

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Military Education Council

208 Armory Building
505 East Armory Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820



Military Education Council Meeting
April 19, 2017 1:30 p.m.
Army Library, Armory Room 114

Present: Thomas Teper - Chair, Jenny Bateman - MEC Secretary, Scott Althaus, Marni Boppart, Omar Haney, Christopher Higgins, Lt Col Christopher Johnson, CAPT Charles Moore II, Delmar Rhodes, Lynne Rudasill, Brock Russell, LTC Randall Smith
Absent: Joe Brown, Matthias Perdekamp, Michael Sandretto

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m. Prof. Teper stated that this was the last meeting of the semester and requested that council members let him know if they planned to continue on council next academic year.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections to the provided minutes. Prof. Althaus motioned and Prof. Rudasill seconded the approval of the minutes from the February 13th meeting with no objections.

Faculty Review Committee Guidelines

A guidelines document drafted by the Faculty Review Committee to assist future committee members in evaluating faculty nominations was distributed to the council. FRC Chair, Prof. Boppart explained that the most controversial item in the guidelines was the inclusion of an expected minimum GPA of 3.0. They chose to include it as it is a general requirement for graduate school, which Assistant Professors are expected to pursue.

CAPT Moore stated that minimum GPA requirement for his students to be in ROTC is 2.5. LTC Smith stated that if a candidate's GPA was below 3.0 the CO should address this in their letter explaining why they should still be considered. He felt that the guideline was fine as long as there is room for exceptions. Lt Col Johnson agreed.

In regards to the Department Head's letter, Prof. Rudasill mentioned that it would be helpful if the duties for the particular position were addressed. CAPT Moore said that all of his assistant professors have the primary duty of teaching and advising with additional service responsibilities. Prof. Boppart asked that a statement of the candidate's plans for graduate study be included in the Personal Statement portion of the nomination packet.

Ms. Bateman asked to change the Assistant Professor grade in item B.1. to O-2 or above. In addition, in the note after section B change the word "usually" to "may." These changes were

accepted by the committee. The document will be sent on to the Provost for approval with the noted changes.

Minor

Prof. Teper explained that he had been in touch with his contact regarding the Leadership Studies Minor. They would like to add two courses from each service to the course list for the minor. However, as the various colleges have limits on the number of ROTC courses that can count for credit, they are concerned that the cross listed courses may not count for credit- making them unusable for the minor. LTC Smith said that his office had the information on how many ROTC courses each college accepts and would forward it on to Prof. Teper.

LTC Smith also expressed a concern about the advisors in the various colleges not having the correct information regarding ROTC. Prof. Teper stated that there is a campus advising committee, ILLiAAC (Illinois Academic Advising Committee), that has monthly meetings and an annual conference. He suggested getting in touch with them about providing information on the ROTC programs. Ms. Bateman will forward their contact information to the COs.

Military Science 120

Lt Col Johnson explained that he had reviewed the course material for the MILS 120 and determined he would be unable to prepare to offer it Fall 2017. He said that after his department staff rotates and is filled this coming fall, he should have adequate time to prepare to offer the course in Fall 2018. He plans to be the lead instructor with guest lectures from the other two services. They can then rotate the lead instructor each following year.

Honors Day

The Tri-Service Honors Day Ceremony was held Saturday, April 8th in Foellinger Auditorium. 135 individual awards were given out and 12 presenters from sponsoring organizations attended. Overall, the ceremony went well. The guest speaker, Col (Ret) Read, talked about supporting the ROTC programs and establishing an endowment. The rehearsal prior to the ceremony ran late because some of the students were not briefed in advance. Ms. Bateman will work to establish a better system for reminding the services of timeline deadlines next year.

Spring Commissioning

Lt Col Johnson reported that Spring Commissioning will be on Monday, May 15th from 10-11:30 in Foellinger Auditorium. Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert O. Work, a graduate of the U of I Naval ROTC, will be the guest speaker. He will be arriving on campus on Sunday and has a breakfast planned at the Chez Center for Wounded Veterans Monday morning. They are working to find an appropriate location in or around Foellinger for a meet and greet between the breakfast and the Commissioning Ceremony.

Armory Renovation

Ms. Bateman reported that the first and second floors on the south side of the Armory building will be undergoing a large renovation soon. The Army, Air Force and MEC offices are all in this area of the building. They will begin a temporary relocation to the third floor of the Armory on May 1. The project, which includes new heating and air, window replacement, tuck pointing, roof work, painting, flooring and lighting updates, will begin as soon as the spaces have been vacated mid-May.

Contracts Updates

All ROTC detachments throughout the nation have been directed to update their contracts with their host universities. Prof. Teper has a meeting scheduled with Vice Provost Elabbas Benmamoun regarding this. While our contracts are old and outdated, the services aren't looking to make major changes to them, instead requesting a rider be added that addresses equality issues.

CAPT Moore Retirement

CAPT Moore is set to retire August 1. Prof. Teper presented him with a plaque of appreciation from the MEC. CAPT Moore gave a short speech.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.