon Conference Room, 303.

Present: K. Burnett (GS), T. Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), M. Demetriou, A. Deskins, R. Rao, K. Troy, B. Vernescu (Vice Provost for Research), A. Zeng

Absent: S. Scarlata

Guests: B. Bursten (Provost), S. Miles (Registrar), K. McAdams (Academic Program), M. McGrade (Director of Graduate Admission), Erkan Tuzel (Physics)

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Professor K. Troy called the meeting to order at 3:05PM

1. The minutes of the meeting on 01/17/2017 were approved with a minor revision.
2. Professor M. Demetriou was appointed to represent CGSR to serve a three-year term on the Selection Committee for Trustees Award for Outstanding Research and Creative Scholarship.
3. A concern about the on-line teaching partnership between WPI and Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) with respect to possible impact on WPI's quality and reputation was brought up and discussed. VPR Bogdan clarified that this partnership was approved by the Board of Trustees last February to exploit SNHU's elaborated and extensive online teaching expertise and network; however, WPI only provides a few courses but involves no degree granting from WPI. The Committee felt that it would be helpful to invite the Executive Director of CPE to a future meeting to share more information about this partnership.
4. Provost Bursten joined the meeting and explained the rationale of charging the Committee to suggest meaningful metrics to measure faculty productivity especially pertinent to Scholarly Work that takes different disciplinary characteristics into account. The need for accounting for faculty's scholarship productivity stems from two current initiatives – academic space utilization and TTT/NTT teaching load balance, where how to know faculty are utilized effectively becomes essential. The Provost was hoping to receive recommendations from the Committee to guide the decisions. The Committee agreed to have VPR Vernescu lead this assignment and each member will send their ideas and comments to him directly by the end of February.
5. Old Business: The Committee reviewed four revised motions from the Physics Department: one to modify the degree requirements for Master's and Ph.D. programs, and the other three to add three courses (PH583, PH584 and PH585) to make tracking of students' progress easier. The Committee conditionally approved these motions and suggested the Department looking at the possibility of swapping the course numbers for PH584 and PH585 to make the sequence more logical.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Zeng, CGSR secretary (C17)