

MSP Board & Reps Meeting Notes
October 23, 2024

Board - Kate Hudson, Sigrid Schmalzer, Marc Liberatore, Ela Gezen, Michael Ash, Eve Weinbaum, Jenny Adams, Laura Francis, Josh Michel, Maciej Ciesielski, Clare Hammonds, Kevin Young, Jordy Rosenberg, Emily Kumpel, Asha Nadkarni, Madeleine Charney, Toissant Losier, Jerry Levinsky

Reps - Brokk Toggerson, Devin Day, Steve Eyles, Roopa Vasudevan, Neal Katz, Deborah Keisch, Colleen Kuusinen, Nikhil Saxena, Ysaaca Axelrod, Erica Scharrer, Christine Hatch, Jamie Hartmann-Boyce, Karen Kurczynski, Adam Dahl, Luke Bouvier, Yasuko Shiomi, Sandy Litchfield

Staff - Loris Reardon, Kristen Strehle, Katie D'Urso

Operation Excellence Initiative - management consultants coming in to make recommendations for staffing. Campus will spend a lot of money to bring in consultant (Siegel) - often used to justify centralization or decentralization or other things we are less than happy about. What do we think the goals are? Thoughts about strategy? Staffing on campus is in crisis, many openings, huge gaps. There are insufficient resources to do what needs to be done. Siegel seemed aware that staffing levels were low compared to other universities. Almost all faculty in CNS were unhappy with the version that they went through, both process and results, including centralized advising. Importance of connecting with other unions. Staff is deeply demoralized. We need reliable staffing in the departments, not centralized. We should produce a bulleted list of priorities along with other unions. Supporting smaller programs should be one of our priorities (especially to head off and/or organize in the face of mergers.) Ad hoc group to come up with priorities list (Michael Ash, Ela Gezen, Marc Liberatore.) Will be on the multi-union meeting on Tuesday.

Travel Policy & Yangyang Cheng Event - Travel (including personal travel) - 87 countries where you're not allowed to bring university owned computers or access university services. In some countries people are being blocked. What about students? What about faculty who have are traveling and can't submit grades by Christmas Eve? Tony Paik wasn't able to access OneDrive while in Scotland for a conference. What about domestic travel? Telescope project in Mexico can't be maintained if we can't access our systems from Mexico. Seems to have caught Chris Misra by surprise. Seems to have been designed by folks who have no idea what faculty actually do. Admin should be focused on assisting faculty being able to do their work.

Still looking for departmental sponsors for the Yangyang Cheng event. November 12. This event will help us fight back around racism and xenophobia in writing policies such as the travel policy, OA, COI.

Bargaining - back at the bargaining table last week - a dozen members testifying about career progression and MSPs proposal for additional ranks. Absolutely wonderful and inspiring. Thank

you for coming! Later in December we will be pushing hard on compensation issues, including floors and promotional increments. Next week, focusing on childcare. Multi-union event on Nov. 1. SIGN-UP FOR COLLEAGUES IN OTHER UNIONS: <https://forms.gle/3FMirUVZBrMLqyv9A>

Fair Share \$\$\$ & Building Maintenance - the state has some money (\$1 billion) for infrastructure updates, retrofits, energy efficiency. Also some federal funds. The Chancellor and Provost seemed uninterested, but we've pushed it.

HFA Travel Funds - travel funds were cut from \$1,500 to \$500. We got emails from a lot of faculty. Michael Eagan, change in working conditions. We were told it was being done for "equity." We are following up.