

Committee on Governance: Minutes

Meeting #17: January 24, 2019

Faculty Governance Conference Room (SL 225)

Present: Len Albano (CEE); Tanja Dominko (Secretary of the Faculty, BBT); Mike Elmes (FBS); Mark Richman (ME); Susan Roberts (Acting Secretary, CHE); David Spanagel (Chair, HUA)

1. Prof. Spanagel called the meeting to order at 10:12 am; the agenda was approved as distributed.
2. The minutes from meeting #16 were approved with slight modifications.
3. Update on NTT Faculty Status Task Force and Discussion: Mark Richman and Mike Elmes, members of the NTT Faculty Status Task Force provided COG with an update on the progress of the Task Force. An open meeting was held in December for the broad NTT community and catalyzed discussion on issues of concern for NTT faculty. A second open meeting was scheduled for 1/25. The Task Force has met twice since the start of the calendar year. Two main issues have been discussed by the Task Force: 1) what form long-term commitments to NTT faculty should take (e.g., extended contracts, path to tenure), and 2) whether the path to “tenure” should be tied to research and scholarly activity. A productive discussion ensued by members of COG. The Task Force will continue this discussion and bring ideas to a general faculty meeting in the near future.
4. Faculty Conduct Policy: This week Profs. Boudreau, Dominko and Richman will connect with WPI counsel David Bunis regarding finalizing the Faculty Conduct Policy. The latest draft contains changes that reflect faculty feedback. COG reviewed a draft motion to bring the policy to a faculty vote at the next faculty meeting (2/7) and will vote next week as to whether to endorse the final policy.
5. The meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Roberts
Acting Secretary, COG