

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting at John Wood Community College, February 15, 2019
Minutes Approved March 22, 2019

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Michael Bathgate	St. Xavier University
Danelle Batterton	John Wood Community College
Paul Bialek	at-large (Trinity International University)
Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College (via Zoom)
Amy Carr	Western Illinois University
John D’Anca	at-large (Oakton College)
Diane Dean	Illinois State University (via Zoom)
Steve DePasquale	at-large (Kankakee Community College)
Marie Donovan	DePaul University
Thomas Dowd	Harper College (via Zoom)
Randall Egdorf	John Wood Community College
Carol Gayle	Lake Forest College (via Zoom)
Jennifer Martin	University of Illinois - Springfield
Nick Menhart	Illinois Institute of Technology
Gay Miller	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
C. Lucy Park	University of Illinois - Chicago
Mike Philips	Illinois Valley Community College
Lanette Poteete-Young	Judson University
Devi Potluri	Chicago State University
Linda Saborio	Northern Illinois University (via Zoom)
Patricia Saleeby	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Shawn Shumacher	DeVry University
Mat Timm	Bradley University
Larry White	Eastern Illinois University (via Zoom)
Susan Wiediger	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

From IBHE:

Gretchen Lohman	IBHE
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Representatives/Institutions not present:

Jasmine Chen	Governor’s State University
Julie Clemens	Illinois Central College
Doug Dowell	Heartland Community College
Rick Jones	at-large (South Suburban College)
Merry Mayer	Wilbur Wright College
	Lincoln Land Community College
Phyllis Soybel	College of Lake County
Kevin Sullivan	Illinois Wesleyan University
Adam Tournier	at-large (McKendree University)
Brian Vivona	Northeastern Illinois University

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 by Marie Donovan.

John Wood Community College President Michael Elbe pointed out that JWCC's campus was built at a time (1999 & 2004) when the capital board had funding. Education is the single biggest self-help program, and that is what we all work to provide. He discussed the impact of the minimum wage law: JWCC has a 14 million dollar budget, 8 million of which is employee wages and benefits. Just to move everyone below \$15/hr up would be a 1.8 million impact. However, that moves level 1 employees to level 4 pay, so everyone needs to be adjusted at least somewhat equitably. Their current estimate for that total cost is 3 million.

President Elbe shared a number of facts about JWCC and some initiatives that have been helpful in supporting enrollment. When headcount was down 15.2% system wide for community colleges, JWCC was one of five that showed an increase – perhaps only 0.3%, but still, not a decline. Despite cutting 12.5% of their budget during the impasse years, they managed to grow a little bit, strategically. They have a good agricultural partnership with U of I. Quincy has a lot of manufacturing and many are hiring, so JWCC is highly involved in workforce development (nurses, welders, truck drivers, more). They have added certified medical assistant and HVAC programs. They created a scholarship for Missouri students, since they're on the border, and doubled the market share of Missouri students (2% to 4%). Every January they advertise a Career Makeover full scholarship for a career changing adult, which gets 70-80 applicants a year, about 40% of whom become JWCC students. They also have a College for Life program for developmentally disabled individuals to build life skills.

During discussion, President Elbe explained that they got the new HVAC program approved so quickly in part because they happened to be at a good point in the budgeting/approval cycle, but also because they had good partnerships with local companies that provided time and equipment to help plan and build the curriculum, as well as establish need with their board.

Marie Donovan (FAC Chair) shared some legislative updates on a sheet that she prepared. She reminded working groups that to share products in June, they need to be voted on in April, which means versions in March. Shawn Schumacher (FAC Vice-Chair) noted that the next meeting is at St. Xavier University on March 22nd. Susan Wiediger (FAC Secretary) discussed caucus rotations. Due to partial terms and schools declining to participate, the rotations for the Community College and Private & Independent Caucuses are uneven. Caucuses need to discuss how they would like to structure their membership to maintain continuity while providing for equitable rotations and representation. Michael Bathgate encouraged members to consider questions for the Higher Learning Commission, as there will be a phone conversation with representatives from that body in March.

Gretchen Lohman, IBHE Liaison, indicated that the next board meeting is March 5th at UIS, and a formal legislative update will be available for that meeting. PBVS has just launched a new application system. Dealing with closures continues to be a big part of her job; the December board agenda shows a comprehensive list of recent closures.

Working groups and Caucuses met until lunchtime.

Illinois Community College Trustees Association Executive Director Michael S. Monaghan reviewed some of the history of community colleges. Unlike the Federation of Illinois Independent College and Universities, which represents private and independents, the Illinois public universities do not have a body that represents them (e.g. for lobbying or training), although the presidents do get together. The ICCTA was founded to provide training for elected community college trustees and to provide legislative advocacy. He pointed out that after the November elections, we have more brand new legislators (52) than at any time in Illinois history. Previous highs were usually after re-mapping districts. He also discussed the pension and related budget issues, saying that unfunded liability was a term introduced when GAAP accounting was developed in the late 1990s. During discussion on this topic, Director Monaghan explained that the phrasing that the government “borrowed” from the pension and has to pay it back is inaccurate. Although a pension bond sale (the interest from which was used for state operations) while Blagojevich was governor increased the money in the pension funds, it increased unfunded liability due to how that is calculated. The way the pension is funded obscures some of the issues; since much of “employer’s share” portions are paid directly by the state, they do not show up in university, community college, or K-12 budgets. Monaghan also suggested the when folks are getting in touch with their legislators, they may want to coordinate through their president’s office; if messages are different it confuses the issue.

Minutes from the 18 January 2019 meeting at Illinois Central College were approved. Marie’s summary of the working groups’ December meetings was approved as the December minutes.

There was discussion of the “IBHE Faculty Advisory Council Recommends Support for Liberal Arts and Science Programs” document. Some concerns were expressed about length, but were balanced by appreciation of the structure and ability for readers to choose the level of detail that interested them. Some suggestions were made about wording that would potentially provide more positive framing. Amy Carr and Nick Menhart will review it one more time; the document was approved pending those amendments (motion by Devi Potluri, seconded by Shawn Schumacher, approved unanimously).

Caucuses reported out. *Private and Independents* (Paul Bialek) indicated that they need information about their current and potential membership to work on the rotation. *Community Colleges* (John D’Anca) proposed a rotation of three cohorts that would each have one at-large and three members that are part of the school rotations; this would increase the number of at-large positions to three from two and increase their term from two years to three. In general discussion, issues were raised about communicating with institutions, having clarity about the costs of participating and the value of participating, and whether FAC members communicate with non-FAC members in their regions or sectors. A motion related to regularizing the rotations was withdrawn, as it required more careful consideration of the bylaws. *Publics* (Devi Potluri) are less affected by rotations since all twelve publics have a permanent seat. However, letters about terms would be useful. Devi also raised an issue for possible future discussion regarding inclusive gender terminology and potential conflicts with requirements such as insurance needs.

Working groups will send materials to everyone or send them to Marie to share. Amy Carr distributed a draft from *Program Prioritization and Consolidation* for people to review. Marie

Donovan announced that she will be sending something about a request from teacher education faculty for an endorsement. Randall Egdorf announced an optional tour of campus after adjournment. Shawn Schumacher extended thanks to Danelle Batterton, Randall Egdorf, and John Wood Community College for hosting. The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Wiediger, FAC Secretary