

## **MSP Board & Reps Meeting**

April 21, 2021

**Board.** Asha Nadkarni, Paulina Borrego, Jen Adams, Kate Hudson, Kevin Young (history), Priyanka Srivastava, Marc Liberatore, Tristram Seidler, Eve Weinbaum, John Staudemayer, Christine Turner, Maciej Ciesielski, Michael Ash, Jeanne Brunner, Dean Robinson, Jeremy Smith, Clare Hammonds, Fareen Parvez, Steven Brewer (ex officio)

**Reps.** Jacquie Kurland, Neal Katz, Luis Marentes, Pablo Visconti, Rodrigo Zamith, John Hosp, Yi Feng, Christine Hatch, Ezra Markowitz, Karen Kurczynski, Steve Eyles, Boone Shear, Caleb Rounds, Ela Gezen, Joshua Michal, Keven Young (economics), Maria Barbon

**Staff.** Emily Steelhammer, Mickey Gallagher, Heather LaPenn, Lori Reardon

**Approval of minutes from 3/24/2021.** Motion made by Jacquie, seconded by Priyanka. Approved unanimously.

### **Updates**

- COACHE survey results around faculty governance. MSP scored in the 80% range in terms of satisfaction, communication among faculty whereas the score for Chancellor approval was 50%. Yay MSP!
- Action on Wellness Wednesday - the asteroid was there! Connected up with students
- House Ways & Means budget came out last week - we were hoping it would be significantly better than the governor's budget. It was slightly better, but still pretty much flat funding. We will keep pushing, we're meeting with legislators. More funds expected from the federal government, and we want to view relief funds as a bridge to the Fair Share (progressive taxes) which will be voted on next week.
- Note to CNS folks: "CNStrives" is an organizational review being conducted by a consultant firm within the college. MSP wants to pay close attention to this as it may be a model used in other colleges. Marc sent out a Doodle poll to set up a meeting with CNS board members/dept. Reps to discuss. We'll be meeting on Tuesday, and would love to hear what's going on.

### **Budget**

- We have too much in savings - we have been advised that we need to spend it down (shouldn't have more than one year of operating expenses, we have about 1.69 years).
- See Jen's handout for details
- Doubling \$\$ for President's stipends (now that we have co-presidents)
- Decreasing PHENOM funding a bit (they are shifting priorities to be more focused on students), want to move to supporting other labor organizations (Western Mass Labor Federation)
  - More involvement with MSP - goal to improve relationships with PHENOM

- Michael Ash, Clare Hammonds, Boone Shear interested in taking this role on
- Decreasing funding for MSP grants (not heavily utilized)
- Decreasing funding for dues abatement (not heavily utilized)
- Moved to approve budget as presented (Jacquie). Seconded by Kate. Passed unanimously.

#### **4/12 Chancellor Meeting Update (Liberatore PowerPoint)**

- NTT not able to PI grants without jumping through extra hoops
  - Faculty Senate policy - we will work on getting this changed through the Research Council.
- Vaccines - Chancellor wants to require vaccine as much as possible
- Fall in-person & remote accommodations
  - Strong message for in-person
  - Concern about faculty governance, who makes decisions (at program & department level traditionally)
- Budget & morale
  - Now is not the time to be making cuts- only further hurts student staff and faculty

#### **Listening Tour**

- On May 3rd and June 7th, MSP will be meeting with the Chancellor and conducting a listening tour
- Task is to recruit members to speak on a variety of topics to tell the upper administration first hand the issues and concerns that faculty and librarians are dealing with. [Breakout groups to brainstorm names that were put on a jamboard]

#### **General Assembly Visioning**

- At next week's General Assembly we want to do a brainstorm/visioning session with the membership about our future for UMass.
- Now that all this federal aid is coming- how should it best be used?