

## Committee on Governance: Minutes

Meeting #11: Nov. 17, 2020

Faculty Governance Branch Offices

**Present:** Len Albano (CEE); Kris Boudreau (Chair, HUA); Tanja Dominko (Secretary of the Faculty, BBT); Tahar El-Korchi (CEE); Glenn Gaudette (BME); Arne Gericke (CBC); Mark Richman (Secretary, AE); and Wole Soboyejo (Provost)

1. The meeting was called to order at 13:17:35.4 pm. The agenda was approved as distributed.
2. The minutes of meeting #10 were deferred.
3. COG Appointees to Deans' Search Committees: The elections for three faculty members to serve on each search committee for the Dean of Engineering and the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies have been completed. The Faculty Handbook requires that COG and the Provost each appoint one additional faculty member to serve on each search committee, and that the President appoint two additional members to serve on each. COG, the Provost, and the President are to collaborate on all these appointments, as well as on the appointments of two students and on the choice of a Chair for each committee.

Considering overall membership balance, COG reached a consensus on three possible choices for each search committee. Prof. Dominko and Prof. Boudreau will use these lists to represent COG's preferences when they meet with President Leshin and Provost Soboyejo to collaborate on all the remaining search committee membership appointments.

4. Motions Concerning the Tenure Path for Teaching Faculty: Prof. Richman and Prof. Boudreau reintroduced three slightly revised motions related to establishing the tenure path: the motion to adopt tenure criteria for tenure-track teaching faculty; the motion to update Part One, Appendix D of the Faculty Handbook (The Roles and Balance of the Faculty in Carrying Out WPI's Mission); and the motion to add "Guidance for Documenting and Assessing Activities Toward Tenure for Tenure-Track Teaching Faculty" to the Faculty Handbook.

Following the November 5 faculty meeting, the sense of the committee was that the issue of appropriate titles for the new tenured and tenure track teaching faculty should be resolved in a way that does not distract from the very positive reception that the community has given to the fundamental idea of creating a teaching path to tenure for our valued teaching faculty. With this goal in mind, and based on additional feedback received since the November faculty meeting, the intention was to either have the new TTT teaching faculty share their current titles (Assistant, Associate, and Full Teaching Professors) with NTT Teaching Professors, or to introduce a new set of titles for the TTT teaching faculty. Given this choice, indications from the TRT Council are that the TRT faculty is strongly in favor of introducing a new set of titles: Assistant, Associate, and Full Professors of Teaching for the TTT teaching faculty. The three motions will be revised to incorporate this preference.

5. The meeting adjourned at 14:46.7 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Richman  
Secretary, COG