

**Committee on Governance Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting #33 (2017-18)**  
**Monday, April 9, 2018, 10:00 am – 11:30 am**  
**Faculty Governance Conference Room**

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am.
2. The agenda was approved as distributed.
3. The minutes for COG meeting #32 (Apr. 2) were approved, as amended.
4. The committee reviewed the preliminary ballots for the upcoming elections to faculty committees and confirmed which committees did not have at least two faculty candidates for each vacancy. Then, for each of these committees, COG members nominated additional colleagues who were suited to those committees and who may be willing to serve. Profs. Richman and Roberts volunteered to reach out to these individuals and solicit their participation. Prof. Richman will contact all others on the ballot to confirm their interest in serving, if elected.
5. Discussion continued on the proposal for faculty mentoring that had been generated by the COG-COAP Faculty Advocacy and Mentoring Expansion subcommittee. Feedback from COG members to the subcommittee included: adding more flexibility for faculty members to identify their mentors from both within and outside their academic departments; removing the requirement that one mentor must be the Department Head; making participation in the program by mentees voluntary rather than mandatory; establishing a pool of mentors from all faculty members who willingly complete a prescribed mentor-training program; and ensuring some level of oversight to administer the program. Provost Bursten discussed his hopes to expand the Morgan Teaching and Learning Center into the Morgan Center for Teaching, Learning, and Faculty Development, which might then serve as an ideal home for the proposed faculty advocacy and mentoring program. COG members recommended that the subcommittee also seek feedback from Prof. Chrys Demetry, Director of the Morgan Center; Dean Jean King; and Michelle Jones-Johnson, VP for Talent & Chief Diversity Officer.
6. The committee discussed possible faculty members to serve as its appointment to the Research Development Council (RDC). The description of the RDC in the Faculty Handbook (Part Two, Section 5.B) was revised at the January 18, 2018 Faculty Meeting to form a new RDC that will act as an advisory board to the Vice Provost for Research for strategic planning and to engage faculty in recommending research activities and corresponding resources across WPI. With the new description, the RDC consists of the Vice Provost for Research and eight research-active faculty members (one appointed by the Dean of Business, two each appointed by the Deans of Engineering and Arts & Sciences, one appointed by the VPR, one appointed by CGSR, and one appointed by COG).
7. The meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Albano, Acting Secretary