

Committee on Governance Meeting Minutes
Meeting #7 (2017-18)
Monday, October 9, 2017, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
HUA Conference Room, SL 226

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

Guest: Kristin Tichenor (Senior Vice President)

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:37 pm.
2. The agenda was approved.
3. COG will continue to use the same regular meeting time in B term. In light of the importance and urgency of current agenda items, COG will also try to convene once or twice during the break between A- and B-terms. Meeting #8 is scheduled for 9:30am on Monday, Oct. 16. If deemed necessary, those COG members who are available will meet again on Friday, Oct. 20 at 11am.
4. The minutes for COG meeting #5 (Sept. 25) were approved as amended. Due to time constraints, approval of the minutes for COG meeting #6 (Oct. 2) was postponed until the next COG meeting.
5. COG members welcomed SVP Tichenor to share her experiences and thoughts regarding the processes and content of WPI's faculty evaluations of administrators. SVP Tichenor asked about the goal for having annual, anonymous faculty evaluations. In its current form, she thinks this activity gives faculty a chance to share feedback and weigh in on institutional decision-making. Her concern is that faculty feedback is focused on what they would like the individual to accomplish rather than on the individual's actual goals as determined by the President and the Board of Trustees. In addition, she noted that the anonymity of the surveys makes it hard to address any misperceptions or misunderstandings that individual faculty members may have about a given issue.

COG members asked if it would be possible to design a survey centered on the subset of her responsibilities that the faculty could knowledgeably weigh in on. They reassured her that her input was valuable, but in the meantime suggested that a careful reading of past results and comments might actually reveal some useful feedback and recurring themes.

6. Provost Bursten shared an updated two-page summary of the proposal to evolve IGSD into the Global Impact Division (GID) by gathering together the Global Projects Program, the Great Problems Seminar, a new Global Impact Media Lab, a new home for Non-Governmental Organizations in Residence, responsibility for a new Global Competency Credential, and a new Office of Global Partnerships. COG members continued discussing the issues raised in our previous meetings' discussions with the Provost and the President. Prof.

Gaudette urged members to resume this discussion during our meetings between A- and B-terms, with the goal of identifying the information that is essential to present the proposal for Faculty consideration.

7. The meeting adjourned at 3:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Spanagel, COG Secretary