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