

Academic Senate Executive Committee

Minutes

1 December 2014

Attending: Mike Holden, Steve Browne, Julie Chisholm, Cadet Rachel Nadell, Jon Fischer, Tuuli Messer, Cynthia Trevisan, Scott Powell

Guests: Gary Reichard, Erin Brogan, Robbie Jackson, and John Coyle

Meeting Schedule

- a. Executive committee meetings: Mondays at 4:00pm, Tec 144:
12/8
- b. General Senate meetings:
12/9 (Peachman)
- c. President/faculty coffee hour: 10AM TEC 145,
12/17
- d. Executive Committee lunch with President:
None planned until next Spring

1. Commandant Erin Brogan, TSGB 1st Assistant Engineer John Coyle and ET Department Chair Robbie Jackson met with the Executive Committee to discuss watch standing during finals week.

Topics discussed:

- There was a meeting on November 25th between the cadets and the administration. It was relayed that there was good communication between both groups.
- Roughly three-quarters of the watches were filled within days with volunteers and as of 12/1/14; three watches remained to be filled.
 - Student reactions are generally positive and are suspending judgment until the first finals week concludes with the modified watch policy.
- Security and safety aspects of standing watch;
 - Number of watchstanders as related to cadets living onboard.
 - Varying levels of studying on watch allowed across deck, engine, and business cadets.
 - Difference between watchstanding in the fall versus the spring as the TSGB is preparing for cruise departure. Team-building and engine-room familiarization occur at this time.
- The need for more data, with regards to how many cadets are affected by watchstanding during finals week and its impact on academic quality.
- The need to balance academics and watchstanding.
- The possible of coordinating class schedules with watchstanding schedules.
- Publishing the final exam schedule before the start of the semester.
- The question of if watchstanding during final week is a good thing.
- There are different considerations for engineering, deck and business cadets for watchstanding prior to the TSGB leaving for cruise.

- o Suggestion that we address watchstanding during finals again the spring.
- 2. Portal Messaging: President Cropper is receptive to changes to the Portal. Suggestions for needed for these changes.
- 3. Rizza Lecturer: Not discussed
- 4. Online/hybrid course policy: Not discussed
- 5. Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.