

MSP Executive Board Meeting Notes

November 6, 2019

Board Present: John Staudenmayer, Kevin Young, Steve Brewer, Eve Weinbaum, Sigrid Schmalzer, Sandy Litchfield, Paulina Borrego, Jen Adams, Marc Liberatore, Tristram Seidler, Randy Phillis, Christine Ho, Clare Hammonds, Maciej Ciesielski

Staff: Emily Steelhammer, Heather LaPenn, Lori Reardon

A. Approval of Executive Board Minutes from 10/23/19

Motion: Randy Phillis, Second: Steve Brewer; approved unanimously.

B. Updates

-PFML: Unions have filed an Unfair Labor Practice because of the implementation of the payroll deduction while we are still in bargaining. The university will benefit from PFML reimbursements but they are currently saying they can't count on that money until they have seen it. The university also commented that "big unions pushed for this so now they have to pay for it". Seems like pressure will be needed to move the President's office. The Governor has made clear that all state employees should pay the full deduction.

-UWW: We have been engaging in impact bargaining with current UWW faculty who are upset about the changes happening to online education and the rebranding of UWW.

-Anomaly/Pay Equity Committee: We have the data but the committee needs to come together to figure out the process.

-MSP Budget (2 items): The Executive Board approves the MSP budget every year and 2 items have come up that impact the already approved FY20 budget. The first is an approximate \$5000 expense to hire a temp for 20 hours/week during Emily's parental leave (12 weeks). The second is an estimated \$12k expense to hire Mickey Gallagher for 10 hours/week to do consulting, provide legal advice, training, and work on leftover projects. The expected timeframe is 16 weeks with the possibility of extension. The MSP officers have discussed and recommend taking these funds from our reserves
Motion: Steve Brewer, Second: Marc Liberatore; approved unanimously for MSP to move forward with both budgetary items.

C. Uncollectibles

The list of FY19 uncollectibles, or the amount of dues the MSP was not able to collect from members due to their separation (death, retirement or termination) from UMass before their last payroll dues deduction was taken, was acknowledged by the Executive Board.

D. Departments co-sponsoring events

The Executive Board is concerned with the Chancellor undermining academic freedom by disavowing the Criminalizing Dissent event happening on campus. It should be clear that departmental sponsorship isn't the same as endorsement and that the Chancellor should stand up for academic freedom on campus. A letter to the Chancellor from the MSP was reviewed. Suggestions included changing "alarmed" to "concerned" and adding a sentence on revolutionary ideas. Motion: Jen Adams, Second Randy Phillis; letter unanimously approved to send as amended.

E. Faculty transition to retirement workshop

The newly formed MSP Retiree group would like to work on a workshop to help faculty transitioning to retirement. Ideas are needed about what faculty who are close to retirement would like to know.