

Committee on Governance: Minutes

Meeting #1: August 19, 2021

Faculty Governance Branch Offices
SL 225

Present: Nancy Burnham (PH); Tanja Dominko (BBT); Tahar El-Korchi (Chair, CEE); George Heineman (Secretary *evocatus*, CS); Mark Richman (Secretary of the Faculty, AE)

Absent: Len Albano (Secretary, CEE, water in basement); Wole Soboyejo (Provost, traveling)

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm. The agenda was approved as distributed. Regular meetings for A Term will commence Thursdays from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM.
2. Discussion of first WPI faculty meeting at 3PM on Thursday September 2 in Olin Hall 107. There was much anticipation and excitement about the first in-person faculty meeting since February 13, 2020 (just about 49,000,000 seconds, FYI). We look forward to introducing 15 current, full-time, non-tenure-track professors who have been selected for consideration in the newly created *teaching path to tenure*.
3. Committee Appointments.
COG needs to make appointments to a number of committees:
 - a. [Committee on Financial & Administrative Policy](#) (FAP). COG thanks **Prof. Radzicki (SSPS)** for completing a 2-year appointment on this committee. **Prof. Dominko (BBT)** has accepted a 1-year appointment in replacement.
 - b. [Conflict Management Committee](#) (CMC). COG thanks **Prof. Kazantsis (Chair, CME)** and **Prof. Notarianni (FPE)** for completing their appointments on this committee. As per Faculty handbook (pp. 2-50), COG selects a faculty member annually to chair the committee, and a faculty member to be an alternate. **Prof. El-Korchi** will contact potential candidates.
 - c. [Fringe Benefits Committee](#) (FBC). COG thanks **Prof. Koutmos (SoB)** for completing a 3-year appointment on this committee. **Prof. El-Korchi** will contact potential candidates.
 - d. Campus Hearing Board (CHB). COG will need an appointment to replace Prof. Eddy (HUA) who is retiring. **Prof. El-Korchi** will contact potential candidates.
4. Unfinished business from last year
 - e. Professional Development for faculty
 - f. Search committees for Academic Administrators
 - g. Evaluation of WPI Administrators (which had been delayed from Spring due to COVID). COG intends to conduct a round of evaluation this Fall, and again next Spring, at the regular time
 - h. Name changes for departments (Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering)
 - i. Course relief for COAP/CTAF members
 - j. Identify steps to resolve academic policies vs. administrative policies and work to ensure faculty governance is involved when policies affect the academic mission
5. New topics

- k. Follow-up to the Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE) survey, led by **Prof. Dominko (BBT)** and **Prof. Demetry (ME)**.
- l. As an incoming member to COG, **Prof. Heineman (CS)** was invited to participate in ADVANCE working group meetings held summer 2021. Prof. Heineman will report to COG on these activities.

Respectfully submitted,

George Heineman
Acting Secretary