

Committee on Governance: Minutes
Meeting #18: February 14, 2023
Faculty Governance Conference Room, SL 225
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Present: Len Albano (Chair, CEAE), Althea Danielski (HUA), George Heineman (CS), Art Heinricher (Interim Provost), Suzanne LePage (CEAE), Mark Richman (Secretary of the Faculty, AE), Diane Strong (President's appointment, WBS)

1. Chair Albano called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm and a revised agenda was approved.
2. Minutes were discussed and approved with minor changes.
3. March 6th Faculty Meetings
CITP may send a motion regarding security cameras on campus. In advance of elections for faculty committees, Prof. Richman is considering asking representatives from each Faculty standing committee to describe their work. Prof. Richman expects to share the reorganized Faculty Handbook and provide an opportunity for returning feedback.

4. Reorganization of Faculty Handbook
Prof. Richman shared several sections on Academic Appointments, Tenure, and Promotion with color-coded regions showing where text was modified primarily for clarity, to conform to current practice, or to explicitly describe what otherwise could be inferred. Some changes are required because the Assistant Professors of Teaching position is relatively new with regards to the Faculty Handbook.

By putting tenure requirements for dual-mission and teaching faculty together in one section, the consistency of, and any differences in, requirements for tenure across tenure-track faculty are clear and easily comparable.

It was noted that any discussions regarding salary equity adjustments is outside of the scope of the Faculty Handbook and is handled by the Provost.

5. Ballot Preparation
COG discussed whether faculty who are also Academic Administrators should be fully eligible to be on nominating ballots for the various standing committees. It was common practice for these ballots to not include faculty who were serving as an Associate Dean or higher. One argument to keep this practice is that the faculty who participate in Faculty Governance should be able to do so without fear of retaliation. Also, these Academic Administrators inherently have a voice in the direction of WPI, so omitting them from the ballot could increase the opportunities for other faculty to become involved.

The ultimate decision was to include the names of Associate Deans on the ballots except where there is a separate explicit administrative role (such as for CTAF and COAP).

6. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

George Heineman
Secretary