8-23-2012

COG 1st meeting

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 1st meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year on August 23, 2012 in the Faculty Governance Conference Room (SL 225).

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

1. Prof. Gennert called the meeting to order at 11:06 am.
2. The minutes from previous meetings were tabled.
3. Old Business – Annual report needs to be submitted by AY12 Secretary
4. Topics for AY13 were discussed and prioritized
   a. High urgency
      i. Faculty Misconduct and Faculty Research Misconduct policies be addressed - requested by Provost Overstrom
      ii. Faculty handbook
         1. Trustee’s Academic Planning Committee will review Faculty Handbook in collaboration with COG – inclusion of Deans should be done first. Most recent APC approval was in 1991 although amendments have been sent.
         2. Inclusion of Deans in Faculty Governance
         3. Clarify stopping the tenure clock – requested by FRC and Provost
      iii. Faculty Representatives to Trustees Committees
      iv. Charge COAP with proposing a restructuring of COAP in model of CTAF
   b. Medium urgency
      i. Improving WPI Shared Governance
      ii. Charge FAP with review of financial condition
      iii. Provost Report to COG – mid-Fall as Oct 1st is deadline for “snapshot”
      iv. Procedures for review of tenured faculty – required by bylaws for teaching but no requirement for research and no details in Faculty Handbook; likely to engage Deans, Heads, COAP and CTAF.
      v. Implementation of e-voting
   c. Low urgency
      i. CASL rewrite its charge and submit it to COG for 2012-2013
      ii. Filling faculty governance vacancies
      iii. Governance Elections (Spring)
5. Recruitment of Faculty Representatives to Trustees’ Committees was discussed. We need 20 candidates for 10 positions by September 15th. Length of term will be 1 to 3 years decided by the Trustees.

The meeting of the Committee on Governance was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

The next meeting of the committee will be on Thursday 30 August, 2012 at 11:00 am in SL 225.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Billiar, PhD
Secretary of COG