

MSP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING NOTES – DECEMBER 13, 2017

8:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Campus Center Room 904-08

Board Members Present: Eve Weinbaum, Kate Hudson, Bill Diamond, Marc Liberatore, Maciej Ciesielski, Clare Hammonds, Christine Turner, Kevin Young, Dean Robinson, Priyanka Srivastava, Louise Antony, Sigrid Schmalzer, Chris Couch, Betsy McEneaney, Eric Berlin, David Gross, Ellen Lutz

Staff Members Present: Lori Reardon, Emily Steelhammer

A. Approval of Minutes – 11/8 & 11/29

Ellen moved to approve, David seconded, unanimously approved.

B. Debrief on General Assembly

People reported mixed experiences with conversations at the tables – some did the one-on-one conversations and were going great guns, some seemed hesitant. We did collect some of the All-In cards.

C. Board of Trustees Meeting

8 union speakers from around the state higher ed institutions after back and forth about whether there was room on the agenda. UMass Boston brought a bus with a good number of folks. GEO had a few people. Adjuncts from UMass Lowell brought a big crowd, and seemed to have gotten the attention of the trustees that people can be teaching 6/6 and still be considered part-time with no benefits. Eve spoke about the contract and bargaining and later met with the leaders of other unions. Although there wasn't much reaction from the Trustees in the moment, we did hear that later in meeting the testimony by union leaders was discussed. As a result, President Meehan asked Trustee Tolman to accompany him to the legislature to request improvement to the parameters coming from the Governor's office.

D. Bargaining Update – Faculty Governance Language

What does "primary" mean? MSP has suggested substituting "greatest weight." We want a change so that when we go to arbitration it won't be thrown back as "primary" meaning "first." An idea floated by administration is to put together a final faculty review committee who would have to review anyone to whom the Provost wanted to deny tenure or in cases where the Provost was considering a contrary recommendation to that of any faculty committee. Administration suggested 4 appointed by administration, 3 by Faculty Senate. Question about whether it's an advisory group, or a decision-making body. Con could be if committee sees its job as supporting administration. Also could undermine our belief that those closest to the field should be the arbiters of excellence. Bargaining next week on Tuesday and Wednesday, and we'll work on clarifying language.

Talked about timing to settle. Will be tricky given we are legally one bargaining unit with FSU and they have stated that they can't settle without an agreement on parking which is slated to increase to \$20/day.

E. Section 60 ORP to MSERS

Packed room for meeting. 500 people on our campus opted for this. Lots of frustration, especially because there was misinformation given out early in the process, some haven't been told how much they owed, and the report that in three years only a limited number of cases

have been reviewed and processed. Need to put some pressure on the retirement board to stress sense of urgency.

F. Title IX

New email from the Chancellor about taking training. He has been insisting that faculty should be mandatory reporters, but Michael Eagan seems to be softening their position. Anyone in a supervisory role (deans, department chairs, directors?) would be mandatory reporters, but not all faculty. We need additional clarity about who would be considered a “supervisor.”

G. Solidarity Wednesday

Tax bill – show solidarity with grad students around waivers. Weigh in with President’s Office to encourage them to lobby? Target national professional organizations? Do more holiday cards for Mark Preble? Decided to ask members to send additional holiday cards (electronic).

H. University of Puerto Rico Solidarity

Faculty asking for our support – they will send some more specific asks, but in the meantime please contact your legislators about the budget crisis. MSP will write a letter of support.

I. All-In Reporting

We need to make sure that we get geared up in January to do more of these prior to Janus. Why are folks having issues getting these done? How can we help?

DATES TO REMEMBER

MTA Annual Meeting: Fri., 5/4/18 and Sat., 5/5/18