Committee on Teaching and Research Faculty (CTRF) Meeting #22 Minutes
Thursday March 30, 2023
11am-12pm

Meeting held in person

Members in attendance: Drew Brodeur (Chair, CBC), Joe Aguilar (Secretary, HUA), Izabela Stroe (PH), Suzanne LePage (CEAE), Althea Danielski (HUA)

1. Call to order. Chair Brodeur called the meeting to order at 11:15am.

2. Discuss and approve minutes. Minutes #21 were discussed and approved with minor changes.

3. Discussion of draft motion for sabbaticals for all full-time faculty. With the goal of drafting a motion to grant sabbaticals for all full-time faculty at WPI, the committee looked at language on p. 61 of the reorganized faculty handbook regarding sabbaticals as they currently exist at WPI. The Committee discussed how this section might be edited to include sabbaticals for all full-time faculty.

   The committee discussed possible institution-wide effects of a more inclusive sabbatical policy, particularly around the following questions: What would be the financial impact on a department if a faculty member with a large teaching load took a sabbatical of either a half year or a full year? Would there be administrative pushback? Who would cover such faculty members’ classes? How do we also advocate for full time research faculty to participate in sabbaticals as well?

   Committee Member LePage proposed that COG should talk through the process around instituting a motion for sabbaticals for all full-time faculty members. Chair Brodeur said he would examine the COG motion that created the teaching path to tenure and create a template for the Committee’s review at the next meeting.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Aguilar
CTRF Secretary