

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Military Education Council

208 Armory Building
505 East Armory Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820



Military Education Council Meeting
February 14, 2018 11:00 am
Navy Conference Room, Armory Room 237B

Present: Thomas Teper - Chair, Scott Althaus, Jenny Bateman -MEC Secretary, James Brennan, Joe Brown, CAPT Anthony Corapi, Lt. Col. Johnson, Matthias Perdekamp, Candace Martinez, Lynne Rudasill, LTC Randall Smith,
Absent: Angela Lyons, Cadet Alejandro Nava, and Anthony Davis,

Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. Prof. Althaus motioned, Prof Perdekamp seconded, to approve the provided minutes from the November 28, 2017 meeting. They were approved with no objections.

After Action

December Commissioning- CAPT Corapi reported a successful ceremony where six students were commissioned. There was a large crowd in attendance- filling Armory 101. The breakfast refreshments following the ceremony went over well, and adding the first salute back into the program was a nice touch. It will also be added back in the Spring Commissioning ceremony. The only recommendation was a request to replace the tri-service flag set, which is already in process.

Upcoming Events

Honors Day is scheduled for April 7 at 10:00 am in Foellinger Auditorium. 140 individual awards will be given out from 40 organizations. Planning is going well. LTC Smith requested that he and MAJ Willis be the Army contacts for Honors Day, as Mr. Lindsay will be leaving.

Spring Commissioning will be on May 14th in Foellinger Auditorium. Plans are for approximately 46 students to commission, with 17 from Army, 14 from Air Force, and 15 from Navy/Marines. Lt Col Johnson reported that they were working on obtaining the guest speaker, but had several options in mind.

Leadership Minor

Because the Armed Forces Unit is not a degree granting body, we are unable to offer our own minor. No college on campus was willing to host a Military Science minor, so the approach has been to work with existing minors to include some of the ROTC course work. This is to give the ROTC students a greater opportunity for a minor since ROTC on top of the coursework necessary

for their major makes it difficult for students to fit a minor into their schedule. A minor would give students some recognition for the extra coursework they have taken that can be listed on a transcript.

Prof. Teper reported that he has been working with the college of ACES to add some ROTC courses to their Leadership Studies Minor. At this point, the college has approved the addition of two 300-level courses from each of the ROTC departments to be added to their list of elective courses for the minor. They think that they may be able to complete approval process without going through the Educational Policy Committee.

Prof. Teper has recently been approached by the Global Studies department regarding this subject. They will explore if there are cross-listing opportunities in that unit.

Facilities Usage

This year there has been a tense relationship with DIA about usage of the track and other facilities. Many of the issues have been resolved by changing the point of contact. Additionally, Campus Recreation has provided use of shower facilities for cadre in the Ice Arena when the DIA-owned ones in Huff Hall became inaccessible.

The current need is for an outdoor drill space. Huff field has traditionally been used for this purpose, but it will soon become a construction site for the new design center. The field is also used as a parking area for sporting events and is very rutted, which becomes a hazard for training. CAPT Corapi explained that Naval ROTC has had student ankle injuries when using Huff field for training. What they need is a lighted area with level ground. The arboretum is also utilized for this purpose, but it does not have lighting.

We have explored using the turf fields on First Street that Campus Rec maintains. They have quoted \$23,000 (roughly 1/3 of the Armed Forces budget after salaries) for the usage that we would need. The cost is to cover wear and tear on the fields and staff person to open the area. Campus Rec is a cost recovery unit. They did offer some free grass field options, but they each have one or more issues that make them less-desirable than the turf fields: also used for parking, lack of lighting, great distance from the Armory building/student residence (reducing contact time with students).

Prof. Althaus suggested requesting an in-kind contribution for use of the turf fields. He noted that University has an obligation to provide military training as part of the Morrill Act's Land Grant mission. Mr. Brown offered to speak with the Chancellor's office regarding this.

Armory Renovation

The renovation of the south side of the Armory building is set to be complete on July 6th and should allow Air Force and Army to move back into their offices prior to the start of the Fall semester. The Army supply area will move back in the first week of May.

ProjectGO

The Center for Global Studies is pursuing a grant for ProjectGo, a program to train ROTC students in critical languages. The training could be onsite or offsite and could be offered through a summer program. There is a recruitment and outreach component involved in receiving the grant. They have been working with us to obtain some information on our ROTC population.

MILS120

Lt Col Johnson reported that he and Mr. Ashworth are teaming up to offer MILS120 for the first time this coming Fall. It will be offered on Tuesday/Thursday.

Navy Briefing

CAPT Corapi gave a briefing on the Naval ROTC program.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 pm.