



## MILITARY EDUCATION COUNCIL

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

Military Education Council  
September 14, 2022, 1:00 pm  
Navy Conference Room, Rm 337 Armory Building & Zoom

Present (In Person): Tom Teper, Jennifer Bateman, James Brennan CAPT Dave Casteel, Leonardo Jimenez, LTC Dan Johnson, Jackie Pranada, and Lt Col Jason Scalzitti  
(Over Zoom): Kent Choquette, Yulanda Curtis, Jeffrey Eric Jenkins, Angela Lyons, Jason Sakowski, and Peter Silhan  
Absent: None

### I. Introductions

Professor Teper called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm. Introductions were made.

### II. Approval of Minutes, 4/29/22 Meeting

CAPT Castell motioned and LTC Johnson seconded to approve the minutes as provided from the April 29, 2022 meeting. They were approved with no changes.

### III. Subcommittees

#### a. Faculty Review Committee

Prof. Silhan, Prof. Choquette, and Prof. Curtis volunteered to remain on the Faculty Review Subcommittee for the 2022-23 academic year. This is the only subcommittee that has activity, reviewing and approving the military faculty appointments.

#### b. Committee on Course and Program Approval & Program Evaluation Committee

#### c. Interdepartmental Coordination Committee

Professor Teper explained that the Course and Program Approval & Program Evaluation Committee and the Interdepartmental Coordination Committee have operated as committees of the whole for at least the last ten years. He proposed that the Military Education Council consider dispensing these two subcommittees, and will put on the next meeting's agenda.

### IV. Topics

#### a. Room and Board Scholarship

Prof. Teper explained the status of the current Room and Board Scholarship and the challenges that the Commanding Officers have had identifying recipients that meet the initial award criteria and to utilize the award for recruitment as initially intended. He discussed expanding the official criteria for the award in order to better meet the needs of the ROTC units.

Prof. Jenkins stated that MEC should be proactive in making sure that the funding continues from the Provost and that it would be reasonable to request an increase of 5% in the total award amount. He suggested working to quantify the outcomes of the

award, including the quality of the student recruited or retained by the scholarship to justify the request.

As the scholarship is currently setup, it has been more valuable for retention of students than recruiting. The Commanding Officers reported that recruitment is where the units have a greater need. Prof. Teper suggested considering restructuring the award to allow for more awards at a smaller dollar amount. This would make it easier for the Commanding Officers to advertise the awards as available and offer during recruitment opportunities.

Prof. Teper will discuss with the Commanding Officers what award structure would be best for their needs. Prof. Brennan suggested involving Financial Aid in this discussion and inviting a representative from their unit to the next meeting.

**b. NROTC Association Meeting October 6-8, Embry-Riddle in Daytona Beach, FL**

Prof. Teper stated that the Association of NROTC Colleges and Universities has their annual meeting coming up in October and he is unable to attend. He invited one of the other MEC members to attend in his place if available. This is the only organization of ROTC Colleges and Universities and the meeting typically involves a meeting day regarding ROTC issues and then a tour day of a local military site. *After the meeting, Prof. Brennan volunteered to attend the conference.*

**V. Events**

**a. 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb**

CAPT Casteel reported on the event that was held on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 am. They had approximately 350 participants climb the stairs of the stadium to equal the 110 stories and memorialize the lives lost in the 9/11 attack. They utilized the Navy bell to signify the timing of the events that day. In addition to ROTC cadets and midshipmen, there were local first responders and veterans that participated in the event.

**b. POW/MIA Vigil**

Lt Col Scalzitti reported that the 24 hour vigil was to take place on Friday September 16<sup>th</sup> on the south side of the Union.

**VI. Adjourn**

As the meeting was over time, the Army briefing was pushed to the next meeting. Prof. Brennan moved and LTC Johnson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:12 pm.