

Committee on Governance Meeting Minutes
Meeting #32 (2017-18)
Monday, April 2, 2018, 10:00 am – 11:30 am
Faculty Governance Conference Room

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am.
2. The agenda was approved as amended.
3. The minutes for COG meeting #31 (Mar. 26) were approved, as amended.
4. Prof. Gaudette shared all of the compiled information that COG members had gathered from faculty members who are interested in serving on various faculty governance committees. From this information, COG members recommended names to be placed on the election ballots for seven standing Committees of the Faculty and the Campus Hearing Board. After this work, several of the ballots still needed an additional candidate(s) in order for there to be twice as many choices as there are vacancies to be filled.
5. Prof. Roberts presented the proposal on faculty mentoring that had been generated by the COG-COAP Faculty Advocacy and Mentoring Expansion subcommittee, and reviewed the preliminary written feedback that COAP had already provided regarding the proposal's recommendations. COG members asked questions and made additional suggestions. COG will continue this discussion at another meeting. The subcommittee was advised to reconvene and refine the proposal in the light of the comments and suggestions made by both COAP and COG.
6. Prof. Rissmiller updated COG on the work that had been accomplished by the Global Impact Division Implementation Advisory Group, and shared the current state of their draft document recommending the formation of a Global School at WPI. COG members asked questions about: 1) what had been heard in the listening sessions, 2) what the vision was for how WPI would be differently positioned 5 or 10 years from now, and 3) what the next steps should be, especially given where we now find ourselves in the academic year.

In response to the first question, Prof. Rissmiller noted that feedback gathered through the listening sessions had elevated the need for the school to include a substantial number of tenured and tenure-track faculty. He envisions a medium-term goal to be growth from a division that is predominantly comprised of NTT faculty to a school where roughly half of the faculty are TTT and the other half are NTT. Provost Bursten stated that the administration was prepared to support the development of a process for opening TTT searches in desirable areas of scholarship in the Global School that current NTT faculty would be eligible to apply for, without putting themselves at any risk of having their existing NTT lines eliminated if they were not selected for those TTT lines.

To the second question, Prof. Rissmiller responded that the proposed Global School is an attempt to fulfill President Leshin's ambition to make WPI "The Global Polytechnic."

Prof. Gaudette and Richman will follow up with Prof. Rissmiller to determine next steps.

7. The meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Spanagel, Secretary