

Faculty Governance Report

Bylaws and Governance Working Group Charter (BGWG)

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 12/7/2018

1. Develop recommendations, at a minimum, for amending subsets of the pending bylaws in Articles IV and XI as they relate to faculty/academic enterprise.
2. Develop recommendations on a framework for improved collaborative engagement.
3. Make an active effort to communicate and engage stakeholders across the campus, operating with transparency to board, faculty and administration.

The intent is for a **consensus document** to be presented for faculty endorsement and to the Board.

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Specific faculty concerns

- Authority to override the Faculty Handbook
- Academic freedom placed in the Bylaws and within the framework of "society's norms"
- Board's interpretation "controls" any ambiguities in the Bylaws
- President and Provost written in as ex officio members of all Faculty committees
- Provost "creates, reviews, and approves academic policies"
- Global School established without faculty approval
- Inclusion in the bylaws of academic matters: Provost; Deans; Faculty; Academic Freedom

Specific board concerns

- Current bylaws and actual practice are limiting in terms of inclusion, collaboration, and agility

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Timeline:

Progress on working group activities **will be shared** with the Board of Trustees and the faculty **at their regularly scheduled meetings**.

- Recommendations will be discussed at the faculty meeting on April 11, 2019
- Presented for faculty endorsement at the faculty meeting on May 2, 2019
- Final recommendations, including any faculty endorsement, will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the May 2019 Board meeting

Faculty Governance Report

Composition:

- President Laurie Leshin (Chair)
- Provost Wole Soboyejo
- TTT Faculty Members
 - Prof. Jim Cocola (HUA)
 - Prof. Tanja Dominko (BBT)
 - Prof. Mark Richman (ME)
- NTT Faculty Member
 - Prof. Kmiotek (CHE)
- Trustees
 - Vice-Chairman Andy Aberdale
 - Trustee Marni Hall

Contact the BGWG: bgwg@wpi.edu

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