

Minutes of CGSR Meeting #5 on 1/12/2023

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its fifth meeting of AY '22/'23 on January 12, 2023 (Tuesday) via Zoom.

Present: D. Medich (PH, Chair), Y. Telliell (HUA, Secretary), L. Fichera (RBE), R. Neamtu (CS), S. Olson (MA), A. Wyglinski (Associate Dean of Graduate Studies), S. Miles (Registrar's Office), M. Terrio (Executive Director of Graduate Recruitment and Admissions), N. Blank (Director of Academic Programs)

Guests: P. Rao (ME)

Prof. Medich called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm (US Eastern Time).

1. The minutes of meeting #4 (AY '22/'23) were reviewed and approved with minor corrections.
2. CGSR was contacted by the Faculty Governance leadership about the Board of Trustees Outstanding Research and Creative Scholarship Award, which is scheduled to be awarded to a faculty member in the humanities or social sciences this year. Some WPI faculty members have expressed their concern that this year's review committee did not include representation in the humanities and social sciences. Because this committee's membership is tightly controlled, as described in the Faculty Handbook, the only committee member appointment that wouldn't require changing the Handbook is the 3-year appointment made by CGSR. With the guidance of the Faculty Governance leadership, we discussed this issue with CGSR's current Review Committee appointee, Professor Michael Demetriou, who is serving the last of his three year term. Professor Demetriou graciously offered to step down one year early to help with this issue. CGSR is currently reviewing prospective candidates for a one-year appointment.
3. The committee approved Professor Purvi Shah's request to remove the Business School MSMI program.
4. The Fall Semester graduate student petitions were reviewed: 8 approved, 2 denied, and 1 in-progress (in need of additional information).
5. Professor Pratap Rao answered questions concerning the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Project Mentoring Experience proposal. The committee members' questions focused on (a) the workload and responsibilities of the faculty advisor, (b) graduate students' preparatory work, (c) BS-MS students' eligibility, and (d) alternative compensation methods.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm