4-25-2011

22nd meeting of the 2010-2011 AY

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 22nd meeting of the 2010-2011 academic year on April 25, 2011 in the Chairman’s Room in the Campus Center.
Present: R. Kinicki (Chair), A. Hoffman, Interim Provost Overstrom, M. Richman, J. Rulfs, B. Vernescu, S. Weekes

1. Prof. Kinicki called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.
2. The minutes of meeting #21 were approved as written.
3. The agenda prepared by Prof. Kinicki was approved.
4. Prof. Weekes forwarded a question from a Faculty member as to whether the ballot for election to Faculty committees had been developed in accordance with the Faculty Constitution. Prof. Richman read the appropriate sections of the Faculty Constitution that showed the only deviation was that the process had not been completed during Term C. It was noted that all committees must elect officers before the close of the academic year.
5. Prof. Kinicki reported that the forms for evaluation of administrators will be sent to the Faculty shortly. The evaluations use Survey Monkey. COG suggested revisions to Prof. Kinicki’s memo to the Faculty announcing the surveys. There also was discussion about including NTTs in the survey. There currently are no policies as to which categories of NTTs might be included. This issue should be put on COG’s agenda for next year.
6. Prof. Hoffman reported briefly on the presentation to the Department Heads from the COG subcommittee on the effects of rapidly increasing enrollment. He will provide COG members with copies of the presentation slides at the next meeting.
7. Professor Kinicki brought up the changing role of the Faculty Review Committee (FRC). The FRC was originally constituted to provide a review of procedural issues in tenure cases. These reviews are relatively infrequent. As a result the FRC was also given the task of reviewing student grade appeals which are fairly frequent. Presidential appointees have sometimes been tenure track rather than tenured Faculty members. COG reaffirmed that untenured members of the Faculty on the FRC are not eligible to serve on tenure review cases.
8. COG discussed feedback from the Department Heads on the draft motion on NTT titles. While progress has been made, a number of issues remain unresolved. COG decided to postpone further action on the draft motion until next year.
9. Provost Overstrom asked that COG discuss the draft policy on Faculty Misconduct in Research at the next meeting.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen H. Hoffman
Secretary