

Committee on Governance: Minutes
Meeting #23: March 25, 2024
Faculty Governance Office
Faculty Governance Conference Room, SL 225
3:00-4:30 PM

Members: Mark Claypool (CS), Althea Danielski (HUA), George Heineman (Chair, CS), Art Heinricher (Interim Provost), Stephen Kmiolek (ChE), Diane Strong (President's appointment, WBS)

1. The agenda was approved.
2. The minutes for meetings #21 and #22 were approved.
3. COG reviewed the plan for the April 2024 Faculty Meeting. There were several items to review.
 - a. Chair Heineman presented the Faculty Populations Report, which COG is mandated to present to the Faculty each year. The presentation shows the numbers of full-time faculty by school and category, compared with the first year of the report, AY 2021-2022. The Provost will work with the Chair of COG and the Secretary of the Faculty to provide the most updated information for the final version of the presentation. COG discussed the progress towards WPI's commitment on the balance of faculty (70% tenured and tenure track (TTT) dual mission teaching-research faculty and 30% teaching mission faculty) as well as the balance of teaching mission faculty (40% tenured or tenure-track and 60% non-tenure-track).
 - b. For discussion at the April faculty meeting, there is a motion from the Fringe Benefits Committee (FBC) and the Committee on Financial and Administration Policy (FAP). The motion reduces the size of the committee from twelve to ten, with five faculty members and five staff members. The chair of the committee remains a faculty member, and a newly identified vice chair of the committee will be a staff member. Staff members will be appointed by the Staff Council, which is now an official organization.
 - c. For discussion at the April faculty meeting, there is a motion from COG to clarify the eligibility of faculty to be elected to faculty committees. This motion makes clear that faculty members who are also members of the Administration (those who hold the administrative titles of President, Provost, Associate or Vice Provost, Dean or Associate Dean) are *not* eligible to be elected to faculty committees. They are still eligible to be appointed to these committees as representatives of the Administration. The rationale for this motion is that faculty committees are for faculty to participate in the governance of the University. Faculty who are members of the Administration already have that opportunity in their regular work, and of course, remain eligible to vote in all Faculty Governance elections.

4. For discussion at the April faculty meeting, there is a motion from COG to modify the Guidelines to Fill Academic Administrative Positions. The process laid out in the Faculty Handbook for filling academic administrative positions has not been consistently followed, in particular for Associate Deans. The Provost will share these revised guidelines with Academic Deans and provide feedback to COG.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully,

Althea Danielski
COG Secretary