

Committee on Governance  
Meeting 10, AY 2015-16  
Thursday, November 19, 2015  
Atwater Kent 218

In Attendance:

Bruce Bursten, Chrysanthe Demetry, Daniel Dougherty, Glenn Gaudette,  
Diane Strong, Suzanne Weekes (remotely)

Absent: Mark Richman

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm., and the agenda was approved as proposed.
2. The committee discussed the question of whether, when a visitor attends one of its meetings, the visitor should have the opportunity to view and comment on a draft of the subsequent minutes. It was agreed that extending such a courtesy would be valuable.
3. An update was presented on this year's process of faculty evaluation of administrators. The expectation is that questionnaires can be distributed the week of December 7th, to be returned late in the following week. Until last year this evaluation has been done in the spring semester but since that created certain undesirable time pressures, the present, fall, timetable makes for a better process.  
This year evaluations will be conducted for: the President, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Dean of IGSD, and the Chief Financial Officer.
4. Ballots for the positions of Vice Provost for Research and for the Dean of Engineering have been prepared and will be distributed presently.
5. Following on the presentation by Provost Bursten at the October 16 meeting of the Faculty, the committee pursued a discussion of the role of Deans at WPI. The conversation was driven by the question, "what are the best next steps the community can take to come to a joint understanding of the functions and benefits of Deans at WPI?" The mode of the discussion was informal; no motions were considered.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm

Dan Dougherty  
Secretary pro tem