

**Committee on Teaching and Research Faculty (CTRF) Meeting #12 Minutes Wednesday  
4/9**

**1pm-2pm**

**Meeting held on Zoom**

**Members in attendance:** Drew Brodeur (Chair, CBC), Joe Aguilar (Secretary, HUA), Izabela Stroe (PH), Althea Danielski (HUA), Steve Kmiotek (CHE), guest Katherine Foo (DIGS)

**COG update.** Committee Member Kmiotek said elections had been a big part of the COG conversation. The evaluation of academic offices had gone out. At the May faculty meeting, there will be discussion on the faculty populations report.

**JCC update.** Katherine Foo related her experience meeting with the Provost and a couple other colleagues to talk about the plan going forward for professors of teaching. Recently, the Provost has been allocating the professor of teaching positions to departments where he identifies need. The Provost reported on two areas of confusion to address 1) Lack of clarity around the tenure process for secure contract and tenure-track-to-teaching faculty 2) Lack of clarity about rules regarding the compensation of tenure-teaching-track faculty.

The Provost further suggested that it'll take about 4-5 years to understand the results of WPI's institution of the TRT positions.

Committee Member Kmiotek said he felt that criteria for professors of teaching are actually quite clear and laid out. WPI's tenure process in general has received very high grades for transparency, rigor, fairness, etc, and Committee Member Kmiotek doesn't see any reason to think it's different for professors of teaching.

Chair Brodeur will follow up with the Provost to ask how to best communicate the process for TRT searches going forward.

**Engineering teaching certification pilot program.** Chair Brodeur shared a slide about an ongoing professional development program now being piloted for the engineering department at WPI. Faculty are currently being recruited to participate in these activities. Chair Brodeur discussed how this program could be deployed to parallel someone's promotion through the dual-mission ranks. The Committee thought this program is something to keep in mind as we make recommendations for next year's CTRF work priorities.

**Final recommendations for next year's committee.** The Committee agreed that next year's CTRF Committee should continue to tackle the ongoing issue re: sabbaticals. CTRF should also connect with the faculty compensation committee to ensure proper action gets taken. Further, CTRF should keep advocating for issues related to job security and professional development opportunities for teaching faculty.

**The committee adjourned at 2pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joe Aguilar**

**CTRF Secretary**