11-12-2010

9th meeting of the 2010-2011 AY

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 9th meeting of the 2010-2011 academic year on Friday, November 12, 2010 in the Morgan Room in the Campus Center. Present: R. Kinicki (Chair), K. Billiar, A. Hoffman, Interim Provost E. Overstrom, M. Richman, J. Rulfs, S. Weekes, B. Vernescu.

1. Prof. Kinicki called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

2. The minutes of October 14, 2010 (meeting #6, AY 2010-2011) were accepted with corrections. The minutes of November 1, 2010 (meeting #7) and November 5, 2010 (meeting #8) were accepted.

3. The Provost handed out three draft documents, each of which related to faculty misconduct. The documents were entitled

   I. Policy and Procedure for the Elimination of Unlawful Sexual Harassment and Other Unlawful Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation

   II. Policy on Research Misconduct

   III. Policy on Faculty Misconduct

   He indicated that WPI faculty policies are absent and/or in need of updating. He requested that COG review the documents so that a future COG meeting can be scheduled with Human Resource VP Tracy Hassett and WPI lawyer David Grassi. It was decided that members of COG would review the documents before the next meeting on November 22nd and have discussion of these documents as its major agenda item for that meeting. Furthermore, COG agreed the order of priority for reviewing the draft policies was (1) sexual harassment policy, (2) the research misconduct policy and (3) the general misconduct policy.

4. Profs. Kinicki and Rulfs reviewed the status of developing the forms and procedures for the Faculty evaluation of Administrators. Most of the discussion focused on whether the written comments should be forwarded verbatim to the person being evaluated rather than summarized. The general feeling was that verbatim comments should be forwarded. It was suggested that the instructions for filling out the forms should emphasize the benefits of providing comments describing both strengths and weaknesses.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Allen H. Hoffman
Secretary