4-16-2009

26th meeting of the 2008-09 Academic Year

Committee on Governance, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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The Committee on Governance (COG) held its 26th meeting of the 2008-09 Academic Year at noon on Thursday, April 16, in the Peterson Room of the Campus Center.

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

Guests Present:
  Professors W. Farr, C. Wills, and J. Sullivan.

Summary: 1. The Committee acted upon the agenda previously submitted by Prof. Hanlan.
2. The Committee addressed the Minutes of its meeting of April 9, 2009.
3. The meeting discussed the history and functioning of the Committee on Information Technology Policy (CITP), and its possible relationship to the Academic Computing Policy Committee and Working Group (ACPWG) proposed by Provost Orr.

Detail: 1. The Committee approved the Agenda previously submitted by Prof. Hanlan.
2. The Committee approved the Minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2009, as previously submitted.
3. In the spring semester of 2007, WPI Faculty endorsed the creation of an ad-hoc Committee on Information Technology Policy (CITP)--reporting to COG. This 5 person Committee includes three Faculty members (currently Professors Farr, Wills and Sullivan), a Provost appointee (currently Prof. McGimpsey), and--ex-officio--the Vice President of Information Technology (Dr. Lynch). This Committee has met regularly and addressed several issues relating to Information Technology policy on campus (e.g., Acceptable Use Policies, Data Outsourcing Policies, etc.). Authorization for the CITP will expire on June 30, 2009.

WPI's Information Technology (IT) Governance Committee, which is composed of the WPI's President and Vice Presidents, meets two times per month. This Committee wishes to add a Faculty member. It also wishes to form an "Academic Computing Policy Committee and Working Group" (ACPCWG) as a sub-committee of the IT Governance Committee. Since the CITP was designed to provide Faculty input to all IT changes which relate to the Faculty, Provost Orr has proposed that CITP provide the Faculty membership on the ACPCWG and that one of the Faculty members of the CITP serve on the IT Governance Committee.

COG endorsed the continuation of CITP as an ad-hoc Committee of COG (Faculty members appointed to three year staggered terms), the participation of the three CITP Faculty members on the ACPCWG, and the participation of one of the CITP Faculty members as a Faculty representative on the Information
Technology Governance Committee. The rationale for these endorsements included the continuing need for Faculty participation in all IT decisions relating to the Faculty, and the need to avoid unnecessary duplication of Faculty governance committees.

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J.T. O'Connor, Secretary