

Minutes MSP meeting 2/20/19

Present: Eric Berlin, Jim Smethurst, Kevin Young, Erica Sharrer, Christine Ho, Maciec Ciesielski, Marc Liberatore, Randy Phillis, Sandy Litchfield, Christine Turner, Jeremy Smith, Joya Misra, Dave Gross, Steve Brewer, Tristram Seidler, Eve Weinbaum

Staff: Emily Steelhammer, Lori Reardon, Mickey Gallagher

A. Approval of minutes from 2/6/19

Minutes from meeting on Feb 6, 2019 were approved

B. Fund Our Future Higher Education Advocacy Day Organizing

March 21, 2019. It is focused on students and their access and affordability issues. We want to also make some part about faculty and faculty issues. Buses depart Haigis Mall at 7:30a.m. and will arrive at 10:30 in the Great Hall. There will be kick-off speeches and a rally with the students but we will have a separate space to meet with faculty and staff from other campuses to do mini-training about how to lobby. Mindy Domb and Jo Comerford are both on the higher ed committee and will plan to offer advice to our group about effective lobbying. There will be a press event and then we'll break into lobby groups. The bus will depart Boston at 2:00p.m. and arrive back in Amherst at 4:00p.m.

The plan is to meet with Higher Ed committee members and hopefully also the Speaker of the House, and Senate President. Suggestion to also meet with those on Ways and Means and to set up appointment with Governor.

There will be an online website for people to sign up.

MSP Officers meeting with the Chancellor is scheduled for 2/21/19. Officers will ask for the Chancellor to support rescheduling of classes for those attending and for funding for a bus.

1. Photo exhibits

We want to do a press event about why Fund our Future matters and how it would make a difference. Idea is to do photo exhibit about what working at a university looks like. Permissions from subjects of photos is important. Christa and Elaine Gubrium use a photo method for collecting images. Efforts could be focused on crowd source photos of faculty/staff/students engaged in academic endeavors.

2. All in visits- Marc Liberatore

We need nonmembers to become members. We need members to become engaged and active. Signup for All-In Visits. Knocking on colleagues' doors as a way to advocate for the MSP and do turnout for March 21 Lobby day.

C. Department Visits

MSP contract allows us to visit each department, each semester. Talking points are being developed but there should be pre-lobby and post lobby talking points. We want to highlight Fund Our Future, upcoming bargaining, updates on the joint contract committees, talk about the work we do representing individuals, and get feedback.

D. Plan for joint board/rep meeting

Will focus on Fund Our Future and department visits.

E. Annual Meeting delegates

Sign up now to attend.

OFF AGENDA:

Discussion of Hampshire college crisis focusing on how to help Hampshire faculty and staff. Suggestion to send letter of support to faculty or to share AAUP demands.