Guide to Acronyms at WPI* (*We Prefer Initials)

Governance*
CAO Committee on Academic Operations (undergraduate)
CAP Committee on Academic Policy (undergraduate)
CASL Committee on Advising and Student Life (pronounced like “castle”)
CGSR Committee on Graduate Studies and Research
CHB Campus Hearing Board (student judicial system)
COAP Committee on Appointments & Promotions (pronounced “cope”)
COG Committee on Governance ("committee on committees," runs elections)
CTAF Committee on Tenure & Academic Freedom (pronounced “see-taff”)
EDC Educational Development Council
FAP Committee on Administrative and Financial Policy
FBC Fringe Benefits Committee
FRC Faculty Review Committee
UOAC Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee (typically pronounced “you-awk”)

*For descriptions of each committee’s responsibilities, see the Faculty Handbook, available online at www.wpi.edu/Campus/Faculty/

Majors, Departments, and Degree Programs
AE Aerospace Engineering (a program within the Mechanical Engineering department)
BBT Biology & Biotechnology (sometimes just BB)
BCB Bioinformatics & Computational Biology (interdisciplinary degree program between BBT, CS, and MA)
BME Biomedical Engineering (sometimes also BE)
CBC Chemistry & Biochemistry (CH is also used)
CHE Civil and Environmental Engineering department
CS Computer Science
ECE Electrical and Computer Engineering
EVE Environmental Engineering program
EVS Environmental Sciences program
FPE Fire Protection Engineering
HUA Humanities & Arts
IE Industrial Engineering (undergraduate degree program within School of Business)
IGSD Interdisciplinary & Global Studies Division (administers the IQP and the Global Perspectives Program)
IMGD Interactive Media and Game Development program (joint program of CS and HUA)
MA Mathematical Sciences
MAC Actuarial Mathematics program
ME Mechanical Engineering
MFE Manufacturing Engineering (graduate degree programs within Mechanical Engineering)
MTE Materials Science & Engineering (graduate degree programs within Mechanical Engineering)
MG Management (undergraduate degree program in School of Business)
MGE Management Engineering (undergraduate degree program in School of Business)
MIS Management Information Systems (undergraduate degree program in School of Business)
PH Physics
PSS Psychological Sciences degree program within SPSS
PW Professional Writing (interdisciplinary program, PWR may also be used)
RBE Robotics Engineering
SoB May start to be used for School of Business
SSPS Social Science and Policy Studies

Academic Operations Terminology
CDR Completion of Degree Requirement form (must be submitted for IQPs and MQPs)
GPS Great Problems Seminars (option for first year students)
IQP Interactive Qualifying Project (interdisciplinary project typically completed in junior year)
ISP Independent Study (typically a project-like academic activity conducted one-on-one or with a small group of students)
MQP Major Qualifying Project (senior project)
NR No Record. WPI’s undergraduate grade that encompasses the traditional “D” and “F” grades.
Suff Short for Sufficiency, the former Humanities & Arts requirement for all students. The Sufficiency was replaced in 2006-07 with a new Humanities & Arts Requirement that culminates in an Inquiry Seminar or Practicum. Time will tell whether “Suff” lives on in the student lexicon.

Faculty or Campus-Wide Services
ATC Academic Technology Center
CCAC Center for Communication Across the Curriculum, now the “Writing Center” (peer tutoring services and faculty development programs)
CCC Computing and Communications Center
CDC Career Development Center (for students and alumni)
CPE Corporate and Professional Education
FFT Food for Thought (lunchtime seminar series run by the Morgan Teaching & Learning Center)
IRB Institutional Review Board (provides oversight of human subjects research)
myWPI WPI’s learning management system on the Blackboard platform
OSP Office of Sponsored Programs

Student-Related Positions, Groups, Locations, Events, and Services*
CA Community Advisors: Upperclass students who serve as peer mentors for a group of 20-30 first year students. Previously known as OLS (Orientation Leaders).
DAKA Pronounced “day-kuh.” Former name of the campus dining service provider, which is now, properly, Chartwell’s. Student lexicon continues to use DAKA, as in “Go to DAKA.”
EMSEP Excellence in Mathematics, Science and Engineering Program (increases access to educational opportunities for underrepresented students of African, Latino, and American Indian descent)
GSG Graduate Student Government (or GSO, Graduate Student Organization)
IFC Intrafraternity Council
ISO International Student Organization
Insight Fall semester transitional and community-building program for all first-year students. Insight teams live on the same floor of a residence hall and are assigned a Community Advisor (CA), Resident Advisor (RA), and Faculty academic advisor (FA).
MASH Math and Science Help (“mash” tutors), primarily used by first-year students in Calculus, Chemistry, and Physics
NSO New Student Orientation
OASIS Offering Acceptance, Support and Inclusion to Students (a cultural center located at 20 Schussler Road, intended to give minority/marginalized students a place to build a community and to provide a centralized location for all students to learn about culture)
ODS Office of Disability Services (until recently, called DSO for Disabilities Services Office, so DSO may stick around for a while)
Panhel Panhellenic Council (governing body for sororities)
PAC Peer Academic Coach
PLA Peer Learning Assistant (referred to as “senior tutors” or SAs “senior assistants” in some departments)
RA Resident Advisor in residence halls (using “dorm” is discouraged!)
RA Research Assistant or Research Assistantship (referring to graduate students)
ROTC Reserve Officers Training Corps (typically pronounced “rot see”)  
SGA Student Government Association
SocComm Social Committee (funds and organizes student events)
SSN Student Support Network
TA Teaching Assistant or Teaching Assistantship (referring to graduate students)

* There are dozens upon dozens of student groups that use acronyms. For a complete listing see www.wpi.edu/Admin/SAO/Orgs/clubs.html.