

AY 2015-16 Committee on Administrative and Financial Policy (FAP)

FAP Meeting # 15 - 11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 14, 2016 Conference Room-
Financial Services; Boynton Hall 2nd FL

In Attendance:

Professor David Spanagel (Chair)

Professor Hossein Hakim (FBC Chair and FAP Faculty Representative on RPC)

Professor Tahar El-Korchi (Secretary)

Jeffrey Solomon Executive Vice President/CFO

Kristopher Sullivan; Assistant Vice President Academic Affairs

Judi Trainor; Assistant Vice President Budget and Planning (invited guest)

1. Chair Spanagel began the meeting at 11:04 a.m.
2. The minutes for Meetings # 13 were discussed and approved.
3. Chair Spanagel initiated a debriefing of the FAP presentation to the Faculty on December 18th. He added that due to time limitations, unfortunately there was not an effective and engaging discussion of FAP issues at the meeting. He invited professor Hakim to share with the Faculty, the breadth of issues that the FAP Committee receives for deliberation.

Professor El-Korchi stated that he was unaware that professor Hakim was making a presentation in addition to Chair Spanagel. AVP Sullivan stated that Professor Hakim's slides should have been presented at the Faculty meeting as an addendum and not as part of the approved FAP committee presentation. Professor El-Korchi stated that in the future, we should clearly separate the formal presentation from FAP and a presentation from an individual Committee member with a different view. Professor Hakim wanted to reserve the right for each FAP member to be able to share different points of view as long as it's well stated that opinion of the individual members are not the Committee's.

4. Chair Spanagel reviewed upcoming agenda items for the term: He informed the Committee that Judi Trainor and her team will be making a presentation to the Committee on e-procurement and changes in procurement policies next week.

Chair Spanagel informed the Committee that Orion Stavre will visit FAP on Jan 28th; Orion Stavre is a data analyst and will be making a presentation to the Committee. He is conducting a study using WPI and IPEDS data to answer questions related to funding allocations and questions about how much does WPI spend on instructional versus non-instructional areas as compared to peer institutions. This information will be helpful in identifying the broader question about cost of the Dean structure at WPI.

VP Solomon informed the Committee that he is conducting a study on the performance of the endowment and will share the outcome of the study when

completed. This will be a ten-year rolling evaluation of the endowment compared to peer institutions.

5. Chair Spanagel crafted and presented a revised FAP 'Charge' motion to the Committee. The Committee reviewed the motion and voted unanimously to submit to COG for consideration. Details of the motion are included:

Changes to the Faculty Handbook:

Bylaw One, Section VIII currently reads:

The Committee on Administrative and Financial Policy (FAP) consists of three 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. 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.

We propose to replace the current language entirely with the following paragraph:

The Committee on Administrative and Financial Policy (FAP) consists of seven members in total: three elected Faculty members (serving staggered three-year terms), the Chief Financial Officer, two additional administrative representative members designated by the President, and one additional Faculty member appointed by the elected members of the committee (for 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). 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 render well-informed recommendations that serve the best interests of the Institute.

6. Chair Spanagel will be away D-term at a project center. A discussion on who will be acting chair in D-term followed. The Committee voted to elect Professor Hakim acting FAP Chair for term D2016.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Tahar El-Korchi, FAP Secretary