



# WPI

## Advancing toward “FULL” Representation

NSF ADVANCE Adaptation Grant



# WPI ADVANCE TEAM

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# WPI's Opportunity Context

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## *Motivation*

COACHE Results

Identified  
dissatisfaction  
with promotion  
policies

WPI Promotion Data

Revealed systemic  
gender-based  
inequities

# Data from COACHE Survey

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- Promotion identified as a major institutional weakness in 2014 and 2017
  - reasonable expectations; clarity of criteria, standards, process, dossier contents
- 0% of tenured women and 11% of tenured men were somewhat or very satisfied with mentoring of Associate Professors
  - compared to 24% tenured women at peer institutions
- 0% of NTT women and 36% of NTT men reported that the promotion criteria were somewhat or very clear
  - compared to 36% at comparable institutions

# Promotion Success and Years-by-Rank Metrics

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- Success rates for promotion to Full Professor (2009-2018):

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	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
ALL DEPARTMENTS	78%	56%
Engineering	84%	40%
Arts & Sciences	67%	50%
Business	67%	71%

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- 55% of TTT women faculty with 13 or more years since their highest degree are still Associate Professors, compared to 39% for TTT men (2017)

# Central Challenge: Reduce “Foggy Climate” & Biases

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**Promotion Criteria:  
What is valued?  
How are activities  
evaluated?**

**Promotion  
Pathways:  
Who do I talk to?  
When do I go  
up? How do I  
advance?**

**Hidden Work:  
Who carries the  
burden?**

**Implicit Biases  
Where do biases  
arise? How to  
keep them at bay?**

# WPI's Opportunity Context

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## ***Current Initiatives***

New Promotion Criteria including Multiple Forms of Scholarship

New Mentoring Policies

Focus on NTT Promotion Processes and Criteria

# Outcomes/Goals

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- De-fog the promotion climate for TT and NTT faculty
- Greater awareness of bias; understand de-biasing strategies
- Develop a culture of mentoring for Associate TT and all NTT faculty
- Reduced time in rank; increased promotion desire and success for all



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**National Model  
for  
Advancement  
& Full  
Representation**

## *Current Initiatives*

New Promotion Criteria including Multiple Forms of Scholarship





New Mentoring Policies

Focus on NTT Promotion Processes and Criteria

# Activities & Faculty Involvement

Activities	How	When	Get Involved!
Transform TTT & NTT promotion processes	Working Groups	Summer 2019; AY 2019-20	Faculty & Administrator Participants!
Distill work load and thoughts on promotion with faculty	Interviews Focus Groups	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20	Associate NTT & TT Volunteers!
Develop mentoring culture for faculty	Pilot Mentoring Groups	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20	Associate NTT & TT Volunteer Mentees  Full NTT and TT Volunteer-Recruited Mentors
Understand biases and how to keep them at bay	Workshops	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20	All Faculty & Administrators Participation!

# Activities & Faculty Involvement

Activities	How	When	Get Involved!
<p>TT &amp; NTT processes</p> 	Working Groups	Summer 2019; AY 2019-20	Faculty & Administrator Participants!
<p>Disseminate thoughts on process with faculty</p> 	Interviews Focus Groups	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20	Associate NTT & TT Volunteers!
<p>Develop mentoring culture for faculty</p> 	Faculty Mentoring Groups	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20	Associate NTT & TT Volunteer Mentees
<p>Understand biases and how to keep them at bay</p> 	Workshops	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20	All Faculty, Administrators, and TT and TT Peer-Selected Participants

# Consultation with Dr. KerryAnn O'Meara



University of Maryland  
Professor of Higher Education  
Director of UM ADVANCE

National expert on faculty careers,  
academic reward systems, equity, and  
change strategies

## Dr O'Meara will:

- Give keynote seminar in March 2019
- Audit our TT and NTT promotion policies by March 2019
  - Recommend changes to make policies more clear and equitable
- Facilitate workshop on documenting and evaluating multiple forms of scholarship (**May 30, 2019**)

# Key Upcoming Events

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- Launch of interview/focus group: January 2019
- Launch of bias workshops: January 2019
- Keynote with KerryAnn O'Meara March 2019
- Policy audits March 2019
- Workshop on multiple forms of scholarship May 30, 2019
- Launch of policy working groups May-June 2019
- Launch of mentoring program May-June 2019

# ***Questions? Ideas? Want to Get Involved?***

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- Today: Meet with team at the Quorum
- Learn more via our website:
  - [wpi.edu/+advance](http://wpi.edu/+advance)
- Sign up for activities via website
- Press release next week
- To contact the ADVANCE team, send email to [gr-advance@wpi.edu](mailto:gr-advance@wpi.edu)



# Gender Composition by Appointment Type & Rank (all disciplines)

WPI **Total Faculty Gender Composition** by Appointment Type and Rank  
(October 2016 data, full-time only)

*Overall, women represented 28% of TTT faculty and 34% of NTT faculty*

	Women			Men			Percent Women		
	Asst	Assoc	Full	Asst	Assoc	Full	Asst	Assoc	Full
Tenured/Tenure Track (TTT)	17	35	19	31	66	84	35%	35%	18%
Continuing NTT (Teaching-Track)	22	11	1	29	17	7	43%	39%	13%
Continuing NTT (Research-Track)	3	0	1	2	2	0	60%	0%	100%
Professors of Practice, Instructors	7			32			18%		



# Gender Composition by Appointment Type & Rank (STEM disciplines)

WPI **STEM Faculty Gender Composition** by Appointment Type and Rank (October 2016)\*  
*Overall, women represent 23% TTT faculty and 37% NTT faculty*

	Women			Men			Percent Women		
	Asst	Assoc	Full	Asst	Assoc	Full	Asst	Assoc	Full
Tenure/Tenure Track (TTT)	13	22	13	28	58	71	31.7%	27.5%	15.5% ***
Non-Tenure Track (NTT)**	17	6	0	21	12	6	44.7%	33.3%	0%

\*does not include HUA and Business

\*\*does not include Professors of Practice, NTT Research Professors or part-time adjuncts

\*\*only 11% of female Full Professors were promoted to Full within WPI

# Task Force on Academic Promotion Findings

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- Associate Professors felt uncertainty regarding criteria and timing of promotion
- Associate Professors were concerned about absence of mentoring and/or inconsistencies in mentoring among departments
- NTT faculty reported need for better clarity and communication of promotion procedures — especially with role of scholarship

# Activities and How Can You be Involved?

Activities	When	How can you be involved?
Evaluate and transform promotion processes and criteria for NTT and TT, including external expert assessment	Next 3 years (Summer and AY)	Working Groups of Faculty and Administrators
Interviews/focus groups to distill work load and thoughts on promotion with faculty	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20; 2020-21	Interviews and focus groups with Associate NTT and TT faculty
Mentoring Program Pilot for Associate TT and all NTT Faculty members	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20; 2020-21	Volunteer Mentees Volunteer-Recruited Mentors
Bias Workshops/Talks	Spring 2019; AY 2019-20; 2020-21	Volunteers