

Faculty Senate Routing Form
(action/proposal attached)

I. Item Title: Resolution regarding using SharePoint for the TPR Process

a) Brief Description: The Faculty Senate, based on recommendations from the Collegial Review Council, recommends that WCU continue to use SharePoint for the electronic TPR process moving forward unless a more suitable alternative is identified.

b) Initiated by: Collegial Review Council

II. Faculty Senate Action: approved not approved other date: 02/23/2022

Comments: Discussion and debate was followed by a voice vote to approve the resolution.

Vote: Voice Vote, Unanimous Voice Vote, Majority In Favor
 Electronic Clicker: Ayes Nays Abstentions

FS Secretary signature: Erin McAdoo date 02/27/2022

III. Provost: for information Recognition of Receipt
 for action..... approved not approved

Comments: _____

Person responsible for Implementation: Dr. Schwab

Provost signature: [Signature] date 28 Feb 22

IV. Chancellor: for information Recognition of Receipt
 for action..... approved not approved

Comments: _____

Chancellor signature [Signature] date 2/28/2022

Once finalized copies will be returned to the Provost Office's representative who will scan and distribute electronically to:
Chancellor
Provost
Chair of Faculty Senate
Secretary of the Faculty Senate
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (for catalog and handbook)
Associate Dean of Graduate School (for catalog)
Others (i.e. person responsible for implementation)

Resolution regarding using SharePoint for the TPR process moving forward

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic forced Western Carolina University (WCU) to transition to the use of SharePoint for the Tenure, Promotion, and Reappointment (TPR) process starting in Academic Year 2020-21; and

WHEREAS the Faculty Senate (FS) Collegial Review Council (CRC) took on the task of exploring alternative options and recommending a long-term solution for the electronic TPR process; and

WHEREAS the FS CRC sought feedback from faculty, staff, and administration regarding their experiences with using SharePoint for the electronic TPR process and their perceptions of SharePoint's strengths and weaknesses for this process; and

WHEREAS the FS CRC consulted with the Division of Information Technology (IT) to select and evaluate potential vendors for the electronic TPR process and determined two, SharePoint and Watermark (an add on to the existing Watermark Faculty Success product), were identified as the most feasible based on cost and WCU's current technology infrastructure; and

WHEREAS the FS CRC, along with members of the Provost's office, participated in two product demonstrations delivered by Watermark employees; and

WHEREAS representatives met with FS and department heads to discuss the pros/cons of Watermark and SharePoint as well as to collect feedback from these bodies; and

WHEREAS the FS CRC heard concerns from faculty and department heads about faculty's current use of Watermark Faculty Success (formerly Digital Measures/FAD), which would have implications for the reports that automatically populate the Watermark add-on for the electronic TRP process; and

WHEREAS the FS CRC heard additional concerns from faculty, department heads, and administration regarding the current cost, potential increased future costs, and required multi-year commitment to Watermark software; and

WHEREAS the FS CRC fully acknowledges the need to identify an appropriate level of staffing, along with any costs associated with this staffing, to make SharePoint a sustainable option for the electronic TPR process; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the FS CRC recommends that WCU continue to use SharePoint for the electronic TPR process moving forward unless a more suitable alternative is identified.