

**MILITARY EDUCATION COUNCIL**

208 Armory Building, MC 526  
505 East Armory Avenue  
Champaign, IL 61820

Military Education Council Meeting  
October 31, 2019 11:00 a.m.  
Room 111 Armory Building

Present: Tom Teper, Jennifer Bateman, Capt. Timothy Center, CAPT Anthony Corapi, Jon Ebel, Jeffrey Jenkins, MAJ Daniel Johnson, Athol Kemball, Angela Lyons, and Cadet Tyler Solomon

Absent: Joe Brown, Tom Costello, Candace Martinez, Jack Marshall

**Army Briefing**

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m. MAJ Johnson gave a briefing on Army ROTC and the current changes happening in the program.

**Approval of Minutes**

Prof. Ebel moved, and MAJ Johnson seconded to approve the provided minutes from the September 17, 2019 meeting with no changes.

**Room and Board Scholarship Program**

Prof. Teper provided an update on the Room and Board Scholarship Program. The funds for 15 one-year room and board scholarships have been allocated and in the past few weeks the unit has been working with Financial Aid to put the awarding process into place. For this year, as students are already on campus, the commanding officers will be utilizing the funds as a retention tool and awarding the scholarships based on need. For the coming years, the 15 scholarships will be split, 5 per service and the Commanding Officers will offer them at their discretion as a tool to recruit ROTC scholarship recipients.

**Credits for Coursework**

Currently there are different course acceptance policies for ROTC courses in each of the colleges, and they have little rhyme or reason. The issue with this is twofold: first, ROTC students do not receive credit for a large portion of their ROTC courses and second, non-ROTC students will not take ROTC courses if they do not get credit for them. Non-ROTC students can bring a valuable diversity of thought to ROTC classes, and should be encouraged to take them.

Following the addition of some ROTC courses (two per service) to the College of ACES Leadership Minor and offering of the MILS 120 General Education Course, the Registrar's Office made contact with the colleges to rectify the credit acceptance issue for those particular courses. At this point, colleges must allow credit for those courses within the limits they impose. In addition, the Council of Undergraduate Deans has the topic of ROTC course acceptance on their agenda.

After the last meeting, Prof. Teper followed up with Kathy Martensen and Kristi Kuntz regarding this topic and the possibility of utilizing the General Education Board to review courses. He referenced the email update he had sent out and explained that if ROTC wanted to submit any of the current courses for General Education approval, the process would go through the General Education Board and then to the Educational Policy Committee.

There was discussion on possible courses to submit for General Education credit, and if that would solve the issue at hand. As the University is currently in the accreditation review process, the stringency in acceptance for changes is increased, but this may be a good time to fix the longstanding ROTC issue. It was decided that this issue should be discussed at the Provost level. Prof. Teper will work to arrange a meeting with Bill Bernhard, Kristi Kuntz and Kathy Martensen. Research will also be done on course acceptance policies at peer institutions.

### **Budget**

Prof. Teper stated that he expected budget documents to be coming out in the coming weeks and for them to be due back prior to the holidays. He referenced the provided FY20 Budget Request document and stated that the FY21 would likely pull much of the content from the previous year. He asked for the council members to review and provide any input on changes to make for the coming year's request. Once work is begun on the FY21 document, it will be shared in box for comment and input by the MEC.

### **Veterans Day**

CAPT Corapi reported that Naval ROTC is coordinating the Tri-Service Veterans Day Luncheon at the Chez Center on November 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. They elected to have the event on the 8<sup>th</sup> as actual Veterans Day becomes very busy for the department with events outside of the University. For outreach to campus faculty and staff the event announcement has been submitted to the e-week newsletter and forwarded to the Facility and Services department.

### **December Commissioning**

The Fall Commissioning Ceremony will take place at 9:00 am on December 20 in Armory 101. Four students will commission: 1 Navy, 1 Air Force, 2 Army.