

Committee on Governance Meeting Minutes
Meeting #24 (2017-18)
Monday, February 5, 2018, 10:00 am – 11:00 am
Faculty Governance Conference Room

In Attendance: Leonard Albano, Provost Bruce Bursten, Glenn Gaudette (Chair), Mark Richman (Secretary of the Faculty), Susan Roberts, David Spanagel (Secretary), Bengisu Tulu, and Suzanne Weekes.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.
2. The agenda was approved as distributed.
3. Profs. Tulu and Roberts reported that they have revised materials for the Faculty Evaluations of the Vice Provost for Research and the Dean of Graduate Studies, and that Prof. Roberts anticipates receiving an introductory job description paragraph. Prof. Gaudette indicated that Wednesday, Feb. 7 is the final deadline, since these evaluations need to go out before the end of this week.
4. COG members had been copied on a message containing the UOAC/CAP motion to replace WPI Undergraduate Learning Outcome #8 with an outcome framed around Global and Intercultural Competency language. Committee members felt that this motion does not require COG input; Prof. Richman will bring it directly to the Faculty for consideration.
5. COG members began to discuss what changes may be needed in the Faculty Handbook, consequent to administrative structure options that are being considered by the School of Business. Dean Ginzberg notified COG in Fall 2017 that he was developing a reorganization proposal. The Faculty Handbook currently assigns a number of responsibilities to Department Heads, with provisions that refer specifically to IGSD (as a division without a Department Head). If the School of Business proceeds to implement reorganization along such lines, it might be worthwhile to generalize the language in the Faculty Handbook about how to reassign various “Department Head responsibilities” to other administrators in divisions that have no Department Heads.

COG is interested in advancing the broader discussion of the roles of Deans, etc., at WPI. The committee also recognizes that the further evolution of IGSD into some new configuration (such as the Global Impact Division proposal currently being prepared) may also require revisions to the Faculty Handbook. Nevertheless, COG members agreed that it makes sense to act on *each* of these emerging developments as soon as their governance implications are clear. COG will invite Dean Ginzberg to present the details of his administrative reorganization plans, so that a determination of appropriate levels of faculty governance review, response, and action can proceed in a timely and effective manner.

6. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Spanagel, COG Secretary