

MSP Executive Board Meeting Notes

October 2, 2019

Present: Eve Weinbaum, Asha Nadkarni, Sigrid Schmalzer, Kate Hudson, Sandy Litchfield, Christine Turner, Maciej Ciesielski, Jeanne Brunner, Marc Liberatore, Jen Adams, John Staudenmayer, Tristram Seidlel, Kevin Young, Paulina Borrego, Steve Brewer

Staff: Emily Steelhammer, Lori Reardon, Heather LaPenn

- A. Approval of Minutes from 9/18/19: Motion to approve (Steve); Second (Kate); unanimously approved.
- B. Approval of amendment to MSP Donation Policy: motion to approve (Steve); second (Sigrid); unanimously approved. During periods of non-responsibility when the Board is not in session, the Officers shall be authorized to approved donations of more than \$250, but not to exceed the line item in the annual budget for donations.
- C. Updates. Bargaining team has been finalized. We are proposing beginning bargaining on November 1. Michael Eagan reports that the administration team has not been selected yet, and asked for suggestions of administrators to serve on the team.
- D. Bargaining committees. These committees provide support to the bargaining team, doing research on best practices, developing proposals, getting people engaged, and bringing people to bargaining sessions. Online education is one we really want to make headway on. Other bargaining support committees include: climate justice & sustainability, Teaching tenure track, teaching evaluations and gender & race equity. Sigrid suggested broadening the committees to include one on dental/vision/hearing, as these come up consistently in conversations with faculty.
- E. Reports from Department Meetings and Organizing Plans. Some new members have mentioned that the new employee orientation is not that helpful. A number of faculty mentioned that they wanted improved dental benefits. There are concerns about new employees being pressured to make a quick retirement decision. Some new employee outreach and department visits would benefit from having a faculty member or librarian in a different department do this work.
- F. Plan for Joint Department Rep & Board Meeting - The Board meeting on October 23 will include Department Reps, and we'll be focusing on planning for bargaining. Note that it is in three weeks (not two) and will be held in ILC S240.
- G. The MSP Connection - Eve reported on new iteration of Mickey's "Sunshine Club." Sandy suggested a monthly social get-together at the University Club. Eve will find a Wednesday from 4:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. to try that.

H. Retiree Membership Program- Ten people came to the first lunch meeting. Want to put together a panel on transitioning to retirement. They are interested in lobbying. Will be part social and part working on MSP issues.