

# MSP Executive Board Meeting Notes

November 28, 2018

Board Members Present: Eric Berlin, Sandy Litchfield, Jeremy Smith, Eve Weinbaum, Kevin Young, Marc Liberatore, Jim Smethurst, Steve Brewer, Tristram Seidler, Dave Gross, Maciej Ciesielski, Christine Tuner, Joya Misra, Sigrid Schmalzer, Randy Phillis, Priyanka Srivastava, Dean Robinson

Department Reps Present: Lisa Fontes, Meredith Rolfe, Shane Mecklenburger, Carol Will, Susan Shaw, Rob Guttermuth, Pablo Visconti, Joel Wolfe, Mike Knapp, Christine Hatch, Toussaint Losier, Krista Harper, Mary Ellen Burke, Laura Ciolkowski

Staff: Emily Steelhammer, Lori Reardon, Mickey Gallagher

Guest: Max Page, Vice-President of MTA

## A. Fund our Future Campaign (Max Page, VP of MTA)

The Fund our Future Campaign (<https://massteacher.org/current-initiatives/fund-our-future>) is MTA's response to the Fair Share Amendment being struck down by the Supreme Judicial Court and the need to find another way to fund public education. The foundation budget for K-12 has not been updated since 2002 and needs to be raised by about 1 billion and about an additional 500 million is needed for higher education (higher ed has experienced a 32% decline in funding since 2002). The principles of the campaign include a universal right to public education and that communities that need the most should gain the most. A deadline has been set for the end of this school year. A bill has been filed and when the Legislature meets in January, MTA will ask them to address the funding through legislation. Dec 10-mid Jan, MTA is asking for citizen co-sponsorship to get members to sign on before going to the Legislature. MTA will also be holding community forums and bring Legislators in a effort to get them to commit to supporting the bill. Ideally funding would be approved by May 1<sup>st</sup> which would be a celebration, if not the campaign will ramp up pressure.

## B. Approval of minutes from 11/7/18: Approved

## C. Updates

### 1. Contract funding

Retro and pay increases were originally expected in the Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> pay-check but now no money is expected (even though retro funding has been released by A&F) because the President's Office is using Faculty and Staff as pawns to get the legislature to commit to funding the other years of the contract. Action is needed ASAP to target the President's office to release the money and pay now. A deal is a deal and the contract which was approved needs to be honored. Brainstormed ideas included: not participating in committees, withholding grades, phone call blast, holiday cards, coordination with campus unions, not participating in NCAA committee and affecting accreditation, lawn signs, contacting the media and direct action at 12/13 BOT meeting on campus. Next steps are: Officers will have emergency meeting, all-unit email will go out to members, MSP will release statement about not participating in any committees.

2. **Joint MSP-administration committees:** Tabled

**D. Organizing report backs**

1. **All-in canvassing:** Tabled

2. **Communications with departments:** Reps have been hearing variety of concerns including: increased workload, changes with CPE, concerns with funding for GEO raises, increased student to faculty to ratio and increased administrators, extension faculty no taking sabbaticals, librarians need more resources and flex time and the University's inadequate response to racist graffiti.

3. **Personal communication:** Tabled

**E. Brainstorming misconceptions:** Tabled

**F. Plan for general assembly in December:** Tabled

**G. Dates to remember**

1. **General Assembly: Tuesday, 12/11, 12:00p-1:30p, Amherst Room (Campus Center 10<sup>th</sup> Floor)**