

Minutes  
Military Education Council  
November 17, 2023, 1:00 PM  
Navy Conference Room (Armory 237B)

Present: James Brennan, Jason Scalzitti, Dan Johnson, Kent Choquette, Athol Kembball, Angela Lyons, Jason Sakowski, Elle Wroblewski, Jenny Bateman, J.P. Thompson

Absent: Dave Casteel, Jeffrey Eric Jenkins, Nina Shearrill, Vishnuh Bala, Jonathan Ebel

I. Meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM

II. Events

A. Veterans Day

Lieutenant Colonel Scalzitti reported that the Veterans Day ceremony at the Chez Center went well. Chez does the planning and coordination for the event and ROTC supports with the color guard and ROTC Band. During the Veterans Day week, ROTC is busy with supporting lots of events. Discussed removing this from the "Tri-Service Events" list of ROTC coordinated events as there is no need or plan to go back to a ROTC ceremony for Veterans day. Supporting the Chez event seems to be the best way to reach and support campus Veterans.

B. December Commissioning

With small numbers of commissions in December, the services will hold their own commissioning ceremonies. Navy has no students commissioning in December.

Lieutenant Colonel Johnson reported that Army will have four students commission. Their event is planned for December 22<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon in Armory room 101. This is a slightly later date than in the past to allow time for degree conferrals.

Lt. Col. Scalzitti reported that Air Force will have five students commission. They are having a "mock" commissioning ceremony on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the Illini Union room 103. The official commissioning will take place after degree conferral.

C. Honors Day

Ms. Bateman reported that Honors Day will again be held on a Thursday evening, April 25<sup>th</sup>, in Foellinger Auditorium. She will be sending out the award matrix to the services to make their award selections in December. LTC Johnson stated that he was open to suggestions from the other services for a guest speaker for this event.

D. Spring Commissioning

Spring Commissioning will be held in Foellinger Auditorium on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Naval ROTC is coordinating the event this year.

III. Minutes from the 09/15/23 Meeting were approved as provided.

IV. Naval ROTC Briefing

A. Postponed to the next meeting as CAPT Casteel was unable to attend.

V. Other business

A. Ms. Bateman reported on a potential project in the Armory building to install a laundry and shower facility for ROTC. Cost quoted at around \$287,000. This would provide a place for cadet uniform maintenance and for instructors to shower after morning PT. Plans are to work with advancement to identify potential donor support and to include a request for funding in the annual budget request this winter.

B. There was discussion regarding conflicts with DIA on use of the Armory track and overall relations with DIA regarding space usage. If problems persist or increase ROTC will schedule a meeting with DIA administration in the new year.

VI. Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm