

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Military Education Council

208 Armory Building
505 East Armory Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820



Military Education Council Meeting
October 3, 2018 1:30 pm
Army Conference Room, Armory Room 111

Present: Thomas Teper - Chair, Jenny Bateman - MEC Secretary, Scott Althaus, James Brennan, Joe Brown, CAPT Anthony Corapi, MIDN Paul deLutio, Athol Kemball, Angela Lyons, Candace Martinez, LTC Randall Smith, Capt. Jasper Simmons- for Lt Col Johnson, CDR Jeff Martin, Cadet Ginny Fulk

Absent: Ezequiel Barraza, Chris Castle, Lt Col Christopher Johnson, Tom Costello

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Introductions were made

Project Go

Army ROTC Cadet, Ginny Fulk, gave a short presentation about her experience attending an instance of Project Go language training over the summer. She would like to do a presentation about Project Go to a tri-service group of cadets and midshipmen to highlight the benefits of the program. The application period is from October through December.

Prof. Teper suggested inviting the individuals from the Global Studies department to the presentation. They submitted a proposal to host Project Go last year, but were unsuccessful. The opportunity to strengthen the connection with ROTC would be helpful for future proposals.

Approval of Minutes

CAPT Corapi motioned, LTC Smith seconded, to approve the provided minutes from the April 16, 2018 meeting. They were approved with no objections.

Subcommittees

Prof. Teper referenced the memorandum on subcommittees. He explained that the faculty review committee was the only active committee and that the other committees are generally committees of the whole or established when necessary.

Prof. Althaus explained the work involved with being on the Faculty Review Committee. He and Prof. Brennan agreed to continue on the committee and Prof. Kemball will fill the vacancy.

Campus Recreation & DIA

Prof. Teper gave a recap and update on the ROTC arrangements with Campus Rec and DIA. Previous issues with DIA have largely been resolved by establishing a set communication

protocol. Campus Rec has allowed the ROTC cadre to utilize the Ice Arena locker rooms to shower after morning PT (they had formerly used DIA locker rooms in Huff Hall). A request has also been submitted to renovate one of the current Armory bathrooms into shower facility.

The field behind Huff Hall had previously been used for ROTC training, but became a problem to use last year. An agreement with Campus Rec is being finalized for the ROTC departments to use the outdoor center turf fields for morning PT. A budget increase was provided to the unit by the Provost to fund this. Naval ROTC has been utilizing the fields since the beginning of the semester and the other two services anticipate using the fields more in the Spring and next year.

Budget

Prof. Teper and Ms. Bateman explained the FY19 budget. The budget was initially flat, but then additional funding for the campus rec fields was received. This year, we have moved to centrally funding services that should be provided by the University from the Armed Forces account. This includes things like facilities and services, IT, parking, and alarm services. The remaining funding was distributed to each of the three ROTC departments based on student enrollment. This was a change in the funding model that effected Air Force ROTC the most. There is a discretionary amount that can be used if that unit has a hardship adjusting this year.

Prof. Teper also stated that there had been recent discussions with the CITL department within the Armory building about utilizing their IT department to support ROTC. This could be a good opportunity to get more timely and consistent service and improve maintenance.

Minor Opportunities

Prof Teper provided an update on the various opportunities for listing ROTC course in other colleges' minors.

The Minor in Leadership Studies, from the College of ACES: six ROTC courses (two per service) are on the list of electives

Global Studies, LAS: Crafts their minors on a case by case basis. They are happy to include ROTC courses.

Political Science, LAS: Possible interest in including ROTC coursework in the Political and Civic Leadership Minor and perhaps in International Relations track of the Political Science Minor had been expressed in the past. At this point, we have likely fallen off the radar and Prof. Teper will follow up.

Innovation, Leadership and Engineering Entrepreneurship: This degree program in the college of Engineering is currently reviewing our courses for possible inclusions.

Prof. Teper explained that these opportunities are being pursued to give the ROTC students the opportunity to have their ROTC course work 'count' toward something that can be shown on their transcript. Each college has their own rules on what courses can be used toward their

graduation credit, and often ROTC students are unable to use any of their courses. Prof. Lyons said there might be opportunity in the data sciences.

Early Registration

Prof. Teper stated that ROTC has made a request for early registration privileges. Currently, IL law requires priority registration for veterans and eligible service members. Other state Universities include ROTC in its category, but U of I has interpreted the law differently. The Council of Undergraduate Deans has agreed to reopen the early registration discussion and review the request.

Early registration was last reviewed in 2014. At that time, there had been requests from ROTC and student government to allow early registration, but it was denied because 1) ROTC was not considered to be an eligible service and 2) ROTC was not considered a University-sponsored activity with special scheduling requirements beyond the students' control. Currently, for service members, early registration is triggered by financial aid when a student uses their military benefits. Some ROTC students, those that are enlisted marines, national guard members, and reservists, already qualify for priority registration.

The council discussed and agreed that early registration was a reasonable request. They suggested drafting a letter to the Council of Undergraduate Deans explaining the reasoning and the hardships that necessitate priority registration. They should include the accommodations the ROTC departments have made to ensure students graduate on time.

Veterans Day

CAPT Corapi stated that the Tri-Service Veterans Day event will take place in the Illini Union on Monday, November 12th from 11:00 am- 1:00 pm. It will be a luncheon event for all campus veterans- both students and employees. There will be a tri-service color guard, and pizza will be served. They have not yet determined the guest speaker.

Briefing

LTC Smith gave a briefing on the Army ROTC program.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.