

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Military Education Council

208 Armory Building
505 East Armory Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820



Military Education Council Meeting
October 30, 2013 2:00 pm
Naval Science Conference Room, 237 Armory Bldg.

Present: Alexander Scheeline, Chair, Jenny Bateman, Secretary, Marni Boppart, CAPT JD Haugen, Sean Musil, Baxter Reed, Michael Sandretto, LTC Eric Stetson, LTC Shane Sullivan, and John Randolph.

Absent: Tom Anastasio, Joe Brown, Chuan Huang, Janeen Johnson, and Arne Pearlstein,

Call to Order

Prof. Scheeline called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Minutes of the September 19, 2013 meeting were approved by voice vote with no changes.

After Action Reports

State Tuition Waiver SOP: See minutes of academic year 2012-2013 for discussion of this issue. The procedure recommended to the presidents of Illinois universities for awarding State Tuition Waiver was approved by the presidents and accepted by the State.

POW/MIA Vigil: LTC Sullivan reported a successful event. Veterans and students showed interest during the 24 hour vigil. Lessons were learned about preparing for the weather.

Mrs. Bateman's status as a Business/Administrative Associate is now permanent as she has completed the one year probationary period.

NROTC Association Meeting: Prof. Scheeline attended the meeting in Norfolk, VA October 18th and 19th. As this was two days after the government shutdown, a few changes were made to the original event schedule. On Friday, instead of touring the Norfolk Naval Base, meeting participants visited a museum and took a tour of the harbor. On Saturday RADM Mewbourne gave a thorough brief of the financial situation of NROTC. When available, an electronic version of the brief will be distributed to MEC members and filed with the MEC office. Economies discussed include a tiered scholarship system analogous to that used by the Air Force and encouraging students to attend in-state schools. Closure of ROTC detachments is unlikely to occur. The balance between ROTC and OCS will be determined by variable Navy needs and cost/benefit considerations.

Army Hall of Fame: LTC Stetson reported on the successful event that exceeded their expectations. The alumni were very impressed and appreciative of the event, and there was good

interaction between them and the cadets. He was pleased with the support from the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Alumni Center. The President and Chancellor were in attendance as well as the Dean or representative from each college of the inductees.

The event gave the rest of campus and alumni good exposure to the ROTC programs. There is opportunity for future partnerships with other University departments. The alumni are a potential financial resource that Army ROTC hopes to utilize more effectively in the future. Major General James Mukoyama was the highest ranking living inductee, and Lieutenant General Carroll Dunn was the highest ranking posthumous inductee.

New Faculty: Prof. Boppart reported that there had been three nominations since July, an Assistant Professor for the Army, CAPT Haugen's replacement, and an Assistant Professor for the Air Force. There has been some question on the weight to place on the transcripts when reviewing the nomination. She felt that the undergraduate transcript does not show the applicants ability to teach and can be a distraction. The letters of recommendation are better evidence of teaching ability and leadership skills.

Prof. Boppart had concerns about poorer transcripts being sent to the Provost as part of the approval process. Prof. Scheeline said that when he writes the cover letter with the submission to the Provost he includes highlights of the applicants' desirable qualities and explanations for overlooking the undesirable. He also noted that there have been cases where the nominees were not appropriate for our campus and they have been denied. This is good for both the University and the Military to see that applicants are truly being reviewed.

Armory Facility Coordination: Mrs. Bateman explained that she has become a single contact point for the Armory building. Previously, the fifteen departments in the building had little or no coordination with their requests for work and building events. She has met with the contact people for each of the departments and will be submitting requests and tracking progress for general building issues. It is the hope that eventually she will be cognizant of anything going on in the building.

Upcoming Events

Navy Ball is taking place on November 1st. All are invited.

Wounded Veterans Center groundbreaking is taking place on November 8th at 11:00 a.m. at 90 W. Nevada Street, one block west of Lincoln. The ROTC will provide a joint service color guard and is working to secure a campus acapella group to sing The National Anthem.

Prof. Scheeline is exploring common interests between MEC and the campus veterans community with Nick Osborne, the Veterans Student Services Coordinator, and Scott Althaus, a member of the Campus Veterans Advisory Committee. All of our cadets are future veterans. We need to look at ways that they can help us and we can help them. There are approximately 400 veterans on campus. LTC Stetson stated that the veterans group has a quarterly meeting that anyone can attend. Nick Osborne can be contacted for details.

