



**Administrative Policy Group
Official Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 13, 2022
3:00 – 3:35 p.m.
Co-Chairs: Michael Horan & Wole Soboyejo**

Attendees:

APG Members Present: Mike Horan (Co-Chair); Wole Soboyejo (Co-Chair); Eric Beattie; David Bunis; Philip Clay; Raghvendra Cowlagi; Joseph Fehribach; Dana Harmon; Amy Morton; Donna Stock

APG Members Not Present: Lauren Turner; Maureen Deiana

Guests: Matthew Thaler (Deputy General Counsel); Amy Fabiano (Associate General Counsel); John Stewart (Title IX Coordinator); Erin Silva (Office of the General Counsel)

Minutes:

1. Approval of March 30, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Horan called for a vote to approve the March 30, 2022 meeting minutes. Profs. Fehribach and Cowlagi abstained; all other APG members present voted to approve the March 30, 2022 meeting minutes.

2. Interim Remote and Flexible Work Policy

Mr. Bunis provided background on this policy. This policy was created based on a charge from President Leshin in April 2021 that WPI form a “Future of Work at WPI Planning Group.” Based on that cross-functional group effort, the Remote and Flexible Work Policy was created and put in place on an interim basis effective June 1, 2021. The interim status has been renewed one time and currently has an expiration date of August 9, 2022. This Policy does not apply to (1) faculty; (2) student workers; or (3) employees subject to a collective bargaining agreement. At the time this policy was made effective, notice went out to the community that it would eventually be put out for public comment.

Lauren Turner, SVP of Talent & Inclusion, recently reconvened the Future of Work at WPI Planning Group and solicited feedback about the implementation of this policy since its inception. Notwithstanding that this policy does not technically meet the criteria for the APG (as it does not apply to faculty or students), Ms. Turner has requested that the APG solicit public comment for this interim policy.



Mr. Bunis stated that the APG will try to hold another meeting at the end of the comment period, and before graduation, to consider the public comments, if any, and then vote to send it to President Leshin to consider this policy for permanent status.

Chair Horan called for a vote to move this policy into the public comment period. Profs. Fehribach and Cowlagi abstained; all other APG members present voted to move this policy into the public comment period.

3. Title IX & Sexual Misconduct Policy

Ms. Fabiano reminded the APG that the 45-day comment period for this policy concluded on March 31, 2022. The comment period included in-person and Zoom information sessions with students, faculty, and staff. The decision before the APG is whether the revised version of this policy should be presented to President Leshin for consideration as an interim policy. A discussion ensued about the policy's status as interim and when that would take effect.

Mr. Bunis summarized his conversation with Mark Richman, the Secretary of the Faculty, whereby Prof. Richman conveyed his opinion that the timing of the faculty's attention and vote on the policy this academic year may be problematic and may necessitate a continuation of the policy in an interim state.

Provost Soboyejo stated that he has received assurances from Prof. Richman that the faculty will discuss this version of the policy during A and B terms this Fall (AY 22-23).

Prof. Fehribach sought clarification of the effective dates of the newly revised interim policy. It was stated that APG would seek President Leshin's approval of the Title IX & Sexual Misconduct Policy as an interim policy effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 unless finalized without change following the Faculty Governance and APG action in the Fall. Regardless, at the conclusion of the interim period, this policy would come back to the APG for a vote to send it to the President for approval as a permanent policy.

Chair Horan called for a vote to send this policy to President Leshin for approval as an interim policy effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 unless finalized without change following the Faculty Governance and APG action in the Fall. Profs. Fehribach and Cowlagi abstained; all other APG members present voted to move this policy into the public comment period.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

David A. Bunis
Secretary, Administrative Policy Group