Committee on Governance Minutes

8-31-2010

1st meeting of the 2010-2011

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 1st meeting of the 2010-2011 academic year on Tuesday, August 31, 2010 in the Mid-Century Room of 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 1:05 PM and welcomed the 4 new members of the committee.

2. The minutes of the June 9, 2010 meeting (#28, AY 2009-2010) were accepted with minor corrections.

3. Prof. Richman discussed briefly discussed the motion that will be introduced at the September 2nd Faculty Meeting to change the Faculty Bylaws to include use of the Consent Agenda.

4. Prof Kinicki introduced discussion of a list of possible COG agenda items for AY 2010-2011 that he had previously distributed. These items include:

   - Finalizing and implementing a system for administrative evaluations. No evaluations have been conducted during the past 2 years.

   - The sustainability/impacts caused by larger than anticipated entering classes over the past several years. Prof. Hoffman volunteered to form a subcommittee to quantify some of the resulting issues.

   - CTAF’s request from last year to alter its role in reviewing faculty appointments with tenure.

   - The 3/5 year rule. Prof. Rissmiller will be invited to an upcoming COG meeting.

   - The need to streamline Faculty Governance. There was a general feeling that committee duties as well as memberships have been expanding over the past several years and have made the system less efficient. One result has been the increasing difficulty in recruiting people to allow their names to appear on election ballots.

   - Methods of encouraging Faculty to participate in Faculty Governance.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen H. Hoffman
Secretary