9-13-2012

COG 4th meeting

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 4th meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year on September 13, 2012 in the Faculty Governance Conference Room (SL 225).

Present: Michael Gennert (Chair), Kristen Billiar (Secretary), John Sullivan, Bogdan Vernescu, Elke Rundensteiner, Terri Camesano, Suzanne Weekes, Eric Overstrom

1. Prof. Gennert called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.
2. The minutes from the September 6, 2012 COG meeting were approved.
3. The slate for the Faculty Representatives to Trustees’ Committees was determined by matching the nominees with their first or second choice of committee and approved. COG will notify the twenty selectees to request them to submit a brief statement of interest to COG, giving basic information about their appointment at WPI, relevant experience, and reasons for interest in serving on a board committee. Once all of the statements are received, the slate will be presented to Provost Overstrom and President Berkey and made public by inclusion in the minutes of the next COG meeting.
4. COG will request VP Hassett, Associate Provost ad interim Manning, and Prof. Heineman attend the Oct. 11th COG meeting to discuss the Faculty Misconduct and Faculty Research Misconduct policies.
5. The Provost’s Appointments to CAP, CAO, CASL, CGSR, and UOAC were put forward to COG. COG approved Professor Arthur Heinricher as the primary representative of the Provost’s Office for the Committee on Academic Policy, Committee on Academic Operations, and the Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee, Professor Kris Wobbe as the primary representative of the Provost’s Office for the Committee on Advising and Student Life, and Professor Rick Sisson as the representative for the Committee on Graduate Studies and Research.
6. COG will send a nomination ballot for Faculty representatives to the Vice Provost for Research Search Committee. Once confirming that nominees are interested in the position, three members of the nominated Faculty will then be elected by the Faculty by a one-step election by written ballot. As stated in the Faculty Handbook:

   When an academic administrative position is to be filled from either inside or outside of WPI, a search committee of nine members is formed consisting of three elected faculty, one faculty member appointed by the Committee on Governance, one faculty member appointed by the Provost, two members appointed by the President, and two students appointed jointly by the President and by COG. The President, the Provost, and COG will collaborate on all appointments to ensure balance of the committee’s membership and to select the Chair of the search committee. If the search is for the Provost, the President will make three appointments.

7. Prof. Gennert, as Chair of COG, will request a slate for the Board of Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Teaching from CAP, CASL, and CGSR.
8. Prof. Gennert, as Chair of COG, will email the Faculty soliciting interest in serving on the Fringe Benefits Committee. Per the Faculty Handbook, “the FBC consists of a Chair to be selected by FAP from among its elected faculty members, two members of the Faculty selected by the Committee on Governance (COG), and two additional members of the Faculty selected by FAP. Faculty members of the FBC (other than the Chair) will serve three-year staggered terms.”
10. The draft job description for the Assistant Vice President – Academic Affairs was provided by Provost Overstrom for review.
11. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon