2-21-2013

COG 19th meeting

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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2013-02-21 COG minutes

The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 19th meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year on February 21, 2013 in the Faculty Governance Conference Room (SL 225).

Present: Michael Gennert (Chair), Kristen Billiar (Secretary), John Sullivan (Secretary of the Faculty), Suzanne Weekes, Bogdan Vernescu, Elke Rundensteiner, Terri Camesano, Eric Overström (Provost)

1. Prof. Gennert called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
2. The minutes from the February 7, 2013 COG meeting were approved.
3. Prof. Gennert discussed the progress of the COG ad hoc Subcommittee on Inclusion of Deans in Faculty Governance. He presented this issue, and updating of the Faculty Handbook in general, to the Academic Policy Committee (APC) at the Board of Trustees meeting last week. Inclusion of Deans, revision of the policy for stopping tenure clock with respect to the child rearing policy, and revision of the post-tenure teaching review will all likely be included in the next version to be brought to the APC of the Board of Trustees for approval.
4. Spring Faculty Committee Elections were discussed. Prof. Sullivan created a ballot after determining which of the nominees were willing to serve, and it was sent out.
5. Prof. Vernescu discussed guidelines for post-tenure teaching review being developed in Arts & Sciences. A post-tenure teaching review every six years is required as described in the Faculty Handbook; however, such reviews are not being done systematically in all departments and consistent guidelines do not exist. Consideration of incorporating the guidelines in the Faculty Handbook and a reporting structure for completion of the reviews were discussed. COG endorsed the use of the proposed guidelines by all departments in their required post-tenure teaching reviews.
6. Provost Overström reported that an updated draft of the Faculty Misconduct Policy should be provided by our legal counsel in one week.
7. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Billiar, Ph.D.
Secretary of COG