

Committee on Governance
Meeting #15, AY 2015/16
Monday 1st February, 2016
Salisbury Labs 225

In Attendance:

Provost Bruce Bursten, Tanja Dominko, Daniel Dougherty, Glenn Gaudette (Chair), Mark Richman, Diane Strong, Suzanne Weekes (Secretary).

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 1:08pm and the agenda was approved as distributed.
- 2) The minutes of the 14th meeting of COG (January 25, 2016) were discussed, edited, and approved.
- 3) The minutes of the 13th meeting of COG (December 17, 2015) were approved.
- 4) Prof. Gaudette and Prof. Richman reported on a meeting with President Leshin and Provost Bursten about COG's current version of Faculty Evaluation of Administration instrument. The President suggested that COG incorporate an indicator that assesses the level of interaction and familiarity of the faculty member with the administrator being evaluated. To that end, COG agreed to add the option "*No Basis for Judgment*" to the list of response choices that currently include only *Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, Excellent*.
- 5) COG considered a modification proposed by FAP to the Faculty Handbook's description and membership of FAP; this is found in Bylaw One, Section VIII of the Faculty Handbook.
FAP proposed 3 main items:
 - a. To change the name of the committee from "Committee on Administrative and Financial Policy" to "Committee on Financial and Administrative Policy";
 - b. To change the current committee composition from
5 members in total:
3 elected Faculty Members and, ex officio, the President or a representative designated by the President, and the Chief Financial Officer or person serving in that capacity
to
7 members in total:
3 elected Faculty members, the Chief Financial Officer, 2 administrative representative members designated by the President, and 1 additional Faculty member appointed by the elected members of the committee to serve a
one-year term (in order to diversify the skills or perspectives needed by the committee, given the prospective composition of the committee that year);
 - c. To change language describing the charge of FAP in the handbook from

“FAP informs the Faculty on administrative and financial policies affecting the Faculty and the academic affairs of WPI. It ascertains the interests and views of the Faculty concerning such policies, and represents these interests and views to the Administration.”

“FAP informs the Faculty on administrative and financial matters that affect the Institute. FAP ascertains the interests and views of the Faculty concerning such matters, deliberates critically and constructively with appropriate access to institutional data, and works collaboratively with the Administration to make render well-informed recommendations that serve the best interests of the Institute.”

COG agrees with the proposal in a).

With regards to b), COG recommended instead that FAP should have 6 members:

3 elected Faculty members, the Chief Financial Officer, 1 administrative representative member designated by the President, and 1 additional Faculty member appointed by COG to serve a one-year term renewable up to 3 sequential years.

With regards to c), COG made some stylistic edits.

Prof. Gaudette will forward COG’s changes to FAP for consideration.

- 6) The committee discussed that each faculty appointee to a Board of Trustees committee should be considered permanent invited guests to the relevant faculty governance committee.
Prof. Richman pointed out that this was already a part of the original plan.
- 7) Prof. Richman updated the committee on the slates for COG and CTAF elections.
- 8) Prof. Vernescu, Vice Provost for Research ad Interim, will be invited to the next COG meeting to discuss the newest version of the Intellectual Property Policy that was given to COG last week. Prof. Nancy Burnham and Prof. Reinhold Ludwig, the faculty representatives to the Trustees’ Academic Planning Committee, will also be invited to that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2: 35pm