Veterans Day preparations are on track. Press releases are going out to the usual contacts. The ceremony will take place on the Armory track, Sunday, November 10th at 1:00 p.m. The new Director of Facilities and Services, Alan Stratman, a retired Navy Captain, will be the guest speaker.

Fall Commissioning is in the initial planning stages. It is scheduled to take place on December 22nd at 1:00 p.m. Five commissions are expected: two Army, two Navy, one Air Force.

Armory 100 year Anniversary: LTC Stetson explained that the University is aware of the building's upcoming anniversary, but no event will take place unless we make it happen. The Army has been working with F&S to restore the flagpole on the roof and perhaps its debut could be done in conjunction with the anniversary. Additionally, the graphic designer from F&S said they could put up related banners around the perimeter of building to recognize the anniversary. Doing this as part of next year's Veterans Day ceremony was suggested.

LTC Stetson felt that the event could be done for a low cost, but would provide for good exposure of the ROTC programs as well as presenting some history of the University to the rest of the campus. This would be another opportunity to involve the Alumni. Brainstorming concerning the anniversary continues.

Proposed General Education Course

LTC Sullivan reported that he had suggested making CAPT May the lead planner for the course. The Navy has named a representative to work on it, and they are waiting on a representative from the Army. The necessity of involving the rest of the subcommittee was noted.

There was a concern about the required work getting done in time for it to be listed as a course in Fall 2014. Prof. Scheeline felt the course would need to be ready to submit by mid-January, as it will have to be approved by the General Education Council in order to be listed for general education credit. Prof. Randolph mentioned that the LAS deadline for new courses for Fall 2014 was in early October. However, they have some college level steps in their approval process that would not apply to MEC, which has course approval authority within the military departments. Subcommittee Chair, Prof Sandretto, will find out the deadline for a general education course. If the course can be ready for MEC approval before the end of the semester, another meeting will be held. (After the meeting, Ms. Bateman determined that all proposed courses for fall, 2014, must be submitted to the Provost by March 28, 2014.)

Action Items

Waiving out-of-state tuition: In regards to the request from the Provost's office for advice on the Navy's request to only pay in-state tuition rates for their out-of-state students, a proposal was drafted in light of the information Prof. Scheeline learned at the NROTC Association meeting. In short, the advice is that the Navy ROTC out-of-state students be charged the out-of-state rate. This advice was submitted to the Course and Program Approval/Program Evaluation Committee and Prof. Sandretto reported there were no disagreements with it. Prof. Scheeline read the

proposed advice. There was a question if the portion regarding future law changes should say federal or state. Prof. Scheeline said he would confirm federal was correct. There was no disagreement with the proposed advice and it will be forwarded to the Provost. The complete document is available in the MEC office. The text to be submitted is:

While we recognize the Navy's need to control its costs, the Campus and University also are subject to intense fiscal pressures. Thus, we recommend that, starting 8/15/14, we return to setting tuition status for Navy midshipmen in specific, and for all ROTC cadets in general, per the general policies of the Campus and University, specifically including charging out-of-state cadets the out-of-state rate. If Federal law ever changes residency status rules, of course we support compliance with such rules. If Federal scholarships do not cover full tuition for cadets, we hope cadets would be favorably considered for types of financial aid that would not conflict with the heavy time commitment inherent in ROTC participation. Otherwise, cadets should pay the difference between the Federal subsidy and full tuition as would any other student on partial scholarship.

Cross-town agreement with Lakeview College: The Air Force ROTC would like to establish a cross-town agreement with Lakeview College of Nursing. The students would do their first two years at the U of I and complete their last two years at Lakeview, while continuing to affiliate with the U of I AFROTC program.

Students can't be accepted into the nursing program until their junior year and because the U of I nursing school is highly competitive, students are reluctant to declare nursing with the Air Force. If they would have to change their major after selecting nursing, there would be some undesirable consequences with the Air Force (they would need to refund scholarship payments already received). Nursing majors are highly desirable in the Air Force, and with this option cadets may be more comfortable selecting the major early on.

The Air Force's standard crosstown agreement has been routed to the Course and Program Approval/Program Evaluation Committee and there is no disagreement with it moving forward. A formal request will be drafted and submitted to the Provost by the committee.

Briefing

LTC Sullivan gave a briefing about the Air Force ROTC program.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.