This was an especially busy year for CESP. It all started with the September 1st meeting. At the meeting the committee entertained a Destination Ohio State Priority Scheduling Request from Caroline Breitenberger and Marceia Hernandez. The request was to support their request so they could include a letter stating such in a NSF proposal. The committee approved the request, the letter was prepared and I signed my first official The Ohio State University correspondence as chair. It would be nice to follow up on this at some point to know if the NSF proposal was approved.

Keeping on the scheduling priority theme the committee then addressed a tweak to the military and veteran scheduling priority policy. At that time military and veterans were in group three priority scheduling. The tweak was to give military and veterans, who were already in group 3, college-level scheduling priority within group 3. This was in response to Ohio House Bill 488 and met all requirements of that bill.

We also had a report on the new SAT Writing Test. This was followed by the first of many discussions on the new Summer Calendar. The new calendar was worked on through various senate committees all of fall. This makes the perfect transition to the October meeting which I was unable to be at due to meetings in Washington DC.

The first action of the October meeting was to elect Emily Buck a Vice Chair of CESP. This was followed with a discussion of the new summer calendar led by Brad Myers. At the end of the discussion CESP voted to support the proposal calendar.

Vern Granger presented Enrollment Data for the period 2011 to 2015. Dolan Evanovich then presented information on the 2016 to 2020 enrollment plan and it was noted in the ensuing discussion that this plan was approved by the Board of Trustees, CESP, and Senate Fiscal. This discussion was followed by a presentation on the Quality Initiative and the University Innovation Alliance.

The November meeting agenda consisted of reports on Student success, that is, retention and graduation, a report on Affordability, Access and Excellence, a report on Co-Curricular Competencies, and an update on the status of the new Summer Calendar. The new Summer Calendar became official after successful approval by the University Senate on November 30, 2015, a meetings in which the new calendar was the only item on the agenda and presented by the CESP chair.

The senate meeting was followed the next day by the December meeting of CESP. In this meeting I presented the coordination by the chair of rules and myself on the university rule
regarding final exams. Reports on University Exploration, about 7% of our undergraduates, and Academic Messaging, building our Academic Brand completed the meeting.

The January meeting consisted of a report to the committee on Gallup Survey Data and a proposal to amend the rule on grade forgiveness.

The February meeting started with a familiar item, the final exams rule. A small revision was made to account for term courses, which have no official final exams week. (The rule has been wordsmithed repeatedly and was on the agenda of the last senate meeting of the year.) Reports on Financial Aid and from the Office of Military and Veterans Services followed.

March once again saw me traveling so Emily, the Vice Chair, conducted the meeting. The agenda consisted of reports on the Regional Campuses, Distance Education, and College Credit Plus.

April was another meeting of reports. This time they were on the Admissions Process and the extensive work that goes into it. The other report was on the Student-Athlete Support Services Office (SASSO).

The May CESP meeting concludes the 2015-2016 meeting year and my year as chair. It starts with my welcome of all attendees and then consisted today of multiple reports to round out the topics of the year. Part of being a committee member of CESP is being informed on the activities within the scope that STEP oversees. Those were covered when I talked about the faculty rules for CESP in the September meeting.

I would like to thank the members of the committee of a successful year and one that resulted in actions that will have an impact on the university for several years ahead. The modification to the summer schedule has already generated modifications to summer course offerings and there will likely be more in the future. I extend my appreciation to all those who have helped me be a more effective chair and conduct the business of CESP.

Thank you,
Joanne Degroat
Chair, CESP 2015-2016