4-24-2009

27th meeting of the 2008-09 Academic Year

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 27th meeting of the 2008-09 Academic Year at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2009, in Salisbury 124.

Present: Provost J. Orr. Professors J. Blandino, K. Fisler, J. Hanlan (Chair), J. O'Connor (Secretary) and H. Vassallo.

Summary: 1. The Committee acted upon the Agenda submitted by Prof. Hanlan.
2. The Committee addressed the Minutes of its meeting of April 16, 2009.
3. COG made its final review of a motion on Tenure Bylaw revisions.
4. Prof. Hanlan handed out to COG members a draft of this Spring's final Faculty Governance election ballot.
5. The Committee reviewed two policies and one procedure forwarded to it by the Committee on IT Policy (CITP: an ad-hoc committee reporting to the COG endorsed by the Faculty in the Spring semester of 2007).
6. Preliminary plans were discussed relative to an upcoming COG retreat.

Detail: 1. The Committee approved the Agenda submitted by Prof. Hanlan.
2. The Committee approved the Minutes of its April 16th meeting as submitted.
3. The Committee approved Prof. Hanlan's handout detailing a motion to be made to the Faculty concerning a Tenure Bylaw revision. This motion will go out to the Faculty two weeks prior to its next meeting.
4. The draft--prepared by Professors Hanlan and Vassallo—of this Spring's final Faculty Governance election ballot was approved with minor modifications.
5. The COG reviewed three submissions forwarded to it by the CITP:
   a. A revised "Acceptable Use Policy" (i.e., applicable to the use of WPI's computing resources) was edited by those members of the Committee present. Final approval awaits further deliberation by the full Committee.
   b. A "Data Outsourcing Policy" was deemed to be of little/no relevance to the Faculty, and--therefore--no further action will be taken on this policy by the COG.
   c. The third CITP submission is entitled "Procedure for Internal Investigation Requests", and is intended to apply to the release of WPI computer and/or network usage information by Faculty, staff or students when requested by another member of the WPI community. The Committee did some preliminary editing of this "Procedure", but further clarifications will be necessary (e.g., definitions of "inappropriate conduct", "appropriate action", etc.).
6. Topics for discussion at the upcoming COG retreat were discussed briefly. COG members were asked to be ready at the next meeting to complete this inventory of discussion topics and to set the date for this retreat.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J.T. O'Connor, Secretary